

**Tuesday, January 2<sup>nd</sup>** **VEDANAYAGAM SAMUEL AZARIAH**

FIRST INDIAN ANGLICAN BISHOP, DORNAKAL, 1945

**COLLECT: (*Remain Standing*)**

Emmanuel, God with us, making your home in every culture and community on earth: We thank you for raising up your servant Samuel Azariah as the first indigenous bishop in India. Grant that we may be strengthened by his witness to your love without concern for class or caste, and by his labors for the unity of the Church in India, that people of many languages and cultures might with one voice give you glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and for ever. **Amen.**

**First Reading: 1st Kings 19:1-8 (*Please be seated*)**

Reader: A reading from the book of 1st Kings.

Ahab told Jezebel all that Elijah had done, and how he had killed all the prophets with the sword. Then Jezebel sent a messenger to Elijah, saying, 'So may the gods do to me, and more also, if I do not make your life like the life of one of them by this time tomorrow.' Then he was afraid; he got up and fled for his life, and came to Beer-sheba, which belongs to Judah; he left his servant there.

But he himself went a day's journey into the wilderness, and came and sat down under a solitary broom tree. He asked that he might die: 'It is enough; now, O Lord, take away my life, for I am no better than my ancestors.' Then he lay down under the broom tree and fell asleep. Suddenly an angel touched him and said to him, 'Get up and eat.' He looked, and there at his head was a cake baked on hot stones, and a jar of water. He ate and drank, and lay down again. The angel of the Lord came a second time, touched him, and said, 'Get up and eat, otherwise the journey will be too much for you.' He got up, and ate and drank; then he went in the strength of that food for forty days and forty nights to Horeb the mount of God.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God**

# Psalm

Reader: Let us pray together the words of **Psalm 34**.

1 I will bless the Lord at all times; \*  
his praise shall ever be in my mouth.

2 I will glory in the Lord; \*  
let the humble hear and rejoice.

3 Proclaim with me the greatness of the Lord; \*  
let us exalt his Name together.

4 I sought the Lord, and he answered me \*  
and delivered me out of all my terror.

5 Look upon him and be radiant, \*  
and let not your faces be ashamed.

6 I called in my affliction and the Lord heard me \*  
and saved me from all my troubles.

7 The angel of the Lord encompasses those who  
fear him, \*  
and he will deliver them.

8 Taste and see that the Lord is good; \*  
happy are they who trust in him!

9 Fear the Lord, you that are his saints, \*  
for those who fear him lack nothing.

10 The young lions lack and suffer hunger, \*  
but those who seek the Lord lack nothing that is  
good.

11 Come, children, and listen to me; \*  
I will teach you the fear of the Lord.

12 Who among you loves life \*  
and desires long life to enjoy prosperity?

13 Keep your tongue from evil-speaking \*  
and your lips from lying words.

14 Turn from evil and do good; \*  
seek peace and pursue it.

15 The eyes of the Lord are upon the righteous, \*  
and his ears are open to their cry.

16 The face of the Lord is against those who do  
evil, \*  
to root out the remembrance of them from the  
earth.

17 The righteous cry, and the Lord hears them \*  
and delivers them from all their troubles.

18 The Lord is near to the brokenhearted \*  
and will save those whose spirits are crushed.

19 Many are the troubles of the righteous, \*  
but the Lord will deliver him out of them all.

20 He will keep safe all his bones; \*  
not one of them shall be broken.

21 Evil shall slay the wicked, \*  
and those who hate the righteous will be  
punished.

22 The Lord ransoms the life of his servants, \*  
and none will be punished who trust in him.

## **Ephesians 4:1-16** *(Please be seated)*

Reader: A reading from the book of Ephesians.

I therefore, the prisoner in the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all.

But each of us was given grace according to the measure of Christ's gift. Therefore it is said, 'When he ascended on high he made captivity itself a captive; he gave gifts to his people.'

(When it says, 'He ascended', what does it mean but that he had also descended into the lower parts of the earth? He who descended is the same one who ascended far above all the heavens, so that he might fill all things.) The gifts he gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ. We must no longer be children, tossed to and fro and blown about by every wind of doctrine, by people's trickery, by their craftiness in deceitful scheming. But speaking the truth in love, we must grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, from whom the whole body, joined and knitted together by every ligament with which it is equipped, as each part is working properly, promotes the body's growth in building itself up in love.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

# GOSPEL

## **John 6:1-14** *(Please stand as you are able)*

Priest: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

**People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

After this Jesus went to the other side of the Sea of Galilee, also called the Sea of Tiberias. A large crowd kept following him, because they saw the signs that he was doing for the sick. Jesus went up the mountain and sat down there with his disciples. Now the Passover, the festival of the Jews, was near. When he looked up and saw a large crowd coming towards him, Jesus said to Philip, 'Where are we to buy bread for these people to eat?' He said this to test him, for he himself knew what he was going to do. Philip answered him, 'Six months' wages would not buy enough bread for each of them to get a little.' One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, said to him, 'There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish. But what are they among so many people?' Jesus said, 'Make the people sit down.' Now there was a great deal of grass in the place; so they sat down, about five thousand in all. Then Jesus took the loaves, and when he had given thanks, he distributed them to those who were seated; so also the fish, as much as they wanted. When they were satisfied, he told his disciples, 'Gather up the fragments left over, so that nothing may be lost.' So they gathered them up, and from the fragments of the five barley loaves, left by those who had eaten, they filled twelve baskets. When the people saw the sign that he had done, they began to say, 'This is indeed the prophet who is to come into the world.'

Deacon or Priest: The Gospel of the Lord. **All: Praise to you, Lord Christ**