

## **FIRST LESSON | Wisdom 7:26–8:1**

For wisdom is a reflection of eternal light,  
a spotless mirror of the working of God,  
and an image of his goodness.

Although she is but one, she can do all things,  
and while remaining in herself, she renews all things;  
in every generation she passes into holy souls  
and makes them friends of God, and prophets;  
for God loves nothing so much as the person who lives with wisdom.

She is more beautiful than the sun,  
and excels every constellation of the stars.  
Compared with the light she is found to be superior,  
for it is succeeded by the night,  
but against wisdom evil does not prevail.

She reaches mightily from one end of the earth to the other,  
and she orders all things well.

<b>Reader</b>	The Word of the Lord
<b>People</b>	Thanks be to God

## **THE RESPONSE**

**Psalm 19 | Caeli enarrant**

## Verses will be read responsively by whole verse

- 1 The heavens declare the glory of God, \*  
and the firmament shows his handiwork.
- 2 One day tells its tale to another, \*  
and one night imparts knowledge to another.
- 3 Although they have no words or language, \*  
and their voices are not heard,
- 4 Their sound has gone out into all lands, \*  
and their message to the ends of the world.
- 5 In the deep has he set a pavilion for the sun; \*  
it comes forth like a bridegroom out of his chamber;  
it rejoices like a champion to run its course.
- 6 It goes forth from the uttermost edge of the heavens  
and runs about to the end of it again; \*  
nothing is hidden from its burning heat.
- 7 The law of the LORD is perfect  
and revives the soul; \*  
the testimony of the LORD is sure  
and gives wisdom to the innocent.
- 8 The statutes of the LORD are just  
and rejoice the heart; \*  
the commandment of the LORD is clear  
and gives light to the eyes.
- 9 The fear of the LORD is clean  
and endures for ever; \*  
the judgments of the LORD are true  
and righteous altogether.
- 10 More to be desired are they than gold,  
more than much fine gold, \*

sweeter far than honey,  
than honey in the comb.

11 By them also is your servant enlightened, \*  
and in keeping them there is great reward.

12 Who can tell how often he offends? \*  
cleanse me from my secret faults.

13 Above all, keep your servant from presumptuous sins;  
let them not get dominion over me; \*  
then shall I be whole and sound,  
and innocent of a great offense.

14 Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my  
heart be acceptable in your sight, \*  
O LORD, my strength and my redeemer.

Not many of you should become teachers, my brothers and sisters, for you know that we who teach will be judged with greater strictness. For all of us make many mistakes. Anyone who makes no mistakes in speaking is perfect, able to keep the whole body in check with a bridle. If we put bits into the mouths of horses to make them obey us, we guide their whole bodies. Or look at ships: though they are so large that it takes strong winds to drive them, yet they are guided by a very small rudder wherever the will of the pilot directs. So also the tongue is a small member, yet it boasts of great exploits.

How great a forest is set ablaze by a small fire! And the tongue is a fire. The tongue is placed among our members as a world of iniquity; it stains the whole body, sets on fire the cycle of nature, and is itself set on fire by hell. For every species of beast and bird, of reptile and sea creature, can be tamed and has been tamed by the human species, but no one can tame the tongue-- a restless evil, full of deadly poison. With it we bless the Lord and Father, and with it we curse those who are made in the likeness of God. From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers and sisters, this ought not to be so. Does a spring pour forth from the same opening both fresh and brackish water? Can a fig tree, my brothers and sisters, yield olives, or a grapevine figs? No more can salt water yield fresh.

**Reader**            The Word of the Lord

**People**            Thanks be to God

## **PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

### **Form II | BCP 385**

In the course of the silence after each bidding, the People offer their own prayers, either silently or aloud.

**Reader** I ask your prayers for God's people throughout the world; for our Bishops Sam & Anne, for this gathering; and for all ministers and people.

**People** Pray for the Church.

*Silence*

**Reader** I ask your prayers for peace; for goodwill among nations; and for the well-being of all people.

**People** Pray for justice and peace.

*Silence*

**Reader** I ask your prayers for the poor, the sick, the hungry, the oppressed, and those in prison.

**People** Pray for those in any need or trouble.

*Silence*

**Reader** I ask your prayers for all who seek God, or a deeper knowledge of him.

**People** Pray that they may find and be found by him.

*Silence*

**Reader** I ask your prayers for the departed [especially \_\_\_\_\_].

**People** Pray for those who have died.

*Silence*

Members of the congregation may ask the prayers or the thanksgivings of those present

**Reader** I ask your prayers for \_\_\_\_\_ .

**Reader** I ask your thanksgiving for \_\_\_\_\_ .

*Silence*

**Reader** Praise God for those in every generation in whom Christ has been honored [especially \_\_\_\_\_ whom we remember today].

**People** Pray that we may have grace to glorify Christ in our own day.

*Silence*

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.