

PRIEST, MISSIONARY, EDUCATOR (10 SEP 1898)

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

Almighty and everlasting God, we thank you for your servant Alexander Crummell, whom you called to preach the gospel to those who were far off and to those who were near: Raise up, in this and every land, evangelists and heralds of your kingdom, that your church may proclaim the unsearchable riches of our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

**First Reading: Job 29:1-20 (*Please be seated*)**

Reader: A reading from the book of Job.

Job again took up his discourse and said:  
'O that I were as in the months of old,  
as in the days when God watched over me;  
when his lamp shone over my head,  
and by his light I walked through darkness;  
when I was in my prime,  
when the friendship of God was upon my  
tent;  
when the Almighty was still with me,  
when my children were around me;  
when my steps were washed with milk,  
and the rock poured out for me streams of  
oil!  
When I went out to the gate of the city,  
when I took my seat in the square,  
the young men saw me and withdrew,  
and the aged rose up and stood;  
the nobles refrained from talking,  
and laid their hands on their mouths;  
the voices of princes were hushed,  
and their tongues stuck to the roof of their  
mouths.  
When the ear heard, it commended me,  
and when the eye saw, it approved;

because I delivered the poor who cried,  
and the orphan who had no helper.  
The blessing of the wretched came upon me,  
and I caused the widow's heart to sing for  
joy.  
I put on righteousness, and it clothed me;  
my justice was like a robe and a turban.  
I was eyes to the blind,  
and feet to the lame.  
I was a father to the needy,  
and I championed the cause of the  
stranger.  
I broke the fangs of the unrighteous,  
and made them drop their prey from their  
teeth.  
Then I thought, "I shall die in my nest,  
and I shall multiply my days like the  
phoenix;  
my roots spread out to the waters,  
with the dew all night on my branches;  
my glory was fresh with me,  
and my bow ever new in my hand."

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God**

# Psalm

Reader: Let us pray together the words of **Psalm 45**.

1 My heart is stirring with a noble song;  
let me recite what I have fashioned for the  
king; \*  
my tongue shall be the pen of a skilled  
writer.

2 You are the fairest of men; \*  
grace flows from your lips,  
because God has blessed you for ever.

3 Strap your sword upon your thigh, O  
mighty warrior, \*  
in your pride and in your majesty.

4 Ride out and conquer in the cause of truth \*  
and for the sake of justice.

5 Your right hand will show you marvelous  
things; \*  
your arrows are very sharp, O mighty  
warrior.

6 The peoples are falling at your feet, \*  
and the king's enemies are losing heart.  
7 Your throne, O God, endures for ever and  
ever, \*  
a scepter of righteousness is the scepter of  
your kingdom;  
you love righteousness and hate iniquity.

8 Therefore God, your God, has anointed  
you \*  
with the oil of gladness above your fellows.

9 All your garments are fragrant with myrrh,  
aloes, and cassia, \*  
and the music of strings from ivory palaces  
makes you glad.

10 Kings' daughters stand among the ladies  
of the court; \*  
on your right hand is the queen,  
adorned with the gold of Ophir.

11 "Hear, O daughter; consider and listen  
closely; \*  
forget your people and your father's house.

12 The king will have pleasure in your  
beauty; \*  
he is your master; therefore do him honor.

13 The people of Tyre are here with a gift; \*  
the rich among the people seek your favor."

14 All glorious is the princess as she enters; \*  
her gown is cloth-of-gold.

15 In embroidered apparel she is brought to  
the king; \*  
after her the bridesmaids follow in  
procession.

16 With joy and gladness they are brought, \*  
and enter into the palace of the king.

17 "In place of fathers, O king, you shall have  
sons; \*  
you shall make them princes over all the  
earth.

18 I will make your name to be remembered  
from one generation to another; \*  
therefore nations will praise you for ever  
and ever."

## **Acts 14:1-18** *(Please be seated)*

Reader: A reading from the book of Acts.

The same thing occurred in Iconium, where Paul and Barnabas went into the Jewish synagogue and spoke in such a way that a great number of both Jews and Greeks became believers. But the unbelieving Jews stirred up the Gentiles and poisoned their minds against the brothers. So they remained for a long time, speaking boldly for the Lord, who testified to the word of his grace by granting signs and wonders to be done through them. But the residents of the city were divided; some sided with the Jews, and some with the apostles. And when an attempt was made by both Gentiles and Jews, with their rulers, to maltreat them and to stone them, the apostles learned of it and fled to Lystra and Derbe, cities of Lycaonia, and to the surrounding country; and there they continued proclaiming the good news.

In Lystra there was a man sitting who could not use his feet and had never walked, for he had been crippled from birth. He listened to Paul as he was speaking. And Paul, looking at him intently and seeing that he had faith to be healed, said in a loud voice, 'Stand upright on your feet.' And the man sprang up and began to walk. When the crowds saw what Paul had done, they shouted in the Lycaonian language, 'The gods have come down to us in human form!' Barnabas they called Zeus, and Paul they called Hermes, because he was the chief speaker. The priest of Zeus, whose temple was just outside the city, brought oxen and garlands to the gates; he and the crowds wanted to offer sacrifice. When the apostles Barnabas and Paul heard of it, they tore their clothes and rushed out into the crowd, shouting, 'Friends, why are you doing this? We are mortals just like you, and we bring you good news, that you should turn from these worthless things to the living God, who made the heaven and the earth and the sea and all that is in them. In past generations he allowed all the nations to follow their own ways; yet he has not left himself without a witness in doing good—giving you rains from heaven and fruitful seasons, and filling you with food and your hearts with joy.' Even with these words, they scarcely restrained the crowds from offering sacrifice to them.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

## **John 10:31-42** *(Please stand as you are able)*

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

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

The Jews took up stones again to stone him. Jesus replied, 'I have shown you many good works from the Father. For which of these are you going to stone me?' The Jews answered, 'It is not for a good work that we are going to stone you, but for blasphemy, because you, though only a human being, are making yourself God.' Jesus answered, 'Is it not written in your law, "I said, you are gods"? If those to whom the word of God came were called "gods"—and the scripture cannot be annulled— can you say that the one whom the Father has sanctified and sent into the world is blaspheming because I said, "I am God's Son"? If I am not doing the works of my Father, then do not believe me. But if I do them, even though you do not believe me, believe the works, so that you may know and understand that the Father is in me and I am in the Father.' Then they tried to arrest him again, but he escaped from their hands.

He went away again across the Jordan to the place where John had been baptizing earlier, and he remained there. Many came to him, and they were saying, 'John performed no sign, but everything that John said about this man was true.' And many believed in him there.

Priest: The Gospel of the Lord.

**All: Praise to you, Lord Christ**