

THE FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY 20.09.20

God the Father, God the Son, God the Holy Spirit

COLLECTS

Keep, O Lord, your Church, with your perpetual mercy; and, because without you our human frailty cannot but fall, keep us ever by your help from all things hurtful, and lead us to all things profitable to our salvation through Jesus Christ our Lord. **AMEN**

God, who in generous mercy sent the Holy Spirit upon your Church in the burning fire of your love: grant that your people may be fervent in the fellowship of the gospel that, always abiding in you, they may be found steadfast in faith and active in service; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **AMEN**

Post Communion prayer

Keep, O Lord, your Church, with your perpetual mercy; and, because without you our human frailty cannot but fall, keep us ever by your help from all things hurtful, and lead us to all things profitable to our salvation; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **AMEN**

a reading from the book of Exodus chapter 16 verses 2-15

²In the desert the whole community grumbled against Moses and Aaron.

³The Israelites said to them, *“If only we had died by the LORD’s hand in Egypt! There we sat around pots of meat and ate all the food we wanted, but you have brought us out into this desert to starve this entire assembly to death.”*

⁴Then the LORD said to Moses, *“I will rain down bread from heaven for you. The people are to go out each day and gather enough for that day. In this way I will test them and see whether they will follow my instructions.”* ⁵On the sixth day they are to prepare what they bring in, and that is to be twice as much as they gather on the other days.”

⁶So Moses and Aaron said to all the Israelites, *“In the evening you will know that it was the LORD who brought you out of Egypt, ⁷and in the morning you will see the glory of the LORD, because he has heard your grumbling against him. Who are we, that you should grumble against us?”*

⁸Moses also said, *“You will know that it was the LORD when he gives you meat to eat in the evening and all the bread you want in the morning,*

because he has heard your grumbling against him. Who are we? You are not grumbling against us, but against the LORD.”

⁹Then Moses told Aaron, *“Say to the entire Israelite community, ‘Come before the LORD, for he has heard your grumbling.’”*

¹⁰While Aaron was speaking to the whole Israelite community, they looked toward the desert, and there was the glory of the LORD appearing in the cloud.

¹¹The LORD said to Moses, ¹²*“I have heard the grumbling of the Israelites. Tell them, ‘At twilight you will eat meat, and in the morning you will be filled with bread. Then you will know that I am the LORD your God.’”*

¹³That evening quail came and covered the camp, and in the morning there was a layer of dew around the camp. ¹⁴When the dew was gone, thin flakes like frost on the ground appeared on the desert floor. ¹⁵When the Israelites saw it, they said to each other, *“What is it?”* For they did not know what it was.

Moses said to them, *“It is the bread the LORD has given you to eat”.*

a reading from the letter to the Philippians chapter 1 verses 21-30

²¹For to me, to live is Christ and to die is gain. ²²If I am to go on living in the body, this will mean fruitful labour for me. Yet what shall I choose? I do not know! ²³I am torn between the two: I desire to depart and be with Christ, which is better by far; ²⁴but it is more necessary for you that I remain in the body. ²⁵Convinced of this, I know that I will remain, and I will continue with all of you for your progress and joy in the faith, ²⁶so that through my being with you again your boasting in Christ Jesus will abound on account of me.

Life worthy of the Gospel

²⁷Whatever happens, conduct yourselves in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ. Then, whether I come and see you or only hear about you in my absence, I will know that you stand firm in the one Spirit, striving together as one for the faith of the gospel ²⁸without being frightened in any way by those who oppose you. This is a sign to them that they will be destroyed, but that you will be saved—and that by God. ²⁹For it has been granted to you on behalf of Christ not only to believe in him, but also to suffer for him, ³⁰since you are going through the same struggle you saw I had, and now hear that I still have.

**hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew
The parable of the workers in the vineyard chapter 20, verses 1-16**

¹ “For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire workers for his vineyard. ² He agreed to pay them a denarius for the day and sent them into his vineyard.

³ “About nine in the morning he went out and saw others standing in the marketplace doing nothing. ⁴ He told them, ‘*You also go and work in my vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.*’ ⁵ So they went.

“He went out again about noon and about three in the afternoon and did the same thing. ⁶ About five in the afternoon he went out and found still others standing around. He asked them, ‘*Why have you been standing here all day long doing nothing?*’

⁷ “‘*Because no one has hired us,*’ they answered.

“He said to them, ‘*You also go and work in my vineyard.*’

⁸ “When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his foreman, ‘*Call the workers and pay them their wages, beginning with the last ones hired and going on to the first.*’

⁹ “The workers who were hired about five in the afternoon came and each received a denarius. ¹⁰ So when those came who were hired first, they expected to receive more. But each one of them also received a denarius.

¹¹ When they received it, they began to grumble against the landowner.

¹² ‘*These who were hired last worked only one hour,*’ they said, ‘*and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the work and the heat of the day.*’

¹³ “But he answered one of them, ‘*I am not being unfair to you, friend. Didn’t you agree to work for a denarius?*’ ¹⁴ *Take your pay and go. I want to give the one who was hired last the same as I gave you.* ¹⁵ *Don’t I have the right to do what I want with my own money? Or are you envious because I am generous?’*

¹⁶ “*So the last will be first, and the first will be last.*”



We pray in thanksgiving for Mother Earth in whom all life is rooted, Brother Sun whose energy radiates life, Sister Water who nurtures and revives us, and co-creatures with whom we live, and for whom we are called to till and keep this garden :

enlighten our hearts and remain with your world.

All-powerful God, you are present in the whole universe and in the smallest of your creatures. You embrace with your tenderness all that exists.

Pour out upon us the power of your love, that we may protect life and beauty. Fill us with peace, that we may live as brothers and sisters, harming no one. Creative Spirit :

enlighten our hearts and remain with your world.

O God of the poor, help us to rescue the abandoned and forgotten of this Earth, so precious in your eyes. Bring healing to our lives, that we may protect the world and not prey on it, that we may sow beauty, not pollution and destruction. Touch the hearts of those who look only for gain at the expense of the poor and the Earth. Creative Spirit :

enlighten our hearts and remain with your world.

Teach us to discover the worth of each thing, to be filled with awe and contemplation, to recognize that we are profoundly united with every creature as we journey towards your infinite light. Creative Spirit :

enlighten our hearts and remain with your world.