

Readings for Sunday, October 15, 2023

Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost (Year A)

Job 38:28-33, 39-41

²⁸“Has the rain a father, or who has begotten the drops of dew? ²⁹From whose womb did the ice come forth, and who has given birth to the hoarfrost of heaven? ³⁰The waters become hard like stone, and the face of the deep is frozen. ³¹“Can you bind the chains of the Pleiades, or loose the cords of Orion? ³²Can you lead forth the Mazzaroth in their season, or can you guide the Bear with its children? ³³Do you know the ordinances of the heavens? Can you establish their rule on the earth? ³⁹“Can you hunt the prey for the lion, or satisfy the appetite of the young lions, ⁴⁰when they crouch in their dens, or lie in wait in their covert? ⁴¹Who provides for the raven its prey, when its young ones cry to God, and wander about for lack of food?

Job 39:1-8

³⁹⁻¹“Do you know when the mountain goats give birth? Do you observe the calving of the deer? ²Can you number the months that they fulfill, and do you know the time when they give birth, ³when they crouch to give birth to their offspring, and are delivered of their young? ⁴Their young ones become strong, they grow up in the open; they go forth, and do not return to them. ⁵“Who has let the wild ass go free? Who has loosed the bonds of the swift ass, ⁶to which I have given the steppe for its home, the salt land for its dwelling place? ⁷It scorns the tumult of the city; it does not hear the shouts of the driver. ⁸It ranges the mountains as its pasture, and it searches after every green thing.

Job 40:15-19

¹⁵Look at Behemoth, which I made just as I made you; it eats grass like an ox. ¹⁶Its strength is in its loins, and its power in the muscles of its belly. ¹⁷It makes its tail stiff like a cedar; the sinews of its thighs are knit together. ¹⁸Its bones are tubes of bronze, its limbs like bars of iron. ¹⁹It is the first of the great acts of God— only its Maker can approach it with the sword.