

### Sentence of Scripture

The redeemed of the Lord shall return and come to Zion with singing;  
and everlasting joy shall be upon their heads.

Isaiah 51.11

### Prayer of the day

O God,  
you give light to the blind and comfort to the sorrowing,  
and in your Son you have given us  
a High Priest who has offered the true sacrifice for us  
and yet can sympathise with us in our weakness:  
hear the cry of your people  
and lead us home to our true country,  
where with your Son and the Holy Spirit  
you live and reign, one God, in glory everlasting. Amen.

### Readings

#### Job 42:1–6, 10–17

Then Job answered the LORD:

<sup>2</sup>“I know that you can do all things, and that no purpose of yours can be thwarted.

<sup>3</sup>“Who is this that hides counsel without knowledge?”

Therefore I have uttered what I did not understand,  
things too wonderful for me, which I did not know.

<sup>4</sup>“Hear, and I will speak; I will question you, and you declare to me.”

<sup>5</sup>I had heard of you by the hearing of the ear, but now my eye sees you;

<sup>6</sup>therefore I despise myself, and repent in dust and ashes.”

<sup>10</sup> And the LORD restored the fortunes of Job when he had prayed for his friends; and the LORD gave Job twice as much as he had before. <sup>11</sup> Then there came to him all his brothers and sisters and all who had known him before, and they ate bread with him in his house; they showed him sympathy and comforted him for all the evil that the LORD had brought upon him; and each of them gave him a piece of money and a gold ring.

<sup>12</sup> The LORD blessed the latter days of Job more than his beginning; and he had fourteen thousand sheep, six thousand camels, a thousand yoke of oxen, and a thousand donkeys. <sup>13</sup> He also had seven sons and three daughters. <sup>14</sup> He named the first Jemimah, the second Keziah, and the third Keren-happuch. <sup>15</sup> In all the land there were no women so beautiful as Job’s daughters; and their father gave them an inheritance along with their brothers. <sup>16</sup> After this Job lived one hundred and forty years, and saw his children, and his children’s children, four generations. <sup>17</sup> And Job died, old and full of days.

(NRSV)

Hear the word of the Lord, **thanks be to God.**

#### Psalm 34:1–8

1 I will bless the Lord continually:

**his praise shall be always in my mouth.**

2 Let my soul boast of the Lord:

**the humble shall hear it and rejoice.**

3 O praise the Lord with me:

**let us exalt his name together.**

4 For I sought the Lord's help and he answered:

**and he freed me from all my fears.**

5 Look towards him and be bright with joy:

**your faces shall not be ashamed.**

6 Here is a wretch who cried, and the Lord heard me:

**and saved me from all my troubles.**

7 The angel of the Lord encamps round those who fear him:

**and delivers them in their need.**

8 O taste and see that the Lord is good:

**happy are they that hide in him!**

### **Hebrews 7:21–28**

<sup>21</sup> but this one became a priest with an oath, because of the one who said to him, “The Lord has sworn and will not change his mind, ‘You are a priest forever’ ”—

<sup>22</sup> accordingly Jesus has also become the guarantee of a better covenant.

<sup>23</sup> Furthermore, the former priests were many in number, because they were prevented by death from continuing in office; <sup>24</sup> but he holds his priesthood permanently, because he continues forever. <sup>25</sup> Consequently he is able for all time to save those who approach God through him, since he always lives to make intercession for them.

<sup>26</sup> For it was fitting that we should have such a high priest, holy, blameless, undefiled, separated from sinners, and exalted above the heavens. <sup>27</sup> Unlike the other high priests, he has no need to offer sacrifices day after day, first for his own sins, and then for those of the people; this he did once for all when he offered himself. <sup>28</sup> For the law appoints as high priests those who are subject to weakness, but the word of the oath, which came later than the law, appoints a Son who has been made perfect forever. (NRSV)

Hear the word of the Lord, **thanks be to God.**

### **Mark 10:46–52**

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ **Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

<sup>46</sup> They came to Jericho. As he and his disciples and a large crowd were leaving Jericho, Bartimaeus son of Timaeus, a blind beggar, was sitting by the roadside.

<sup>47</sup> When he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to shout out and say, “Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!” <sup>48</sup> Many sternly ordered him to be quiet, but he cried out even more loudly, “Son of David, have mercy on me!” <sup>49</sup> Jesus stood still and said, “Call him here.” And they called the blind man, saying to him, “Take heart; get up, he is calling you.” <sup>50</sup> So throwing off his cloak, he sprang up and came to Jesus. <sup>51</sup> Then Jesus said to him, “What do you want me to do for you?” The blind man said to him, “My teacher, let me see again.” <sup>52</sup> Jesus said to him, “Go; your faith has made you well.” Immediately he regained his sight and followed him on the way. (NRSV)

This is the Gospel of our Lord, **praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.**