

Mattins

Bible Sunday

21st Sunday after Trinity

Sunday 25 October 2026, 9.30am

Hymn

RAVENSHAW [407]

medieval German melody adapted by William Henry Monk 1823-89

**1. Lord, thy word abideth,
and our footsteps guideth;
who its truth believeth,
Light and joy receiveth.**

**2. When our foes are near us,
then thy word doth cheer us,
word of consolation,
message of salvation.**

**3. When the storms are o'er us,
and dark clouds before us,
then its light directeth,
and our way protecteth.**

**4. Who can tell the pleasure,
who recount the treasure
by thy word imparted
to the simple-hearted?**

**5. Word of mercy, giving
succour to the living;
Word of life, supplying
comfort to the dying.**

**6. O that we discerning
its most holy learning,
Lord, may love and fear thee,
evermore be near thee!**

Henry Williams Baker 1821-77

Psalm

Psalm 119.137-152

Righteous art thou, O Lord
and true is thy judgement.

**The testimonies that thou hast commanded
are exceeding righteous and true.**

My zeal hath even consumed me
because mine enemies have forgotten thy words.

**Thy word is tried to the uttermost
and thy servant loveth it.**

I am small, and of no reputation
yet do I not forget thy commandments.

**Thy righteousness is an everlasting righteousness
and thy law is the truth.**

Trouble and heaviness have taken hold upon me
yet is my delight in thy commandments.

**The righteousness of thy testimonies is everlasting
O grant me understanding, and I shall live.**

I call with my whole heart
hear me, O Lord, I will keep thy statutes.

**Yea, even unto thee do I call
help me, and I shall keep thy testimonies.**

Early in the morning do I cry unto thee
for in thy word is my trust.

**Mine eyes prevent the night-watches
that I might be occupied in thy words.**

Hear my voice, O Lord, according unto thy loving-kindness
quicken me, according as thou art wont.

**They draw nigh that of malice persecute me
and are far from thy law.**

Be thou nigh at hand, O Lord
for all thy commandments are true.

**As concerning thy testimonies, I have known long since
that thou hast grounded them for ever.**

First Lesson

Deuteronomy 17.14-15, 18-end

The first lesson is written in the book of Deuteronomy, chapter 17, beginning to read at the 14th verse.

When you have come into the land that the LORD your God is giving you, and have taken possession of it and settled in it, and you say, 'I will set a king over me, like all the nations that are around me', you may indeed set over you a king whom the LORD your God will choose. One of your own community you may set as king over you; you are not permitted to put a foreigner over you, who is not of your own community. When he has taken the throne of his kingdom, he shall have a copy of this law written for him in the presence of the levitical priests. It shall remain with him and he shall read in it all the days of his life, so that he may learn to fear the LORD his God, diligently observing all the words of this law and these statutes, neither exalting himself above other members of the community nor turning aside from the commandment, either to the right or to the left, so that he and his descendants may reign long over his kingdom in Israel.

Here endeth the first lesson.

Second Lesson

John 5.36b-end

The second lesson is written in St John's gospel, chapter five, beginning to read in verse 36.

The works that the Father has given me to complete, the very works that I am doing, testify on my behalf that the Father has sent me. And the Father who sent me has himself testified on my behalf. You have never heard his voice or seen his form, 38and you do not have his word abiding in you, because you do not believe him whom he has sent. 'You search the scriptures because you think that in them you have eternal life; and it is they that testify on my behalf. Yet you refuse to come to me to have life. I do not accept glory from human beings. But I know that

you do not have the love of God in you. I have come in my Father's name, and you do not accept me; if another comes in his own name, you will accept him. How can you believe when you accept glory from one another and do not seek the glory that comes from the one who alone is God? Do not think that I will accuse you before the Father; your accuser is Moses, on whom you have set your hope. If you believed Moses, you would believe me, for he wrote about me. But if you do not believe what he wrote, how will you believe what I say?'

Here endeth the second lesson.

Collect

Blessed Lord, who hast caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning: grant that we may in such wise hear them, read, mark, learn and inwardly digest them, that by patience and comfort of thy holy word, we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which thou hast given us in our Saviour Jesus Christ, who liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Voluntary

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Clementine de Bourges 1530-1561