

Collect

Everlasting God,
you have ordained and constituted
the ministries of angels and mortals in a wonderful order:
grant that as your holy angels always serve you in heaven,
so, at your command,
they may help and defend us on earth;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.
Amen

First Reading Reader

Genesis 28. 10-17
Del Gadd in church

Jacob left Beer-sheba and went towards Haran. He came to a certain place and stayed there for the night, because the sun had set. Taking one of the stones of the place, he put it under his head and lay down in that place. And he dreamed that there was a ladder set up on the earth, the top of it reaching to heaven; and the angels of God were ascending and descending on it. And the Lord stood beside him and said, 'I am the Lord, the God of Abraham your father and the God of Isaac; the land on which you lie I will give to you and to your offspring; and your offspring shall be like the dust of the earth, and you shall spread abroad to the west and to the east and to the north and to the south; and all the families of the earth shall be blessed in you and in your offspring. Know that I am with you and will keep you wherever you go, and will bring you back to this land; for I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you.' Then Jacob woke from his sleep and said, 'Surely the Lord is in this place—and I did not know it!' And he was afraid, and said, 'How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven.'

Second Reading Reader

Hebrews 1.5-end
Peter Stokes, via Zoom

For to which of the angels did God ever say,
'You are my Son; today I have begotten you'?
Or again,
'I will be his Father, and he will be my Son'?
And again, when he brings the firstborn into the world, he says,
'Let all God's angels worship him.'
Of the angels he says, 'He makes his angels winds, and his servants flames of fire.'
But of the Son he says,
'Your throne, O God, is for ever and ever, and the righteous sceptre is the sceptre of your kingdom.
You have loved righteousness and hated wickedness;
therefore God, your God, has anointed you with the oil of gladness beyond your companions.'
And,
'In the beginning, Lord, you founded the earth, and the heavens are the work of your hands;
they will perish, but you remain; they will all wear out like clothing; like a cloak you will roll them up, and like clothing they will be changed.
But you are the same, and your years will never end.'
But to which of the angels has he ever said,
'Sit at my right hand until I make your enemies a footstool for your feet'?
Are not all angels spirits in the divine service, sent to serve for the sake of those who are to inherit salvation?

Gospel reading

John 1. 47- end

When Jesus saw Nathanael coming towards him, he said of him, 'Here is truly an Israelite in whom there is no deceit!' Nathanael asked him, 'Where did you come to know me?' Jesus answered, 'I saw you under the fig tree before Philip called you.' Nathanael replied, 'Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!' Jesus answered, 'Do you believe because I told you that I

saw you under the fig tree? You will see greater things than these.' And he said to him, 'Very truly, I tell you, you will see heaven opened and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man.'

Address

Rev'd Carole Bourne

Intercessions

Moira Greenfield

Notices

Hymn

Rock of Ages cleft for me

For your prayer:

*God of compassion,
be close to those who are ill, afraid or in isolation.
In their loneliness, be their consolation;
in their anxiety, be their hope;
in their darkness, be their light;
through him who suffered alone on the cross,
but reigns with you in glory,
Jesus Christ our Lord.*

Amen.

For prayer: John Perry Mary Rice Nancy Vlasto
John Fowler Rita Burrows Colston Hartley
Jean Webber Denise Jones Michael Vaughan
Sue Paine