

Wednesday, March 4, 2020

John and Charles Wesley, Priests, 1791, 1788

The Collect

Lord God, you inspired your servants John and Charles Wesley with burning zeal for the sanctification of souls, and endowed them with eloquence in speech and song: Kindle in your Church, we entreat you, such fervor, that those whose faith has cooled may be warmed, and those who have not known Christ may turn to him and be saved; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Old Testament

Isaiah 49:5–6

And now the LORD says, who formed me in the womb to be his servant, to bring Jacob back to him, and that Israel might be gathered to him, for I am honoured in the sight of the LORD, and my God has become my strength—he says, “It is too light a thing that you should be my servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob and to restore the survivors of Israel; I will give you as a light to the nations, that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth.”

Psalm 103:1–4, 13–18

1 Bless the LORD, O my soul, *

and all that is within me, bless his holy Name.

2 Bless the LORD, O my soul, *

and forget not all his benefits.

3 He forgives all your sins *

and heals all your infirmities;

4 He redeems your life from the grave *

and crowns you with mercy and loving-kindness;

13 As a father cares for his children, *

so does the LORD care for those who fear him.

14 For he himself knows whereof we are made; *

he remembers that we are but dust.

15 Our days are like the grass; *

we flourish like a flower of the field;

16 When the wind goes over it, it is gone, *

and its place shall know it no more.

17 But the merciful goodness of the LORD endures for ever on those who fear him, *

and his righteousness on children's children;

18 On those who keep his covenant *

and remember his commandments and do them.

The New Testament**Romans 12:11–17**

Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers. Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all.

The Gospel**Luke 9:2–6**

Jesus sent the twelve out to proclaim the kingdom of God and to heal. He said to them, "Take nothing for your journey, no staff, nor bag, nor bread, nor money-- not even an extra tunic. Whatever house you enter, stay there, and leave from there. Wherever they do not welcome you, as you are leaving that town shake the dust off your feet as a testimony against them." They departed and went through the villages, bringing the good news and curing diseases everywhere.