

Today's Readings

Reformation Sunday

October 28, 2018

Prayer of the Day

Almighty God, gracious Lord, we thank you that your Holy Spirit renews the church in every age. Pour out your Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep them steadfast in your word, protect and comfort them in times of trial, defend them against all enemies of the gospel, and bestow on the church your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

First Reading

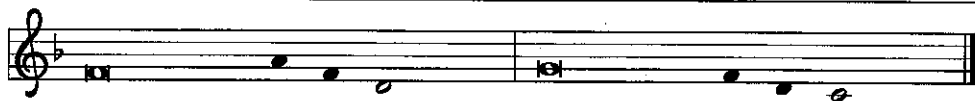
Jeremiah 31:31-34

The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ³²It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the LORD. ³³But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days,

says the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. ³⁴No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, "Know the LORD," for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the LORD; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

Psalms

Psalms 46; tone 11



God is our ref-¹uge and strength,
a very present¹ help in trouble.

²Therefore we will not fear,
though the¹ earth be moved,
and though the mountains shake
in the depths¹ of the sea;

³though its waters¹ rage and foam,
and though the mountains tremble
¹with its tumult.

⁴There is a river whose streams
make glad the cit-¹y of God,
the holy habitation
of¹ the Most High.

⁵God is in the midst of the city;
it shall¹ not be shaken;
God shall help it
at the¹ break of day.

⁶The nations rage,
and the¹ kingdoms shake;

God speaks,
and the earth¹ melts away.

⁷The LORD of¹ hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob¹ is our stronghold.

⁸Come now,
regard the works¹ of the LORD,
what desolations

God has brought up-¹on the earth;

⁹behold the one who makes war to cease
in¹ all the world;
who breaks the bow,
and shatters the spear,
and burns the¹ shields with fire.

continued

¹⁰**Be still, then,
and know that ¹I am God;
I will be exalted among the nations;
I will be exalted ¹in the earth.”**

¹¹The LORD of ¹hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob ¹is our stronghold.

Second Reading

Romans 3:19-28

Now we know that whatever the law says, it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be silenced, and the whole world may be held accountable to God. ²⁰For “no human being will be justified in his sight” by deeds prescribed by the law, for through the law comes the knowledge of sin.

²¹But now, apart from law, the righteousness of God has been disclosed, and is attested by the law and the prophets, ²²the righteousness of God through faith in Jesus Christ for all who believe. For there is no distinction, ²³since all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God; ²⁴they are now jus-

tified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, ²⁵whom God put forward as a sacrifice of atonement by his blood, effective through faith. He did this to show his righteousness, because in his divine forbearance he had passed over the sins previously committed; ²⁶it was to prove at the present time that he himself is righteous and that he justifies the one who has faith in Jesus.

²⁷Then what becomes of boasting? It is excluded. By what law? By that of works? No, but by the law of faith. ²⁸For we hold that a person is justified by faith apart from works prescribed by the law.

Gospel

John 8:31-36

Jesus said to the Jews who had believed in him, “If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples; ³²and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free.” ³³They answered him, “We are descendants of Abraham and have never been slaves to anyone. What do you mean by saying, ‘You will be made free’?”

³⁴Jesus answered them, “Very truly, I tell you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. ³⁵The slave does not have a permanent place in the household; the son has a place there forever. ³⁶So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed.”

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Next Sunday's Readings: All Saints Sunday Isaiah 25:6-9 or Wisdom 3:1-9; Psalm 24; Revelation 21:1-6a; John 11:32-44 **OR 24th Sunday after Pentecost** Deuteronomy 6:1-9; Psalm 119:1-8; Hebrews 9:11-14; Mark 12:28-34.

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