



MORNING PRAYER

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church

Wednesday, September 2nd

Psalm 38

1 O Lord, do not rebuke me in your anger; do not punish me in your wrath.

2 For your arrows have already pierced me, and your hand presses hard upon me.

3 There is no health in my flesh, because of your indignation; there is no soundness in my body, because of my sin.

4 For my iniquities overwhelm me; like a heavy burden they are too much for me to bear.

5 My wounds stink and fester by reason of my foolishness.

6 I am utterly bowed down and prostrate; I go about in mourning all the day long.

7 My loins are filled with searing pain; there is no health in my body.

8 I am utterly numb and crushed; I wail, because of the groaning of my heart.

9 O Lord, you know all my desires, and my sighing is not hidden from you.

10 My heart is pounding, my strength has failed me, and the brightness of my eyes is gone from me.

11 My friends and companions draw back from my affliction; my neighbors stand afar off.

12 Those who seek after my life lay snares for me; those who strive to hurt me speak of my ruin and plot treachery all the day long.

13 But I am like the deaf who do not hear, like those who are mute and do not open their mouth.

14 I have become like one who does not hear and from whose mouth comes no defense.

15 For in you, O Lord, have I fixed my hope; you will answer me, O Lord my God.

16 For I said, Do not let them rejoice at my expense, those who gloat over me when my foot slips."

17 Truly, I am on the verge of falling, and my pain is always with me.

18 I will confess my iniquity and be sorry for my sin.

19 Those who are my enemies without cause are mighty, and many in number are those who wrongfully hate me.

20 Those who repay evil for good slander me, because I follow the course that is right.

21 O Lord, do not forsake me; be not far from me, O my God.

22 Make haste to help me, O Lord of my salvation.

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles (Acts 12:18-25)

When morning came, there was no small commotion among the soldiers over what had become of Peter. When Herod had searched for him and could not find him, he examined the guards and ordered them to be put to death. Then he went down from Judea to Caesarea and stayed there.

Now Herod was angry with the people of Tyre and Sidon. So they came to him in a body, and after winning over Blastus, the king's personal attendant, they asked for a reconciliation, because their country depended on the king's country for food. On an appointed day Herod put on his royal robes, took his seat on the platform, and delivered a public address to them. The people kept shouting, "The voice of a god and not of a mortal!" And immediately, because he had not given the glory to God, an angel of the Lord struck him down, and he was eaten by worms and died.

But the word of God continued to advance and gain adherents. Then after completing their mission Barnabas and Saul returned to Jerusalem and brought with them John, whose other name was Mark.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

A reading from the Gospel of John (John 8:47-59)

Whoever is from God hears the words of God. The reason you do not hear them is that you are not from God."

The Jews answered him, "Are we not right in saying that you are a Samaritan and have a demon?" Jesus answered, "I do not have a demon, but I honor my Father, and you dishonor me. Yet I do not seek my own glory; there is one who seeks it, and he is the judge. Very truly, I tell you, whoever keeps my word will never see death." The Jews said to him, "Now we know that you have a demon. Abraham died, and so did the prophets, yet you say, 'Whoever keeps my word will never taste death.' Are you greater than our father Abraham, who died? The prophets also died. Who do you claim to be?" Jesus answered, "If I glorify myself, my glory is nothing. It is my Father who glorifies me, he of whom you say, 'He is our God,' though you do not know him. But I know him; if I would say that I do not know him, I would be a liar like you. But I do know him, and I keep his word. Your ancestor Abraham rejoiced that he would see my day; he saw it and was glad." Then the Jews said to him, "You are not yet fifty years old, and have you seen Abraham?" Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, before Abraham was, I am." So they picked up stones to throw at him, but Jesus hid himself and went out of the temple.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.