



# St. Andrew's

Episcopal Church

## Morning Prayer

Wednesday, June 29th

### Psalm 130

1 Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord.

***2 Lord, hear my voice! Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my supplications!***

3 If you, O Lord, should mark iniquities, Lord, who could stand?

***4 But there is forgiveness with you, so that you may be revered.***

5 I wait for the Lord; my soul waits, and in his word I hope;

***6 my soul waits for the Lord more than those who watch for the morning, more than those who watch for the morning.***

7 O Israel, hope in the Lord! For with the Lord there is steadfast love, and with him is great power to redeem.

***8 It is he who will redeem Israel from all its iniquities.***

### A reading from the Book of Numbers (Numbers 22:41-23:12)

On the next day Balak took Balaam and brought him up to Bamoth-baal, and from there he could see part of the people of Israel. Then Balaam said to Balak, “Build me seven altars here, and prepare seven bulls and seven rams for me.” Balak did as Balaam had said and offered a bull and a ram on each altar. Then Balaam said to Balak, “Stay here beside your burnt offerings while I go aside. Perhaps the Lord will come to meet me. Whatever he shows me I will tell you.” And he went to a bare height. Then God met Balaam, and Balaam said to him, “I have arranged the seven altars and have offered a bull and a ram on each altar.” The Lord put a word in Balaam’s mouth and said, “Return to Balak, and this is what you must say.” So he returned to Balak, who was standing beside his burnt offerings with all the officials of Moab. Then Balaam uttered his oracle, saying, “Balak has brought me from Aram, the king of Moab from the eastern mountains: ‘Come, curse Jacob for me. Come, denounce Israel!’ How can I curse whom God has not cursed? How can I denounce those whom the Lord has not denounced? For from the top of the crags I see him; from the hills I behold him. Here is a people living alone and not reckoning itself among the nations! Who can count the dust of Jacob or number the dust cloud of Israel? Let me die the death of the upright, and let my end be like his!” Then Balak said to Balaam, “What

have you done to me? I brought you to curse my enemies, but now you have done nothing but bless them.” He answered, “Must I not take care to say what the Lord puts into my mouth?”

**Reader:** The Word of the Lord.

**People:** **Thanks be to God.**

speaking about them. They wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowds, because they regarded him as a prophet.

**Reader:** The Word of the Lord.

**People:** **Thanks be to God.**

## **A reading from the Gospel of Matthew**

*(Matthew 21:33-46)*

“Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a winepress in it, and built a watchtower. Then he leased it to tenants and went away. When the harvest time had come, he sent his slaves to the tenants to collect his produce. But the tenants seized his slaves and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. Again he sent other slaves, more than the first, and they treated them in the same way. Then he sent his son to them, saying, ‘They will respect my son.’ But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, ‘This is the heir; come, let us kill him and get his inheritance.’ So they seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?” They said to him, “He will put those wretches to a miserable death and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the harvest time.” Jesus said to them, “Have you never read in the scriptures: ‘The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; this was the Lord’s doing, and it is amazing in our eyes’? “Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces its fruits. The one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces, and it will crush anyone on whom it falls.” When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they realized that he was