

Daily Reflection

March 22, 2020

The *Book of Common Prayer* provides canticles (songs) for use after readings in Morning and Evening Prayer that largely come from Scripture. They are at pages 47-53 (Rite I) and 85-96 (Rite II). Here is a BCP pdf: https://episcopalchurch.org/files/book_of_common_prayer.pdf. If you have been using www.missionstclare.com, you have noticed Canticle 14, **A Song of Penitence** drawn from the Prayer of Manasseh. Have you wondered who Manasseh was?

The Old Testament reading in today's Daily Office refers to Manasseh, first son of Joseph, and is followed by Canticle 14, so you might say "Eureka!" But, it is a **different** Manasseh who is responsible for Canticle 14. Much later in history, after the time of David and Solomon, a series of mostly faithless kings ruled. Hezekiah was a notable, God-fearing exception. But things changed quickly. His son Manasseh was the worst of the worst. He built altars to any god that came across his radar and observed every possible profane practice. According to 2 Chronicles 3, he was made captive in Assyria, where he saw the tragedy of his ways and turned to the one, true God.

Need I say that life changes quickly? Are you second guessing yourself for things you did or more likely didn't do in early February, like stocking up on canned goods or changing investments? Once again, our prayer resources point us to health. It is not found in second-guessing. It is found by restoring our trust in God.

Pastor Kathleen Kelly,

Interim Rector

See the message sent last night with full Sunday worship resources.

Tomorrow's Reflection will be offered by Rev. Deborah Seles.

