

The Making of a Prophet
1 Kings 17

Collect:

Generous God,
you give us gifts and make them grow:
though our faith is small as mustard seed,
make it grow to your glory
and the flourishing of your kingdom;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

Reading:

1 Kings 17

17 Now Elijah the Tishbite, from Tishbe in Gilead, said to Ahab, 'As the LORD, the God of Israel, lives, whom I serve, there will be neither dew nor rain in the next few years except at my word.'

² Then the word of the LORD came to Elijah: ³ 'Leave here, turn eastward and hide in the Kerith Ravine, east of the Jordan. ⁴ You will drink from the brook, and I have instructed the ravens to supply you with food there.'

⁵ So he did what the LORD had told him. He went to the Kerith Ravine, east of the Jordan, and stayed there. ⁶ The ravens brought him bread and meat in the morning and bread and meat in the evening, and he drank from the brook.

⁷ Some time later the brook dried up because there had been no rain in the land. ⁸ Then the word of the LORD came to him: ⁹ 'Go at once to Zarephath in the region of Sidon and stay there. I have instructed a widow there to supply you with food.' ¹⁰ So he went to Zarephath. When he came to the town gate, a widow was there gathering sticks. He called to her and asked, 'Would you bring me a little water in a jar so I may have a drink?' ¹¹ As she was going to get it, he called, 'And bring me, please, a piece of bread.'

¹² 'As surely as the LORD your God lives,' she replied, 'I don't have any bread – only a handful of flour in a jar and a little olive oil in a jug. I am gathering a few sticks to take home and make a meal for myself and my son, that we may eat it – and die.'

¹³ Elijah said to her, 'Don't be afraid. Go home and do as you have said. But first make a small loaf of bread for me from what you have and bring it to me, and then make something for yourself and your son.'

¹⁴ For this is what the LORD, the God of Israel, says: "The jar of flour will not be used up and the jug of

oil will not run dry until the day the LORD sends rain on the land."

¹⁵ She went away and did as Elijah had told her. So there was food every day for Elijah and for the woman and her family. ¹⁶ For the jar of flour was not used up and the jug of oil did not run dry, in keeping with the word of the LORD spoken by Elijah.

¹⁷ Some time later the son of the woman who owned the house became ill. He grew worse and worse, and finally stopped breathing. ¹⁸ She said to Elijah, 'What do you have against me, man of God? Did you come to remind me of my sin and kill my son?'

¹⁹ 'Give me your son,' Elijah replied. He took him from her arms, carried him to the upper room where he was staying, and laid him on his bed. ²⁰ Then he cried out to the LORD, 'LORD my God, have you brought tragedy even on this widow I am staying with, by causing her son to die?' ²¹ Then he stretched himself out on the boy three times and cried out to the LORD, 'LORD my God, let this boy's life return to him!'

²² The LORD heard Elijah's cry, and the boy's life returned to him, and he lived. ²³ Elijah picked up the child and carried him down from the room into the house. He gave him to his mother and said, 'Look, your son is alive!'

²⁴ Then the woman said to Elijah, 'Now I know that you are a man of God and that the word of the LORD from your mouth is the truth.'

This is the Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Sermon

that you may use his gifts to his glory and the welfare of all peoples;
And the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Intercessions: John and Joy Lancaster

The Peace:

Let love be genuine. Never pay back evil for evil.
As far as it lies with you, live at peace with everyone.
The peace of the Lord be always with you.
All: And also with you.

Communion

Blessing:

May God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
who is the source of all goodness and growth,
pour his blessing upon all things created,
and upon you his children,

NOTE: Distribution of communion.

Bread:

- *We often serve bread at communion.*
- *Gluten free wafers are available. Please let the Welcomer or Warden know ideally before the service starts so that we can arrange this for you. Please ask for a gluten free wafer when you come forward. 000*

Wine:

- *We serve alcoholic wine from a shared silver cup.*
- *We also have non-alcoholic wine in a separate cup. If you wish to receive non-alcoholic wine please come forward with your service sheet in your hands.*
- *If you do not wish to receive wine please feel no compulsion to do so.*

A blessing:

- *If you do not wish to receive communion but would like to be prayed for, when you come forward, keep your hands by your side and we will pray for you.*

Welcome to St. Peter's

How to get in contact: If you are new here and would like more information, have any questions or would like someone to contact you please speak to a member of the welcome team or you can:

- 1) Email us on: parishadmin@chesterstpeter.org.uk

We will try to get back to you as soon as possible. This email is checked regularly but we do not have a full-time administrator.

- 2) Provide your details and preferred method of contact below and return this page to a member of the welcome team.

Name

Please contact me by: Email

And/Or phone