

Hymns, Lessons, Gradual  
Septuagesima 2023

# 376

1. Rock of Ages, cleft for me,  
Let me hide myself in Thee;  
Let the water and the blood  
From Thy riven side which flowed  
Be of sin the double cure,  
Cleanse me from its guilt and power.

2. Not the labors of my hands  
Can fulfil Thy Law's demands;  
Could my zeal no respite know,  
Could my tears forever flow,  
All for sin could not atone;  
Thou must save, and Thou alone.

3. Nothing in my hand I bring,  
Simply to Thy cross I cling;  
Naked, come to Thee for dress;  
Helpless, look to Thee for grace;  
Foul, I to the fountain fly,--  
Wash me, Savior, or I die!

4. While I draw this fleeting breath,  
When mine eyelids close in death,  
When I soar to worlds unknown,  
See Thee on Thy judgment-throne,  
Rock of Ages, cleft for me,  
Let me hide myself in Thee! Amen.

Lesson: Jeremiah 1.4-10

4 Then the word of the LORD came unto me, saying, 5 Before I formed thee in the belly I knew thee; and before thou camest forth out of the womb I sanctified thee, and I ordained thee a prophet unto the nations. 6 Then said I, Ah, Lord GOD! behold, I cannot speak: for I am a child. 7 But the LORD said unto me, Say not, I am a child: for thou shalt go to all that I shall send thee, and whatsoever I command thee thou shalt speak. 8 Be not afraid of their faces: for I am with thee to deliver thee, saith the LORD. 9 Then the LORD put forth his hand, and touched my mouth. And the LORD said unto me, Behold, I have put my words in thy mouth. 10 See, I have this day set thee over the nations and over the kingdoms, to root out, and to pull down, and to destroy, and to throw down, to build, and to plant.

Epistle: 1 Corinthians 9.24-10.5

24 Know ye not that they which run in a race run all, but one receiveth the prize? So run, that ye may obtain. 25 And every man that striveth for the mastery is temperate in all things. Now they do it to obtain a corruptible crown; but we an incorruptible. 26 I therefore so run, not as uncertainly; so fight I, not as one that beateth the air: 27 But I keep under my body, and bring it into subjection: lest that by any means, when I have preached to others, I myself should be a castaway.

10:1 Moreover, brethren, I would not that ye should be ignorant, how that all our fathers were under the cloud, and all passed through the sea; 2 And were all baptized unto Moses in the cloud and in the sea; 3 And did all eat the same spiritual meat; 4 And did all drink the same spiritual drink: for they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them: and that Rock was Christ. 5 But with many of them God was not well pleased: for they were overthrown in the wilderness.

The Lord will be a Refuge for the oppressed, a Refuge in times of trouble; and they that know Thy name will put their trust in Thee, for Thou, Lord, hast not forsaken them that seek Thee. For the needy shall not always be forgotten: the expectation of the poor shall not perish forever. Arise, O Lord; let not man prevail. Out of the depths have I cried unto Thee, O Lord: Lord, hear my voice. Let Thine ears be attentive: to the voice of my supplications. If Thou, Lord, shouldst mark iniquities: O Lord, who shall stand? But there is forgiveness with Thee: that Thou mayest be feared.

Gospel: Matthew 20.1-16

1 For the kingdom of heaven is like unto a man that is an householder, which went out early in the morning to hire labourers into his vineyard. 2 And when he had agreed with the labourers for a penny a day, he sent them into his vineyard. 3 And he went out about the third hour, and saw others standing idle in the marketplace, 4 And said unto them; Go ye also into the vineyard, and whatsoever is right I will give you. And they went their way. 5 Again he went out about the sixth and ninth hour, and did likewise. 6 And about the eleventh hour he went out, and found others standing idle, and saith unto them, Why stand ye here all the day idle? 7 They say unto him, Because no man hath hired us. He saith unto them, Go ye also into the vineyard; and whatsoever is right, that shall ye receive. 8 So when even was come, the lord of the vineyard saith unto his steward, Call the labourers, and give them their hire, beginning from the last unto the first. 9 And when they came that were hired about the eleventh hour, they received every man a penny. 10 But when the first came, they supposed that they should have received more; and they likewise received every man a penny. 11 And when they had received it, they murmured against the goodman of the house, 12 Saying, These last have wrought but one hour, and thou hast made them equal unto us, which have borne the burden and heat of the day. 13 But he answered one of them, and said, Friend, I do thee no wrong: didst not thou agree with me for a penny? 14 Take that thine is, and go thy way: I will give unto this last, even as unto thee. 15 Is it not lawful for me to do what I will with mine own? Is thine eye evil, because I am good? 16 So the last shall be first, and the first last: for many be called, but few chosen.

# 373

1. By grace I'm saved, grace free and boundless;

My soul, believe and doubt it not.  
Why stagger at this word of promise?  
Hath Scripture ever falsehood taught?  
Nay; then this word must true remain;  
By grace thou, too, shalt heav'n obtain.

2. By grace! None dare lay claim to merit;

Our works and conduct have no worth.  
God in His love sent our Redeemer,  
Christ Jesus, to this sinful earth;  
His death did for our sins atone,  
And we are saved by grace alone.

3. By grace! Oh, mark this word of promise

When thou art by thy sins opprest,  
When Satan plagues thy troubled conscience,  
And when thy heart is seeking rest.  
What reason cannot comprehend  
God by His grace to thee doth send.

4. By grace God's Son, our only Savior,

Came down to earth to bear our sin.  
Was it because of thine own merit  
That Jesus died thy soul to win?

Nay, it was grace, and grace alone,  
That brought Him from His heavenly throne.

5. By grace! This ground of faith is certain;  
So long as God is true, it stands.  
What saints have penned by inspiration,  
What in His Word our God commands,  
What our whole faith must rest upon,  
Is Grace alone, grace in His Son.

6. By grace to timid hearts that tremble,  
In tribulation's furnace tried,--  
By grace, despite all fear and trouble,  
The Father's heart is open wide.  
Where could I help and strength secure  
If grace were not my anchor sure?

7. By grace! on this I'll rest when dying;  
in Jesus' promise I rejoice;  
For though I know my heart's condition,  
I also know my Savior's voice.  
My heart is glad, all grief has flown,  
Since I am saved by grace alone. Amen.

# 392

1. Blest is the man, forever blest,  
Whose guilt is pardoned by his God,  
Whose sins with sorrow are confessed  
And covered with his Savior's blood.

2. Blest is the man to whom the Lord  
Imputes not his iniquities;  
He pleads no merit of reward  
And not on works but grace relies.

3. From guile his heart and lips are free;  
His humble joy, his holy fear,  
With deep repentance well agree  
And join to prove his faith sincere.

4. How glorious is that righteousness  
That hides and cancels all his sins,  
While bright the evidence of grace  
Thro' all his life appears and shines! Amen.

# 644 Doxology

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Him, all creatures here below;  
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host:  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.