

Sunday 4th October Seventeenth Sunday After Trinity

Below are Readings and Prayers for this week.

Sunday 4th October HARVEST FESTIVAL

Collect

Gracious God,
you call us to fullness of life:
deliver us from unbelief
and banish our anxieties
with the liberating love of Jesus Christ our Lord.

First Reading Exodus 20 verses 1 – 4, 7 – 9, 12 - 20

Then God spoke all these words:

I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery;
you shall have no other gods before me.

You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above,
or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth

You shall not make wrongful use of the name of the LORD your God, for the LORD will not acquit
anyone who misuses his name.

Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy. Six days you shall labour and do all your work.

Honour your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the LORD your
God is giving you.

You shall not murder.

You shall not commit adultery.

You shall not steal.

You shall not bear false witness against your neighbour.

You shall not covet your neighbour's house; you shall not covet your neighbour's wife, or male or
female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbour.

When all the people witnessed the thunder and lightning, the sound of the trumpet, and the
mountain smoking, they were afraid[Ⓜ] and trembled and stood at a distance, and said to Moses,
"You speak to us, and we will listen; but do not let God speak to us, or we will die." Moses said
to the people, "Do not be afraid; for God has come only to test you and to put the fear of him upon
you so that you do not sin."

Second Reading Philippians 3 verses 4b - 14

If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more circumcised on the eighth day,
a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the
law, a Pharisee; as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law,
blameless.

Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. More than that,
I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For
his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may
gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law,
but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. I want to
know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like
him in his death, if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it
my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. Beloved, I do not consider that I have
made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what
lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

Gospel Reading Luke 12 v 16 - 31

Jesus told them a parable:

‘The land of a rich man produced abundantly. And he thought to himself, “What should I do, for I have no place to store my crops?” Then he said, “I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods.

And I will say to my soul, Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.”

But God said to him, “You fool! This very night your life is being demanded of you. And the things you have prepared, whose will they be?”

So it is with those who store up treasures for themselves but are not rich towards God.’

He said to his disciples,

‘Therefore, I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat, or about your body, what you will wear. For life is more than food, and the body more than clothing. Consider the ravens: they neither sow nor reap, they have neither storehouse nor barn, and yet God feeds them. Of how much more value are you than the birds! And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life? If then you are not able to do so small a thing as that, why do you worry about the rest? Consider the lilies, how they grow: they neither toil nor spin; yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, how much more will he clothe you—you of little faith! And do not keep striving for what you are to eat and what you are to drink, and do not keep worrying. For it is the nations of the world that strive after all these things, and your Father knows that you need them. Instead, strive for his kingdom, and these things will be given to you as well.

Psalm 19

The heavens are telling the glory of God;
and the firmament^[a] proclaims his handiwork.
Day to day pours forth speech,
and night to night declares knowledge.
There is no speech, nor are there words;
their voice is not heard;
yet their voice^[b] goes out through all the earth,
and their words to the end of the world.
In the heavens^[c] he has set a tent for the sun,
which comes out like a bridegroom from his wedding canopy,
and like a strong man runs its course with joy.
Its rising is from the end of the heavens,
and its circuit to the end of them;
and nothing is hid from its heat.
The law of the LORD is perfect,
reviving the soul;
the decrees of the LORD are sure,
making wise the simple;
the precepts of the LORD are right,
rejoicing the heart;
the commandment of the LORD is clear,
enlightening the eyes;
the fear of the LORD is pure,
enduring forever;
the ordinances of the LORD are true
and righteous altogether.
More to be desired are they than gold,
even much fine gold;
sweeter also than honey,
and drippings of the honeycomb.
Moreover by them is your servant warned;
in keeping them there is great reward.
But who can detect their errors?
Clear me from hidden faults.
Keep back your servant also from the insolent;^[d]
do not let them have dominion over me.
Then I shall be blameless,
and innocent of great transgression.
Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart
be acceptable to you,
O LORD, my rock and my redeemer.