

## Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost, Oct. 26

The Collect and Psalms will be read from The Episcopal Church Book of Common Prayer  
The Old Testament, Epistle and Gospel will be read from The English Standard Version  
Bible Anglicized

**The Collect:** Almighty and everlasting God, increase in us the gifts of faith, hope, and charity; and, that we may obtain what you promise, make us love what you command; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

### Track 1 Old Testament: Joel 2:23-32

O children of Zion, be glad

and rejoice in the Lord your God;

for he has given the early rain for your vindication,

he has poured down for you abundant rain,

the early and the later rain, as before.

24 The threshing-floors shall be full of grain,

the vats shall overflow with wine and oil.

25 I will repay you for the years

that the swarming locust has eaten,

the hopper, the destroyer, and the cutter,

my great army, which I sent against you.

26 You shall eat in plenty and be satisfied,

and praise the name of the Lord your God,

who has dealt wondrously with you. And my people shall never again be put to shame.

27 You shall know that I am in the midst of Israel,

and that I, the Lord, am your God and there is no other.

And my people shall never again

be put to shame.

28 Then afterwards

I will pour out my spirit on all flesh;  
your sons and your daughters shall prophesy,  
your old men shall dream dreams,  
and your young men shall see visions.

29 Even on the male and female slaves,  
in those days, I will pour out my spirit.

30 I will show portents in the heavens and on the earth, blood and fire and columns of smoke. 31 The sun shall be turned to darkness, and the moon to blood, before the great and terrible day of the Lord comes. 32 Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved; for in Mount Zion and in Jerusalem there shall be those who escape, as the Lord has said, and among the survivors shall be those whom the Lord calls.

### **Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people**

#### **Track 1 Psalm: Psalm 65**

1 You are to be praised, O God, in Zion; \*  
to you shall vows be performed in Jerusalem.

2 To you that hear prayer shall all flesh come, \*  
because of their transgressions.

3 Our sins are stronger than we are, \*  
but you will blot them out.

4 Happy are they whom you choose  
and draw to your courts to dwell there! \*  
they will be satisfied by the beauty of your house,  
by the holiness of your temple.

5 Awesome things will you show us in your righteousness,  
O God of our salvation, \*  
O Hope of all the ends of the earth  
and of the seas that are far away.

6 You make fast the mountains by your power; \*  
they are girded about with might.

7 You still the roaring of the seas, \*

the roaring of their waves,  
and the clamor of the peoples.

8 Those who dwell at the ends of the earth will tremble at your  
marvelous signs; \*

you make the dawn and the dusk to sing for joy.

9 You visit the earth and water it abundantly;  
you make it very plenteous; \*

the river of God is full of water.

10 You prepare the grain, \*

for so you provide for the earth.

11 I You drench the furrows and smooth out the ridges; \*

with heavy rain you soften the ground and bless its increase.

12 You crown the year with your goodness, \*

and your paths overflow with plenty.

13 May the fields of the wilderness be rich for grazing, \*

and the hills be clothed with joy.

14 May the meadows cover themselves with flocks,

and the valleys cloak themselves with grain; \*

let them shout for joy and sing.

## **Track 2 Old Testament: Sirach 35:12-17 or Jeremiah 14:7-10, 19-22**

Give to the Most High as he has given to you,  
and as generously as you can afford.

13 For the Lord is the one who repays,  
and he will repay you sevenfold.

14 Do not offer him a bribe, for he will not accept it;

15 and do not rely on a dishonest sacrifice;

for the Lord is the judge,

and with him there is no partiality.

16 He will not show partiality to the poor;

but he will listen to the prayer of one who is wronged.

17 He will not ignore the supplication of the orphan,  
or the widow when she pours out her complaint.

### **Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people**

Or

#### **Jeremiah 14: 7 – 10, 19 – 22**

7 Although our iniquities testify against us,  
act, O Lord, for your name's sake;  
our apostasies indeed are many,  
and we have sinned against you.

8 O hope of Israel,  
its saviour in time of trouble,  
why should you be like a stranger in the land,  
like a traveller turning aside for the night?

9 Why should you be like someone confused,  
like a mighty warrior who cannot give help?  
Yet you, O Lord, are in the midst of us,  
and we are called by your name;  
do not forsake us!

10 Thus says the Lord concerning this people:  
Truly they have loved to wander,  
they have not restrained their feet;  
therefore the Lord does not accept them,  
now he will remember their iniquity  
and punish their sins.

19 Have you completely rejected Judah?  
Does your heart loathe Zion?

Why have you struck us down  
so that there is no healing for us?

We look for peace, but find no good;  
for a time of healing, but there is terror instead.

20 We acknowledge our wickedness, O Lord,  
the iniquity of our ancestors,  
for we have sinned against you.

21 Do not spurn us, for your name's sake;  
do not dishonour your glorious throne;  
remember and do not break your covenant with us.

22 Can any idols of the nations bring rain?  
Or can the heavens give showers?

Is it not you, O Lord our God?  
We set our hope on you,  
for it is you who do all this.

### **Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people**

#### **Track 2 Psalm: Psalm 84:1-6**

1 How dear to me is your dwelling, O Lord of hosts! \*

My soul has a desire and longing for the courts of  
the Lord;

my heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God.

2 The sparrow has found her a house

and the swallow a nest where she may lay her young; \*

by the side of your altars, O Lord of hosts,  
my King and my God.

3 Happy are they who dwell in your house! \*

they will always be praising you.

4 Happy are the people whose strength is in you! \*

whose hearts are set on the pilgrims' way.

5 Those who go through the desolate valley will find

it a place of springs, \*

for the early rains have covered it with pools of water.

6 They will climb from height to height, \*

and the God of gods will reveal himself in Zion.

**Epistle: 2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18**

6 As for me, I am already being poured out as a libation, and the time of my departure has come. 7 I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. 8 From now on there is reserved for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will give to me on that day, and not only to me but also to all who have longed for his appearing.

16 At my first defence no one came to my support, but all deserted me. May it not be counted against them! 17 But the Lord stood by me and gave me strength, so that through me the message might be fully proclaimed and all the Gentiles might hear it. So I was rescued from the lion's mouth. 18 The Lord will rescue me from every evil attack and save me for his heavenly kingdom. To him be the glory for ever and ever. Amen.

**Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people****Gospel: Luke 18:9-14**

9 He also told this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous and regarded others with contempt: 10 'Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax-collector. 11 The Pharisee, standing by himself, was praying thus, "God, I thank you that I am not like other people: thieves, rogues, adulterers, or even like this tax-collector. 12 I fast twice a week; I give a tenth of all my income." 13 But the tax-collector, standing far off, would not even look up to heaven, but was beating his breast and saying, "God, be merciful to me, a sinner!" 14 I tell you, this man went down to his home justified rather than the other; for all who exalt themselves will be humbled, but all who humble themselves will be exalted.'

**The Gospel of the Lord**

**Closing Prayer: On October 29 we celebrate the life of James Hannington, Bishop of Eastern Equatorial Africa, and his Companions Martyrs. Read from *A Great Cloud of Witnesses***

James Hannington was born at Hurstpierpoint, Sussex, September 3, 1847, and was educated at Temple School, Brighton. For six years, he assisted his father in the warehouse business. The family became members of the Church of England in 1867, and the following year, Hannington entered St. Mary Hall, Oxford, where he obtained his BA and MA degrees.

Following his ordination at Exeter, Hannington served as a curate in his native town until, in 1882, he offered himself to the Church Missionary Society for its mission in Victoria, Nyanza, Africa. Serious illness soon required his return to England, but he went out again to Africa in 1884, as Bishop of Eastern Equatorial Africa.

Hannington's mission field was the shores of Lake Victoria. On a difficult venture towards Uganda, he and his party were apprehended by emissaries of King Mwanga, who feared this foreign penetration into his territory. After a week of cruel privations and suffering, he and the remaining members of his company were martyred on October 29, 1885.

Hannington's last words were: "Go, tell Mwanga I have purchased the road to Uganda with my blood." Other martyrs of Uganda (see June 3) shared his fate before the gospel was firmly planted in this heartland of Africa, where today the Church has a vigorous life under an indigenous ministry. Mwanga was eventually exiled to the Seychelles in 1899, where he was received into the Anglican Church and baptized; he died there in 1903.

**Let us pray:** Precious in your sight, O Lord, is the death of your saints, whose faithful witness, by your providence, has its great reward: We give you thanks for your martyrs James Hannington and his companions, who purchased with their blood a road into Uganda for the proclamation of the Gospel; and we pray that, with them, we also may obtain the crown of righteousness which is laid up for all who love the appearing of our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**