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# The Seventeenth Sunday After Trinity

Wishing you a safe and blessed Sunday



God, the beginning and end of all things;  
in your providence and care  
you watch unceasingly over all creation;  
we offer our prayers  
that in us your will may be done,  
according to your wise and loving purpose  
in Christ our Lord.  
Lord of all life:  
hear our prayer.

We pray for all through whom we receive sustenance and life;  
for farmers and agricultural workers,  
for packers, distributors and shop workers;  
as you have so ordered our life that we depend on each other,  
enable us by your grace to seek the well-being of others before our own.  
Lord of all life:  
hear our prayer.

We pray for governments and aid-agencies,  
and for those areas in the world where there is disaster, drought, and  
starvation.  
By the grace of your Spirit, touch our hearts  
and the hearts of all who live in comfortable plenty,  
and make us wise stewards of your gifts.  
Lord of all life:  
hear our prayer.

We pray for those who are ill,  
remembering those in hospital and in care homes  
and all who are known to us.  
We pray for all who care for them.  
Give skill and understanding to all who work for their well-being.  
Lord of all life:  
hear our prayer.



God of grace,  
you are ever at work in your creation,  
fulfill your wise and loving purposes in us  
and in all for whom we pray.  
May the whole earth praise you,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

**Our Bible readings for this week:**

**Exodus 20: 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.”

### **Matthew 21: 33-46**

“Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a wine press in it, and built a watchtower. Then he leased it to tenants and went to another country. When the harvest time had come, he sent his slaves to the tenants to collect his produce. But the tenants seized his slaves and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. Again, he sent other slaves, more than the first; and they treated them in the same way. Finally, he sent his son to them, saying, ‘They will respect my son.’ But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, ‘This is the heir; come, let us kill him and get his inheritance.’ So, they seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?” They said to him, “He will put those wretches to a miserable death and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the harvest time.”

Jesus said to them, “Have you never read in the scriptures:

‘The stone that the builders rejected

has become the cornerstone;

this was the Lord's doing,

and it is amazing in our eyes’?

Therefore, I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces the fruits of the kingdom. The one who falls



on this stone will be broken to pieces; and it will crush anyone on whom it falls.”

When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they realized that he was speaking about them. They wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowds, because they regarded him as a prophet.

### **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.  
Amen

### **Blessing**

May God the Father, who created the world,  
give us grace to be wise stewards of his creation.  
May God the Son, who redeemed the world,  
inspire us to go out as labourers in his harvest.  
May God the Holy Spirit, whose breath fills the whole of creation,  
help us to bear his fruits of love, joy and peace.  
Amen

**‘The stone that the builders rejected  
has become the cornerstone;**

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