

November 22, 2020

First Reading: Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24

A Reading from the book of Ezekiel.

Thus says the Lord God: I myself will search for my sheep and will seek them out. As shepherds seek out their flocks when they are among their scattered sheep, so I will seek out my sheep. I will rescue them from all the places to which they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land; and I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the watercourses, and in all the inhabited parts of the land. I will feed them with good pasture, and the mountain heights of Israel shall be their pasture; there they shall lie down in good grazing land, and they shall feed on rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them lie down, says the Lord God. I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, but the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them with justice.

Therefore, thus says the Lord God to them: I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. Because you pushed with flank and shoulder, and butted at all the weak animals with your horns until you scattered them far and wide, I will save my flock, and they shall no longer be ravaged; and I will judge between sheep and sheep.

I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them: he shall feed them and be their shepherd. And I, the Lord, will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them; I, the Lord, have spoken.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Psalm: Psalm 100

¹Be joyful in the Lord, all you lands; *
 serve the Lord with gladness
 and come before his presence with a song.

²Know this: The Lord himself is God; *
 he himself has made us, and we are his;
 we are his people and the sheep of his pasture.

³Enter his gates with thanksgiving;
go into his courts with praise; *
 give thanks to him and call upon his Name.
⁴For the Lord is good;
his mercy is everlasting; *
 and his faithfulness endures from age to age.

Second Reading: Ephesians 1:15-23

A Reading from Paul's letter to the Church in Ephesus.

I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Prayers of the People

Jesus the Christ, you reign in glory as our King, and to you we lift our voices in prayer, saying, “Lord, hear our prayer.”

That we may serve God with gladness and generosity, discovering his likeness in those who hunger and thirst, in those who are threadbare and in prison, and in those who are sick, lonely, depressed, sorrowful, and rejected; let us pray.

Lord, hear our prayer.

For the forgiveness of our sins, the times when we were blind to the needs of others, and deaf to their shout for assistance, that we may move beyond our selfish greed and love with the measure that Jesus loves humanity; let us pray.

Lord, hear our prayer.

That the leaders of our Church may receive the immeasurable greatness of God, seeking the holy way with every step they take, guiding the faithful and those who have strayed into the glorious dwelling place of divine love; let us pray.

Lord, hear our prayer.

For the sea and the dry land, molded by the Creator’s imagination, that we may cherish the gifts they bring forth, and be good stewards of their fragile ecosystems; let us pray.

Lord, hear our prayer.

That the sin of division may be lifted from family life, and from wherever it fractures the bonds of affection or movements toward peace, that forgiving what is past and trusting in God’s future, we may work to reveal the kingdom in our time; let us pray.

Lord, hear our prayer.

That the righteous dead may live into eternal life, and that those who have gone astray may receive the mercy of the Maker; let us pray.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Rejoicing in the reign of Christ over all creation, let us continue our prayers. For Michael, our Presiding Bishop, William our Bishop, Walter and Don, our Priests, Jamie Candidate for the Diaconate, for Christ Church in Bordentown, Magnolia, Middletown, Millville, New Brunswick, Palmyra, Riverton, Shrewsbury, Somers Point, South Amboy, Toms River, Trenton and Woodbury, Christ the King Church in Willingboro, Church of the Redeemer in Longport, Pray for the Church of Bermuda, The Rt Revd. Nicholas Dill – Bishop of Bermuda Let us pray.

Lord Hear our Prayer

For those on our Parish Cycle of Prayer: Lynn Muller and Deacon Rich Wisniewski

Lord Hear our Prayer

For those in need of our Prayers: Anna Tews, Jane G., Donna Green, Ken Meyer, Tracey Hung, Gina Tews, Michael Rising, Lily Rose Cramer, and those you would like to name.

Lord Hear our Prayer