

**Tuesday, May 25**

**Acts 20:17-27**

From Miletus he sent a message to Ephesus, asking the elders of the church to meet him. When they came to him, he said to them:

‘You yourselves know how I lived among you the entire time from the first day that I set foot in Asia, serving the Lord with all humility and with tears, enduring the trials that came to me through the plots of the Jews. I did not shrink from doing anything helpful, proclaiming the message to you and teaching you publicly and from house to house, as I testified to both Jews and Greeks about repentance towards God and faith towards our Lord Jesus. And now, as a captive to the Spirit, I am on my way to Jerusalem, not knowing what will happen to me there, except that the Holy Spirit testifies to me in every city that imprisonment and persecutions are waiting for me. But I do not count my life of any value to myself, if only I may finish my course and the ministry that I received from the Lord Jesus, to testify to the good news of God’s grace.

‘And now I know that none of you, among whom I have gone about proclaiming the kingdom, will ever see my face again. Therefore I declare to you this day that I am not responsible for the blood of any of you, for I did not shrink from declaring to you the whole purpose of God.

**Psalms 68: 9-10, 17-20**

9 You sent a gracious rain, O God, upon your inheritance;  
you refreshed the land when it was weary.

10 Your people found their home in it;  
in your goodness, O God, you have made provision for the poor.

17 The chariots of God are twenty thousand,  
even thousands of thousands;  
the Lord comes in holiness from Sinai.

18 You have gone up on high and led captivity captive;  
you have received gifts even from your enemies,  
that the Lord God might dwell among them.

19 Blessed be the Lord day by day,  
the God of our salvation, who bears our burdens.

20 He is our God, the God of our salvation;  
God is the Lord, by whom we escape death.

**John 17:1-11**

After Jesus had spoken these words, he looked up to heaven and said, 'Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed.

'I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one.

**Collect**

Almighty God,  
you have exalted your only Son Jesus Christ  
with great triumph to your kingdom in heaven.  
Mercifully give us faith to know  
that, as he promised,  
he abides with us on earth to the end of time;  
who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever. Amen