

July 31, 2022

A reading from Ecclesiastes

All Services

²Vanity of vanities, says the Teacher,
vanity of vanities! All is vanity.

¹²I, the Teacher, when king over Israel in Jerusalem, ¹³applied my mind to seek and to search out by wisdom all that is done under heaven; it is an unhappy business that God has given to human beings to be busy with. ¹⁴I saw all the deeds that are done under the sun; and see, all is vanity and a chasing after wind.

¹⁸I hated all my toil in which I had toiled under the sun, seeing that I must leave it to those who come after me ¹⁹— and who knows whether they will be wise or foolish? Yet they will be master of all for which I toiled and used my wisdom under the sun. This also is vanity. ²⁰So I turned and gave my heart up to despair concerning all the toil of my labors under the sun, ²¹because sometimes one who has toiled with wisdom and knowledge and skill must leave all to be enjoyed by another who did not toil for it. This also is vanity and a great evil. ²²What do mortals get from all the toil and strain with which they toil under the sun? ²³For all their days are full of pain, and their work is a vexation; even at night their minds do not rest. This also is vanity.

The word of the Lord.

July 31, 2022

READING: Psalm 104

Early Service Only

“We will read the Psalm responsively.”

L: ²⁴O LORD, how manifold are your works! In wisdom you have made them all; the earth is full of your creatures.

C: ²⁵Yonder is the sea, great and wide, creeping things innumerable are there, living things both small and great.

L: ²⁶There go the ships, and Leviathan that you formed to sport in it.

C: ²⁷These all look to you to give them their food in due season;

L: ²⁸when you give to them, they gather it up; when you open your hand, they are filled with good things.

C: ²⁹When you hide your face, they are dismayed; when you take away their breath, they die and return to their dust.

L: ³⁰When you send forth your spirit, they are created; and you renew the face of the ground.

C: ³¹May the glory of the LORD endure forever; may the LORD rejoice in his works —

L: ³²who looks on the earth and it trembles, who touches the mountains and they smoke.

C: ³³I will sing to the LORD as long as I live; I will sing praise to my God while I have being.

L: ³⁴May my meditation be pleasing to him, for I rejoice in the LORD.

C: ^{35b} Bless the LORD, O my soul. Praise the LORD!