

**Readings, Collect and Year's Mind  
for Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> October & Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2020  
Pentecost 20**

**In our Year's Mind this week, we pray for:** Roma Sprott, Isaac Ritchie, Betty Sissons, John Aldhous, Bob Mortis, Moira Avery, Elise Selman, Elsie Hope

**The Collect for Pentecost 20 is:**

Almighty and merciful God:  
in your goodness keep from us all that is harmful;  
that, being ready both in body and soul,  
we may freely accomplish your will;  
through Jesus Christ, our Lord,  
who lives and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, world without end.

**Amen.**

**The First Reading is from Exodus 33: 12-23**

Moses said to the Lord, 'See, you have said to me, "Bring up this people"; but you have not let me know whom you will send with me. Yet you have said, "I know you by name, and you have also found favour in my sight." Now if I have found favour in your sight, show me your ways, so that I may know you and find favour in your sight. Consider too that this nation is your people.' He said, 'My presence will go with you, and I will give you rest.' And he said to him, 'If your presence will not go, do not carry us up from here. For how shall it be known that I have found favour in your sight, I and your people, unless you go with us? In this way, we shall be distinct, I and your people, from every people on the face of the earth.' The Lord said to Moses, 'I will do the very thing that you have asked; for you have found favour in my sight, and I know you by name.' Moses said, 'Show me your glory, I pray.' And he said, 'I will make all my goodness pass before you, and will proclaim before you the name, "The Lord" and I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and will show mercy on whom I will show mercy. But,' he said, 'you cannot see my face; for no one shall see me and live.' And the Lord continued, 'See, there is a place by me where you shall stand on the rock; and while my glory passes by I will put you in a cleft of the rock, and I will cover you with my hand until I have passed by; then I will take away my hand, and you shall see my back; but my face shall not be seen.'

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm 99**

1. The Lord is king; let the people tremble; he is enthroned upon the cherubim;  
let the earth shake.
2. The Lord is great in Zion; he is high above all peoples.
3. Let them confess his name, which is great and awesome; he is the Holy One.
4. 'O mighty King, lover of justice, you have established equity;  
you have executed justice and righteousness in Jacob.'

5. Proclaim the greatness of the Lord our God and fall down before his footstool;  
he is the Holy One.
6. Moses and Aaron among his priests, and Samuel among those who call upon his name,  
they called upon the Lord and he answered them.
7. He spoke to them out of the pillar of cloud;  
they kept his testimonies and the decree that he gave them.
8. 'O Lord our God, you answered them indeed;  
you were a God who forgave them, yet punished them for their evil deeds.'
9. Proclaim the greatness of the Lord our God and worship him upon his holy hill;  
for the Lord our God is the Holy One.

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**The Second Reading is from the first letter of Paul to the Thessalonians:**

**1 Thessalonians 1: 1-10** (Read by Ruairidh Sharp)

From Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy, To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace to you and peace. We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers, constantly remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labour of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ.

For we know, brothers and sisters beloved by God, that he has chosen you, because our message of the gospel came to you not in word only, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction; just as you know what kind of persons we proved to be among you for your sake. And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for in spite of persecution you received the word with joy inspired by the Holy Spirit, so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia.

For the word of the Lord has sounded forth from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but in every place your faith in God has become known, so that we have no need to speak about it. For the people of those regions report about us what kind of welcome we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols, to serve a living and true God, and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead – Jesus, who rescues us from the wrath that is coming.

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**The Gospel Reading is from Matthew 22: 1-14**

**Glory to Christ our Saviour.**

Once more Jesus spoke to the chief priests and Pharisees in parables, saying: 'The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding banquet for his son. He sent his slaves to call those who had been invited to the wedding banquet, but they would not come. Again he sent other slaves, saying, "Tell those who have been invited: Look, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready; come to the wedding banquet." But they made light of it and went away, one to his farm, another to his business, while the rest seized his slaves, maltreated them, and killed them.

The king was enraged. He sent his troops, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city. Then he said to his slaves, "The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy.

Go therefore into the main streets, and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet.” Those slaves went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both good and bad; so the wedding hall was filled with guests. But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing a wedding robe, and he said to him, “Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding robe?” And he was speechless. Then the king said to the attendants, “Bind him hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.” For many are called, but few are chosen.’

Give thanks to the Lord for his glorious Gospel.

**Praise to Christ our Lord.**

### **Post Communion Prayer**

Holy and blessed God,  
you have fed us with the body and blood of your Son  
and filled us with your Holy Spirit:  
may we honour you,  
not only with our lips  
but in lives dedicated to the service of Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**