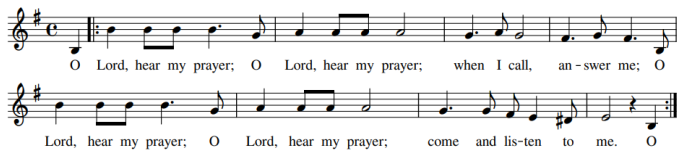


Hymn during Communion



O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord hear my prayer,
when I call answer me. (*Jacques Berthier*)

Sending Hymn CP 598 *Go to the World*

Postlude Piano Sonata no. 8, Op. 13 “Pathétique”
mvt. II Ludwig van Beethoven (1770–1827)

The Persistent Widow – The Unjust Judge

In the end, this parable is one of the many portraits of faith we find in the Gospels, and as usual, faith looks more like being bold than being pious. It looks like a persistent, pugnacious widow demanding justice — even threatening a corrupt judge with a (figurative) black eye! This is no mild, serene, “heavenly faith.” This is “faith on earth,” a bold, tenacious persistence amid circumstances that could easily lead to despair. This is the faith of keeping at it, staying with it, hoping against hope, refusing to take apparent defeat as the final word.

The challenge, of course, is living out this faith in the meantime, surrounded by apparently insurmountable obstacles. Confronting corruption or complacency, overwhelming evidence (as in today’s overheating planet) or cynical, dismissive “realists” (as in today’s politics), the tenacious widow’s faith can seem daunting, exhausting, or just plain foolish. But there she is, determined as ever, heading back to the courthouse. Tamar, Ruth, and Naomi are already with her, inviting us to join them. Even the most corrupt powers-that-be, Jesus insists, tremble when they hear the widows are coming by. In this way, their persistence itself becomes a witness to the Gospel: *The kingdom of God has come near — and in the end, God’s justice shall not be denied!*

Reflection from: Saltproject.com
Cover Image: AneelAranha.com

The Cathedral Church of All Saints



“Grant me justice...”

October 19, 2025

Instrumental Prelude: *Donde lieta uscì* (from *La bohème*) - Giacomo Puccini (instrumental ver.)

Welcome

Opening Hymn: CP 348 *The living God be Praised*
Verses 1,3,4



Children’s Message*

* **This week** we introduce *Children’s Church* in St. Stephen’s Chapel

Collect

**God of the dispossessed,
you teach us to hunger for justice
even when the weak are shut out
and the powerful turn over in their beds:
in the heat of our anger
and the bitterness of our complaints,
give us courage to protest,
the persistence to pray and the heart to love;
through Jesus Christ, the true judge. Amen.**
Prayers for an Inclusive Church (2009)

The Proclamation of the Word

Reader: Let us prepare ourselves for the Word of God as it comes to us in the reading of Holy Scripture.

All: **Our hearts and minds are open.**

Reader A reading from II Timothy (13:14-4:5)

As for you, continue in what you have learned and firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it, and how from childhood you have known the sacred writings that are able to instruct you for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. All scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, so that everyone who belongs to God may be proficient, equipped for every good work. In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and in view of his appearing and his kingdom, I solemnly urge you: proclaim the message; be persistent whether the time is favourable or unfavourable; convince, rebuke, and encourage, with the utmost patience in teaching. For the time is coming when people will not put up with sound doctrine, but having itching ears, they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own desires, and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander away to myths. As for you, always be sober, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, carry out your ministry fully.

Reader For the Word of God in Scripture;
for the Word of God among us.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 121



I lift up my eyes / to the hills;*
From where is my / help to come?

**My help comes / from the Lord;*
the maker of hea-/ven and earth.**

He will not let your / foot be moved,*
and he who watches over you
will not / fall asleep.

**Behold, he who keeps watch / over Israel*
shall neither slum-/ber nor sleep;**

The Lord himself watches / over you;*
the Lord is your shade at your right hand,

**so that the sun shall not strike / you by day,*
nor the / moon by night.**

The Lord shall preserve you / from all evil;*
it is he who shall / keep you safe.

**The Lord shall watch over your going out and your /
coming in,* from this time forth for-/evermore.**

Gradual Hymn CP 439

Blest Are the Pure in Heart

Tune: Franconia

The Gospel

Gospel Chant Zimbabwe Alleluia



All stand, as able, for the Gospel.

Deacon The Lord be with you

People **And also with you.**

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus
Christ according to Luke (18:1-8)

People **Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Then Jesus told them a parable about their need to pray always and not to lose heart. He said, "In a certain city there was a judge who neither feared God nor had respect for people. In that city there was a widow who kept coming to him and saying, 'Grant me justice against my opponent.' For a while he refused; but later he said to himself, 'Though I have no fear of God and no respect for anyone, yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will grant her justice, so that she may not wear me out by continually coming.'" And the Lord said, "Listen to what the unjust judge says. And will not God grant justice to his chosen ones who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long in helping them? I tell you, he will quickly grant justice to them. And yet, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?"

At the conclusion of the Gospel, the Deacon says,

The Gospel of Christ.

People **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Gospel Chant Zimbabwe Alleluia



Preparation Hymn CP 585 *Lord, Whose Love in
Humbe Service*