

TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

October 21, 2018



THE LESSON

Job 38:1-7(34-41)

Then the LORD answered Job from the whirlwind:

²Who is this darkening counsel with words lacking knowledge?

³Prepare yourself like a man; I will interrogate you, and you will respond to me.

⁴Where were you when I laid the earth's foundations?

Tell me if you know.

⁵Who set its measurements? Surely you know.

Who stretched a measuring tape on it?

⁶On what were its footings sunk; who laid its cornerstone,

⁷while the morning stars sang in unison

and all the divine beings shouted?

³⁴Can you issue an order to the clouds

so their abundant waters cover you?

³⁵Can you send lightning so that it goes

and then says to you, "I'm here"?

³⁶Who put wisdom in remote places, or who gave understanding to a rooster?

³⁷Who is wise enough to count the clouds,

and who can tilt heaven's water containers

³⁸so that dust becomes mud and clods of dirt adhere?

³⁹Can you hunt prey for the lion or fill the cravings of lion cubs?

⁴⁰They lie in their den, lie in ambush in their lair.

⁴¹Who provides food for the raven when its young cry to God, move about without food?

THE RESPONSE Psalm 104:1-9, 24, 35c

Let my whole being bless the LORD! LORD my God, how fantastic you are!

You are clothed in glory and grandeur!

²You wear light like a robe; you open the skies like a curtain.

³**You build your lofty house on the waters; you make the clouds your chariot, going around on the wings of the wind.**

⁴You make the winds your messengers; you make fire and flame your ministers.

⁵**You established the earth on its foundations so that it will never ever fall.**

⁶You covered it with the watery deep like a piece of clothing; the waters were higher than the mountains!

⁷But at your rebuke they ran away; they fled in fear at the sound of your thunder.

⁸They flowed over the mountains, streaming down the valleys to the place you established for them.

⁹You set a boundary they cannot cross so they'll never again cover the earth. . . .

¹⁰LORD, you have done so many things! You made them all so wisely! The earth is full of your creations! . . .

¹¹But let my whole being bless the LORD! Praise the LORD!

THE EPISTLE Hebrews 5:1-10

Every high priest is taken from the people and put in charge of things that relate to God for their sake, in order to offer gifts and sacrifices for sins. ²The high priest is able to deal gently with the ignorant and those who are misled since he himself is prone to weakness. ³Because of his weakness, he must offer sacrifices for his own sins as well as for the people. ⁴No one takes this honor for themselves but takes it only when they are called by God, just like Aaron.

⁵In the same way Christ also didn't promote himself to become high priest. Instead, it was the one

who said to him, *You are my Son. Today I have become your Father,* ⁶as he also says in another place, *You are a priest forever, according to the order of Melchizedek.*

⁷During his days on earth, Christ offered prayers and requests with loud cries and tears as his sacrifices to the one who was able to save him from death. He was heard because of his godly devotion. ⁸Although he was a Son, he learned obedience from what he suffered. ⁹After he had been made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for everyone who obeys him. ¹⁰He was appointed by God to be a high priest according to the order of Melchizedek.

THE GOSPEL Mark 10:35-45

³⁵James and John, Zebedee's sons, came to Jesus and said, "Teacher, we want you to do for us whatever we ask."

³⁶"What do you want me to do for you?" he asked.

³⁷They said, "Allow one of us to sit on your right and the other on your left when you enter your glory."

³⁸Jesus replied, "You don't know what you're asking! Can you drink the cup I drink or receive the baptism I receive?"

³⁹"We can," they answered.

Jesus said, "You will drink the cup I drink and receive the baptism I receive, ⁴⁰but to sit at my right or left hand isn't mine to give. It belongs to those for whom it has been prepared."

⁴¹Now when the other ten disciples heard about this, they became angry with James and John. ⁴²Jesus called them over and said, "You know that the ones who are considered the rulers by the Gentiles show off their authority over them and

their high-ranking officials order them around. ⁴³But that's not the way it will be with you. Whoever wants to be great among you will be the slave of all, ⁴⁴for the Human One didn't come to be served but rather to serve and to give his life to liberate many people."

be first among you will be the slave of all, ⁴⁴for the Human One didn't come to be served but rather to serve and to give his life to liberate many people."