

The Collect of the Day: O God of the nations, who gave to your servant Henry Martyn a longing to share your Gospel with all peoples; Inspire the church in our own day with that said desire, that we may be eager to commit both life and talents to you who gave them; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Psalm 98 *Read responsively by the half-verse, breaking at the asterisk.*

BCP pp. 727-728

- 1 Sing a new song to the Lord, who has done marvellous things, *
whose mighty hand and holy arm have won the victory.
- 2 O Lord, you have made known the victory; *
you have openly shown your righteousness in the sight of the nations.
- 3 You remember your mercy and faithfulness to the house of Israel, *
and all the ends of the earth have seen your victory, O God.
- 4 Shout with joy to the Lord, all you lands; * **lift up your voice, rejoice and sing.**
- 5 Sing to the Lord with the harp, * **with the harp and the voice of song.**
- 6 With trumpets and the sound of the horn * **shout with joy before our sovereign, the Lord.**
- 7 Let the sea make a noise and all that is in it, * **the lands and those who dwell therein.**
- 8 Let the rivers clap their hands, *
and let the hills ring out with joy before the Lord, who is coming to judge the earth.
- 9 In righteousness shall God judge the world * **and the peoples with equity.**

First Reading: A Reading from the Book of Romans (1:8-15)

First, I thank my God through Jesus Christ for all of you, because your faith is proclaimed throughout the world. For God, whom I serve with my spirit by announcing the gospel of his Son, is my witness that without ceasing I remember you always in my prayers, asking that by God's will I may somehow at last succeed in coming to you. For I am longing to see you so that I may share with you some spiritual gift to strengthen you— or rather so that we may be mutually encouraged by each other's faith, both yours and mine. I want you to know, brothers and sisters, that I have often intended to come to you (but thus far have been prevented), in order that I may reap some harvest among you as I have among the rest of the Gentiles. I am a debtor both to Greeks and to barbarians, both to the wise and to the foolish — hence my eagerness to proclaim the gospel to you also who are in Rome.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Second Reading: A Reading from the Gospel of John (4:21-26)

Jesus said to the woman at the well, "Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him. God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth." The woman said to him, "I know that Messiah is coming" (who is called Christ). "When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us." Jesus said to her, "I am he, the one who is speaking to you."

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Henry Martyn, Priest and Missionary, 1812 (October 19): Henry Martyn, an English missionary and translator, died when he was only thirty-one years old. Though his life was brief, it was a remarkable one. Martyn was educated at Cambridge. He had intended to become a lawyer, but Charles Simeon, the rector of Holy Trinity, Cambridge, inspired him to go to India as a missionary. After serving as Simeon's curate for a short time, Martyn traveled to Calcutta in 1806 as chaplain of the East India Company. During his five years in India, Martyn preached the gospel, organized private schools, and founded churches. In addition to his work as a missionary, Martyn translated the New Testament and the Book of Common Prayer into Hindi, which was a valuable missionary aid to the young Anglican Church in India. He also began the study of Persian, and translated the New Testament into that language as well. Martyn longed to go to Persia, and in 1811, his persistence brought him to Shiraz, as the first English clergyman in that city. He engaged in theological discussions with learned Muslims and corrected his Persian translations of the New Testament. Martyn hoped eventually to visit Arabia and to translate the New Testament into Arabic. While on his way to Constantinople in 1812, however, Martyn died in the

Turkish city of Tokat. The Armenian Orthodox Christians of the city buried him with the honors usually accorded to one of their own bishops. Very soon afterwards, his life of energetic devotion and remarkable accomplishment became widely known. He is remembered as one of the founders of the modern Christian church in both India and Iran.