

Daily Prayer

St Bartholomew

Wednesday, August 24, 2022

We enter into a time of quiet. We offer to God our selves and in the silence know that God embraces us as God's very own. We offer our hopes and our concerns through our prayers and in the silence listen for God. Today we hold in our prayers the ordinary moments in life—the trials and the joys. We remember St Bartholomew the Apostle.

We begin by saying

O God, make speed to save us.

O Lord, make haste to help us.

Make me to know your ways, O Lord.

and teach me your paths.

The First Reading

For I think that God has exhibited us apostles as last of all, as though sentenced to death, because we have become a spectacle to the world, to angels and to mortals. We are fools for the sake of Christ, but you are wise in Christ. We are weak, but you are strong. You are held in honour, but we in disrepute. To the present hour we are hungry and thirsty, we are poorly clothed and beaten and homeless, and we grow weary from the work of our own hands. When reviled, we bless; when persecuted, we endure; when slandered, we speak kindly. We have become like the rubbish of the world, the dregs of all things, to this very day.

I am not writing this to make you ashamed, but to admonish you as my beloved children. For though you might have ten thousand guardians in Christ, you do not have many fathers. Indeed, in Christ Jesus I became your father through the gospel.

1 Corinthians 4.9-15

The Psalm

Whoever dwells in the shelter of the Most High ♦
and abides under the shadow of the Almighty,
Shall say to the Lord, 'My refuge and my stronghold, ♦
my God, in whom I put my trust.'

For he shall deliver you from the snare of the fowler ♦
and from the deadly pestilence.

He shall cover you with his wings
and you shall be safe under his feathers; ♦
his faithfulness shall be your shield and buckler.

You shall not be afraid of any terror by night, ♦
nor of the arrow that flies by day;

Of the pestilence that stalks in darkness, ♦
nor of the sickness that destroys at noonday.

Though a thousand fall at your side
and ten thousand at your right hand, ♦
yet it shall not come near you.

Your eyes have only to behold ♦
to see the reward of the wicked.

Because you have made the Lord your refuge ♦
and the Most High your stronghold,

There shall no evil happen to you, ♦
neither shall any plague come near your tent.

For he shall give his angels charge over you, ♦
to keep you in all your ways.

They shall bear you in their hands, ♦
lest you dash your foot against a stone.

You shall tread upon the lion and adder; ♦
the young lion and the serpent you shall trample
underfoot.

Because they have set their love upon me,
therefore will I deliver them; ♦
I will lift them up, because they know my name.

They will call upon me and I will answer them; ♦
I am with them in trouble,
I will deliver them and bring them to honour.

With long life will I satisfy them ♦
and show them my salvation.

Psalm 91

The Gospel Reading

A dispute also arose among them as to which one of them was to be regarded as the greatest. But he said to them, 'The kings of the Gentiles lord it over them; and those in authority over them are called benefactors. But not so with you; rather the greatest among you must become like the youngest, and the leader like one who serves. For who is greater, the one who is at the table or the one who serves? Is it not the one at the table? But I am among you as one who serves.

'You are those who have stood by me in my trials; and I confer on you, just as my Father has conferred on me, a kingdom, so that you may eat and drink at my table in my kingdom, and you will sit on thrones judging the twelve tribes of Israel.

Luke 22.24-30

In silence, we ask what the readings have to say to us today. Is there something that draws us more deeply into the reading? What does God have to say to us? What do we have to ask God?

When the time is right, we conclude our time of silence with the canticle

The Canticle ~ Benedictus

You did not choose me but I chose you
and I appointed you to go out and bear fruit,
fruit that shall last.

Blessed be the Lord the God of Israel, ♦
who has come to his people and set them free.

He has raised up for us a mighty Saviour, ♦
born of the house of his servant David.

Through his holy prophets God promised of old ♦
*to save us from our enemies,
from the hands of all that hate us,*

To show mercy to our ancestors, ♦
and to remember his holy covenant.

This was the oath God swore to our father Abraham: ♦
to set us free from the hands of our enemies,

Free to worship him without fear, ♦
*holy and righteous in his sight
all the days of our life.*

And you, child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High, ♦
for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way,

To give his people knowledge of salvation ♦
by the forgiveness of all their sins.

In the tender compassion of our God ♦
the dawn from on high shall break upon us,

To shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of
death, ♦
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

Luke 1.68-79

Glory to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning is now
and shall be for ever. Amen.

You did not choose me but I chose you
and I appointed you to go out and bear fruit,
fruit that shall last.

We continue in prayer for those people and situations that we hold up before God (The Intercessions) and continue with the concluding collect, the Lord's prayer and the closing sentences.

The Intercessions

That this and all our days
may be full of your praise:
we pray to you, O Lord.

That you will keep us this day without sin:
we pray to you, O Lord.

That we may walk before you
in the paths of righteousness and peace:
we pray to you, O Lord.

That you will bless your people
and lift them up for ever:
we pray to you, O Lord.

That you will guide and protect us by your Holy Spirit
and bring us with your saints to glory everlasting:

we pray to you, O Lord.

Let us commend ourselves, and all for whom we pray,
to the mercy and protection of God.

Our prayers conclude

Almighty and everlasting God,
who gave to your apostle Bartholomew
grace to believe and preach your word,
may your Church truly love what he believed
and faithfully preach what he taught;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

[let us pray as our Saviour taught us,]

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins,
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial,
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and for ever. Amen

We conclude

May Christ our Saviour give us peace.

Amen.

St Bartholomew the Apostle

Holy Day

Bartholomew is known to us only because his name is listed among the twelve apostles in the Gospels according to Matthew, Mark, and Luke. His name means "son of Tolmai," and he is sometimes identified with Nathanael, a disciple who appears at the beginning of the Fourth Gospel. According to John, Nathanael learned about Jesus of Nazareth from his friend Philip and gave the skeptical response, "Can anything good come from Nazareth?" Nevertheless he went along with his friend, and when Jesus saw him he said, "Here is an Israelite worthy of the name; there is nothing false in him."

Some sources credit Bartholomew with having written a Gospel; its existence was known to various Christian theologians up to the eighth century, but it has been long since lost. There is a tradition that he travelled to India, where it was later said that he left behind a copy of the Gospel according to Matthew in Hebrew. Another ancient tradition says that Bartholomew was flayed alive at Albano'polis in Armenia while seeking to bring the good news of Christ to that nation.

Credits:

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Biographical information: For All the Saints © 2007, General Synod of the Anglican Church of Canada

Church of the Redeemer

162 Bloor Street West Toronto, ON M5S 1M4

416.922.4948

office@theredeemer.ca

www.TheRedeemer.ca

Twitter: @theRedeemerTO

Facebook: theRedeemerTO

Instagram: theRedeemerTO