

The Fifteenth Sunday After Trinity

Wishing you a safe and blessed Sunday



Lord, teach us to live in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ.

Keep us firm in the faith you have set before us;

through Christ who has triumphed and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit for ever and ever. **Amen**

We pray for Christians facing oppression across the world,

for all those afraid to confess their faith.

We remember those seeking to spread the gospel in situations that are hostile and dangerous.

Lord in your mercy

help us, be gracious to us.

We pray for all those who are facing redundancy and loss of income.

We pray for those struggling to make ends meet because of Coronavirus.

May all those who are prospering be generous and willing to share with those in need.

We pray for all aid agencies working across the world.

Lord in your mercy

help us, be gracious to us.

We give thanks for our own work and our homes.

We give thanks for all who work to provide us with food and clothing, those working on low wages to bring us the things we rely on and need.

Let us be grateful for all that we have, and never take it for granted.

Lord in your mercy

help us, be gracious to us.

We pray for all who are unable to work due to illness and disability, for the chronically ill and those caring for them.



We remember before you all those known to us who need our prayers this day.

Lord in your mercy
help us, be gracious to us.

We give you thanks for all who have been faithful labourers in your harvest; may we, with them, rejoice in your love, your generosity, and your everlasting kingdom.

Lord in your mercy
help us, be gracious to us.

Our Bible readings for this week:

Exodus 16: 2-15

The whole congregation of the Israelites complained against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness. The Israelites said to them, “If only we had died by the hand of the Lord in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the fleshpots and ate our fill of bread; for you have brought us out into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger.”

Then the Lord said to Moses, “I am going to rain bread from heaven for you, and each day the people shall go out and gather enough for that day. In that way I will test them, whether they will follow my instruction or not. On the sixth day, when they prepare what they bring in, it will be twice as much as they gather on other days.” So Moses and Aaron said to all the Israelites, “In the evening you shall know that it was the Lord who brought you out of the land of Egypt, and in the morning you shall see the glory of the Lord, because he has heard your complaining against the Lord. For what are we, that you complain against us?” And Moses said, “When the Lord gives you meat to eat in the evening and your fill of bread in the morning, because the Lord has heard the complaining that you utter against him—what are we? Your complaining is not against us but against the Lord.”

Then Moses said to Aaron, “Say to the whole congregation of the Israelites, ‘Draw near to the Lord, for he has heard your complaining.’” And as Aaron spoke to the whole congregation of the Israelites, they looked toward the wilderness, and the glory of the Lord appeared in the cloud. The Lord spoke



to Moses and said, “I have heard the complaining of the Israelites; say to them, ‘At twilight you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall have your fill of bread; then you shall know that I am the Lord your God.’ ”

In the evening quails came up and covered the camp; and in the morning there was a layer of dew around the camp. When the layer of dew lifted, there on the surface of the wilderness was a fine flaky substance, as fine as frost on the ground. When the Israelites saw it, they said to one another, “What is it?” For they did not know what it was. Moses said to them, “It is the bread that the Lord has given you to eat.

Matthew 20: 1-16

“For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. After agreeing with the laborers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace; and he said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.’ So they went. When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, ‘Why are you standing here idle all day?’ They said to him, ‘Because no one has hired us.’ He said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard.’ When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, ‘Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.’ When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, saying, ‘These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.’ But he replied to one of them, ‘Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did



you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?’ So the last will be first, and the first will be last.”

Collect

Lord God,
defend your Church from persecution and
scorn
and give your people knowledge of your truth,
that we may build your kingdom here on earth,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Prayer

God be in my head,
and in my understanding
God be in mine eyes,
and in my looking:
God be in my mouth,
and in my speaking;
God be in my heart,
and in my thinking;
God be at mine end,
and at my departing.

Blessing

The peace of God go with us wherever we may travel,
the power of God protect us in every journey
the Spirit of God strengthen us for every task;
and the blessing of God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit
be with us always. **Amen**
