

Bible Readings – Sunday 8th November, 2020

Coventry's Litany of Reconciliation (replacing our normal confession)

Minister	All have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God.
All	The hatred which divides nation from nation, race from race, class from class, Father, forgive.
Minister	The covetous desires of people and nations to possess what is not their own
All	Father, forgive.
Minister	The greed which exploits the work of human hands and lays waste the earth,
All	Father, forgive.
Minister	Our envy of the welfare and happiness of others,
All	Father, forgive.
Minister	Our indifference to the plight of the imprisoned, the homeless, the refugee,
All	Father, forgive.
Minister	The lust which dishonours the bodies of men, women and children,
All	Father, forgive.
Minister	The pride which leads us to trust in ourselves and not in God,
All	Father, forgive.
Minister	Be kind to one another, tender hearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ, forgave you.

The Collect for Remembrance Sunday

God, our refuge and strength,
bring near the day when wars shall cease
and poverty and pain shall end,
that earth may know the peace of heaven
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Amos 5:18-24

Woe to you who long
for the day of the LORD!
Why do you long for the day of the LORD?
That day will be darkness, not light.
¹⁹ It will be as though a man fled from a lion
only to meet a bear,
as though he entered his house
and rested his hand on the wall
only to have a snake bite him.

²⁰ Will not the day of the LORD be darkness, not light –
pitch-dark, without a ray of brightness?
²¹ ‘I hate, I despise your religious festivals;
your assemblies are a stench to me.
²² Even though you bring me burnt offerings and grain offerings,
I will not accept them.
Though you bring choice fellowship offerings,
I will have no regard for them.
²³ Away with the noise of your songs!
I will not listen to the music of your harps.
²⁴ But let justice roll on like a river,
righteousness like a never-failing stream!

Matthew 25:1-13

‘At that time the kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went out to meet the bridegroom. ² Five of them were foolish and five were wise. ³ The foolish ones took their lamps but did not take any oil with them. ⁴ The wise ones, however, took oil in jars along with their lamps. ⁵ The bridegroom was a long time in coming, and they all became drowsy and fell asleep.

⁶ ‘At midnight the cry rang out: “Here’s the bridegroom! Come out to meet him!”

⁷ ‘Then all the virgins woke up and trimmed their lamps. ⁸ The foolish ones said to the wise, “Give us some of your oil; our lamps are going out.”

⁹ “No,” they replied, “there may not be enough for both us and you. Instead, go to those who sell oil and buy some for yourselves.”

¹⁰ ‘But while they were on their way to buy the oil, the bridegroom arrived. The virgins who were ready went in with him to the wedding banquet. And the door was shut.

¹¹ ‘Later the others also came. “Lord, Lord,” they said, “open the door for us!”

¹² ‘But he replied, “Truly I tell you, I don’t know you.”

¹³ ‘Therefore keep watch, because you do not know the day or the hour.

The Act of Commitment (before our final blessing)

Minister Let us pledge ourselves anew to the service of God and our fellow men and women: that we may help, encourage, and comfort others, and support those working for the relief of the needy and for the peace and welfare of the nations.

Will you strive for all that makes for peace?
All We will.

Will you seek to heal the wounds of war?
All We will.

Will you work for a just future for all humanity?
All We will.

**All Lord God our Father,
We pledge ourselves**

To serve you and all humankind,
In the cause of peace,
For the relief of want and suffering,
And for the praise of your name.
Guide us by your Spirit;
Give us wisdom; give us courage; give us hope;
And keep us faithful now and always. Amen.