

Holyrood Episcopal Church

Morning Prayer

Date: Wednesday, June 03, 2020
Church Day: Wednesday after Pentecost (Year A)
+ Martyrs of Uganda, 1886 +

Psalm 119 : 49-72

- 49 Remember your word to your servant, * // **because you have given me hope.**
- 50 This is my comfort in my trouble, * // **that your promise gives me life.**
- 51 The proud have derided me cruelly, * // **but I have not turned from your law.**
- 52 When I remember your judgments of old, * // **O LORD, I take great comfort.**
- 53 I am filled with a burning rage, * // **because of the wicked who forsake your law.**
- 54 Your statutes have been like songs to me * // **wherever I have lived as a stranger.**
- 55 I remember your Name in the night, O LORD, * // **and dwell upon your law.**
- 56 This is how it has been with me, * // **because I have kept your commandments.**

Psalm 119 : 57-64

- 57 You only are my portion, O LORD; * // **I have promised to keep your words.**
- 58 I entreat you with all my heart, * // **be merciful to me according to your promise.**
- 59 I have considered my ways * // **and turned my feet toward your decrees.**
- 60 I hasten and do not tarry * // **to keep your commandments.**
- 61 Though the cords of the wicked entangle me, * // **I do not forget your law.**
- 62 At midnight I will rise to give you thanks, * // **because of your righteous judgments.**
- 63 I am a companion of all who fear you; * // **and of those who keep your commandments.**
- 64 The earth, O LORD, is full of your love; * // **instruct me in your statutes.**

Psalm 119 : 65-72

- 65 O LORD, you have dealt graciously with your servant, * // **according to your word.**
- 66 Teach me discernment and knowledge, * // **for I have believed in your commandments.**
- 67 Before I was afflicted I went astray, * // **but now I keep your word.**
- 68 You are good and you bring forth good; * // **instruct me in your statutes.**
- 69 The proud have smeared me with lies, * // **but I will keep your commandments with my whole heart.**
- 70 Their heart is gross and fat, * // **but my delight is in your law.**
- 71 It is good for me that I have been afflicted, * // **that I might learn your statutes.**
- 72 The law of your mouth is dearer to me * // **than thousands in gold and silver.**

Reading 1: Ecclesiastes 3:1-15 (NRSV)

For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven: a time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted; a time to kill, and a time to heal; a time to break down, and a time to build up; a time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn, and a time to dance; a time to throw away stones, and a time to gather stones together; a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing; a time to seek, and a time to lose; a time to keep, and a time to throw away; a time to tear, and a time to sew; a time to keep silence, and a time to speak; a time to love, and a time to hate; a time for war, and a time for peace. What gain have the workers from their toil? I have seen the business that God has given to everyone to be busy with. He has made everything suitable for its time; moreover he has put a sense of past and future into their minds, yet they cannot find out what God has done from the beginning to the end. I know that there is nothing better for them than to be happy and enjoy themselves as long as they live; moreover, it is God's gift that all should eat and drink and take pleasure in all their toil. I know that whatever God does endures forever; nothing can be added to it, nor anything taken from it; God has done this, so that all should stand in awe before him. That which is, already has been; that which is to be, already is; and God seeks out what has gone by.

Canticle H : A Song of Hosea

HOSEA 6:1-3

"Come, let us return to our God, *
who has torn us and will heal us.

God has struck us and will bind up our wounds, *
after two days revive us,

On the third day restore us, *
that in God's presence we may live.

Let us humble ourselves, let us strive to know the LORD, *
whose justice dawns like morning light, its dawning as sure as the sunrise.

God's justice will come to us like a shower, *
like spring rains that water the earth."

Reading 2: Galatians 2:11-21 (NRSV)

When Cephas came to Antioch, I opposed him to his face, because he stood self-condemned; for until certain people came from James, he used to eat with the Gentiles. But after they came, he drew back and kept himself separate for fear of the circumcision faction. And the other Jews joined him in this hypocrisy, so that even Barnabas was led astray by their hypocrisy. But when I saw that they were not acting consistently with the truth of the gospel, I said to Cephas before them all, "If you, though a Jew, live like a Gentile and not like a Jew, how can you compel the Gentiles to live like Jews?" We ourselves are Jews by birth and not Gentile sinners; yet we know that a person is justified not by the works of the law but through faith in Jesus Christ. And we have come to believe in Christ Jesus, so that we might be justified by faith in Christ, and not by doing the works of the law, because no one will be justified by the works of the law. But if, in our effort to be justified in Christ, we ourselves have been found to be sinners, is Christ then a servant of sin? Certainly not! But if I build up again the very things that I once tore down, then I demonstrate that I am a transgressor. For through the law I died to the law, so that I might live to God. I have been crucified with Christ; and it is no longer I who live, but it is Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave

himself for me. I do not nullify the grace of God; for if justification comes through the law, then Christ died for nothing.

Canticle S : A Song of Our True Nature

JULIAN OF NORWICH

"Christ revealed our frailty and our falling, *
our trespasses and our humiliations.

Christ also revealed his blessed power, *
his blessed wisdom and love.

He protects us as tenderly and as sweetly when we are in greatest need; *
he raises us in spirit and turns everything to glory and joy without ending.

God is the ground and the substance, the very essence of nature; *
God is the true father and mother of natures.

We are all bound to God by nature, *
and we are all bound to God by grace.

And this grace is for all the world, *
because it is our precious mother, Christ.

For this fair nature was prepared by Christ for the honor and nobility of all, *
and for the joy and bliss of salvation."

Reading 3: Matthew 14:1-12 (NRSV)

Herod the ruler heard reports about Jesus; and he said to his servants, "This is John the Baptist; he has been raised from the dead, and for this reason these powers are at work in him." For Herod had arrested John, bound him, and put him in prison on account of Herodias, his brother Philip's wife, because John had been telling him, "It is not lawful for you to have her." Though Herod wanted to put him to death, he feared the crowd, because they regarded him as a prophet. But when Herod's birthday came, the daughter of Herodias danced before the company, and she pleased Herod so much that he promised on oath to grant her whatever she might ask. Prompted by her mother, she said, "Give me the head of John the Baptist here on a platter." The king was grieved, yet out of regard for his oaths and for the guests, he commanded it to be given; he sent and had John beheaded in the prison. The head was brought on a platter and given to the girl, who brought it to her mother. His disciples came and took the body and buried it; then they went and told Jesus.

Collect: Martyrs of Uganda, 1886, Rite Two

O God, by your providence the blood of the martyrs is the seed of the Church: Grant that we who remember before you the blessed martyrs of Uganda, may, like them, be steadfast in our faith in Jesus Christ, to whom they gave obedience, even to death, and by their sacrifice brought forth a plentiful harvest; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Collect: The Day of Pentecost: Whitsunday I, Rite Two

Almighty God, on this day you opened the way of eternal life to every race and nation by the promised gift of your Holy Spirit: Shed abroad this gift throughout the world by the preaching of the Gospel, that it may reach to the ends of the earth; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

La Colecta: Día de Pentecostés

Dios omnipotente, en este día abriste el camino de la vida eterna a toda raza y nación por el don prometido de tu Espíritu Santo: Esparce este don sobre todo el mundo por la predicación del Evangelio, para que llegue a los confines de la tierra; por Jesucristo nuestro Señor, que vive y reina contigo, en la unidad del Espíritu Santo, un solo Dios, por los siglos de los siglos. **Amén.**

The Uganda Martyrs are a group of 23 Anglican and 22 Catholic converts to Christianity in the historical kingdom of Buganda, now part of Uganda, who were executed between 31 January 1885 and 27 January 1887.

They were killed on orders of Mwanga II, the *Kabaka* (King) of Buganda. The deaths took place at a time when there was a three-way religious struggle for political influence at the Buganda royal court. The episode also occurred against the backdrop of the "Scramble for Africa" – the invasion, occupation, division, colonization and annexation of African territory by European powers. A few years after, the English Church Missionary Society used the deaths to enlist wider public support for the British acquisition of Uganda for the Empire. The Catholic Church beatified the 22 Catholic martyrs of its faith in 1920 and canonized them in 1964.