

Welcome and Introduction

Prayer

Song: O God, you search me and you know me.

1 O, God, you search me, and you know me
All my thoughts lie open to your gaze
When I walk or lie down, you are before me
'Ever the maker and keeper of my days

2 You know my resting and my rising
You discern my purpose from afar
And with love everlasting, you besiege me
In ev'ry moment of life or death, you are

3 Before a word is on my tongue, Lord
You have known its meaning through and through
You are with me beyond my understanding
God of my present, my past and future, too

4 Although your Spirit is upon me
Still I search for shelter from your light
There is nowhere on Earth I can escape you
Even the darkness is radiant in your sight

5 For you created me and shaped me
Gave me life within my mother's womb
For the wonder of who I am, I praise you
Safe in your hands, all creation is made new.

Bernadette Farrell

Old Testament Reading: Genesis 9:8-17

Then God said to Noah and to his sons with him: "I now establish my covenant with you and with your descendants after you and with every living creature that was with you—the birds, the livestock and all the wild animals, all those that came out of the ark with you—every living creature on earth. I establish my covenant with you: Never again will all life be destroyed by the waters of a flood; never again will there be a flood to destroy the earth."

And God said, "This is the sign of the covenant I am making between me and you and every living creature with you, a covenant for all generations to come: I have set my rainbow in the clouds, and it will be the sign of the covenant between me and the earth. Whenever I bring clouds over the earth and the rainbow appears in the clouds, I will remember my covenant between me and you and all living creatures of every kind. Never again will the waters become a flood to destroy all life. Whenever the rainbow appears in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and all living creatures of every kind on the earth."

So God said to Noah, "This is the sign of the covenant I have established between me and all life on the earth."

Short Comment



New Testament Reading: Mark 1:9-15.

At that time Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. Just as Jesus was coming up out of the water, he saw heaven being torn open and the Spirit descending on him like a dove. And a voice came from heaven: "You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased.

"At once the Spirit sent him out into the wilderness, and he was in the wilderness forty days, being tempted by Satan. He was with the wild animals, and angels attended him.

After John was put in prison, Jesus went into Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God. "The time has come," he said. "The kingdom of God has come near. Repent and believe the good news!"

Reflection

Prayers & Lord's prayer.

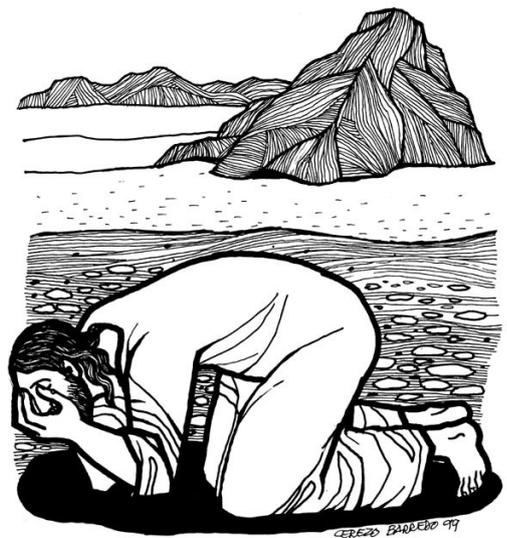
Song: God of the poor

Beauty for brokenness, Hope for despair,
Lord, in the suffering, this is our prayer -
Bread for the children, Justice, Joy, Peace,
Sunrise to sunset, Your kingdom increase!

Shelter for fragile lives, cures for their ills.
Work for the craftsman, trade for their skills.
Land for the dispossessed, rights for the weak,
Voices to plead the cause of those who can't speak

*God of the poor, Friend of the weak -
Give us compassion we pray.
Melt our cold hearts, let tears fall like rain,
Come, change our love, from a spark to a flame*

Refuge from cruel wars, havens from fear,
Cities for sanctuary, freedoms to share.
Peace to the killing-fields, scorched earth to green -
Christ for the bitterness, His cross for the pain



Rest for the ravaged earth, oceans and streams;
Plundered and poisoned, our future, our dreams.
Lord, end our madness, carelessness, greed -
Make us content with the things that we need.

Lighten our darkness, breathe on this flame,
Until your justice burns brightly again.
Until the nations learn of your ways,
Seek your salvation, and bring you their praise.

Graham Kendrick

Closing words & benediction

Next Sunday, Revd Nathan Eddy will be leading worship and it will be a communion service. So, you might like to have some bread and some wine or juice ready if you wish to participate in this.