

# Readings and Prayers for 20 June 2021: TRINITY 3

## Job 38:1-11

*In spite of Job's faithfulness, God has to explain to him the inability of human beings to comprehend God's own nature and creative power.*

<sup>1</sup> Then the LORD answered Job out of the whirlwind: <sup>2</sup> 'Who is this that darkens counsel by words without knowledge? <sup>3</sup> Gird up your loins like a man, I will question you, and you shall declare to me. <sup>4</sup> 'Where were you when I laid the foundation of the earth? Tell me, if you have understanding. <sup>5</sup> Who determined its measurements—surely you know! Or who stretched the line upon it? <sup>6</sup> On what were its bases sunk, or who laid its cornerstone <sup>7</sup> when the morning stars sang together and all the heavenly beings shouted for joy? <sup>8</sup> 'Or who shut in the sea with doors when it burst out from the womb? <sup>9</sup> when I made the clouds its garment, and thick darkness its swaddling band, <sup>10</sup> and prescribed bounds for it, and set bars and doors, <sup>11</sup> and said, "Thus far shall you come, and no farther, and here shall your proud waves be stopped"?'

## Psalm 107:23-32

### 2 Corinthians 6:1-13

*The church in Corinth, which Paul founded, seems to have been persuaded by others that he was not reliable. Paul here pleads for his friends to have a better opinion of him, for their own sake as well as for his.*

<sup>1</sup> As we work together with him, we urge you also not to accept the grace of God in vain. <sup>2</sup> For he says, 'At an acceptable time I have listened to you, and on a day of salvation I have helped you.' See, now is the acceptable time; see, now is the day of salvation! <sup>3</sup> We are putting no obstacle in anyone's way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, <sup>4</sup> but as servants of God we have commended ourselves in every way: through great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, <sup>5</sup> beatings, imprisonments, riots, labours, sleepless nights, hunger; <sup>6</sup> by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, holiness of spirit, genuine love, <sup>7</sup> truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of

righteousness for the right hand and for the left; <sup>8</sup> in honour and dishonour, in ill repute and good repute. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; <sup>9</sup> as unknown, and yet are well known; as dying, and see—we are alive; as punished, and yet not killed; <sup>10</sup> as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing everything. <sup>11</sup> We have spoken frankly to you Corinthians; our heart is wide open to you. <sup>12</sup> There is no restriction in our affections, but only in yours. <sup>13</sup> In return—I speak as to children—open wide your hearts also.

## Mark 4:35-41

*A great storm.*

<sup>35</sup> One day, when evening had come, Jesus said to the disciples, 'Let us go across to the other side.' <sup>36</sup> And leaving the crowd behind, they took him with them in the boat, just as he was. Other boats were with him. <sup>37</sup> A great gale arose, and the waves beat into the boat, so that the boat was already being swamped. <sup>38</sup> But he was in the stern, asleep on the cushion; and they woke him up and said to him, 'Teacher, do you not care that we are perishing?' <sup>39</sup> He woke up and rebuked the wind, and said to the sea, 'Peace! Be still!' Then the wind ceased, and there was a dead calm. <sup>40</sup> He said to them, 'Why are you afraid? Have you still no faith?' <sup>41</sup> And they were filled with great awe and said to one another, 'Who then is this, that even the wind and the sea obey him?'

## Collect

God our saviour, look on this wounded world in pity and in power; hold us fast to your promises of peace won for us by your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ.

## Post Communion

O God, whose beauty is beyond our imagining and whose power we cannot comprehend: show us your glory as far as we can grasp it, and shield us from knowing more than we can bear until we may look upon you without fear; through Jesus Christ our Saviour.