

Sunday Morning Readings 2nd August 2020

Holy Communion

Eighth Sunday after Trinity

Collect

Lord God, Your Son left the riches of Heaven and became poor for our sake;
When we prosper, save us from pride,
When we are needy, save us from despair,
That we may trust in you alone,
Through Jesus Christ our Lord - **AMEN**

First Reading Isaiah 55: 1-5

55 “Come, all you who are thirsty, come to the waters; and you who have no money, come, buy and eat!

Come, buy wine and milk without money and without cost. ² Why spend money on what is not bread, and your labour on what does not satisfy? Listen, listen to me, and eat what is good, and you will delight in the richest of fare. ³ Give ear and come to me; listen, that you may live. I will make an everlasting covenant with you, my faithful love promised to David. ⁴ See, I have made him a witness to the peoples, a ruler and commander of the peoples. ⁵ Surely you will summon nations you know not, and nations you do not know will come running to you, because of the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, for he has endowed you with splendour.”

Second Reading Psalm 145: 8-9, 15-end

Great is the Lord and highly to be praised.

⁸ The Lord is gracious and merciful, ◆ long-suffering and of great goodness.

Great is the Lord and highly to be praised.

⁹ The Lord is loving to everyone ◆ and his mercy is over all his creatures.

¹⁵ The Lord upholds all those who fall ◆ and lifts up all those who are bowed down.

¹⁶ The eyes of all wait upon you, O Lord, ◆ and you give them their food in due season.

¹⁷ You open wide your hand ◆ and fill all things living with plenty.

Great is the Lord and highly to be praised.

¹⁸ The Lord is righteous in all his ways ◆ and loving in all his works.

¹⁹ The Lord is near to those who call upon him, ◆ to all who call upon him faithfully.

²⁰ He fulfils the desire of those who fear him; ◆ he hears their cry and saves them.

- 21 The Lord watches over those who love him, ♦ but all the wicked shall he destroy.
22 My mouth shall speak the praise of the Lord, ♦ and let all flesh bless his holy name
for ever and ever.

Great is the Lord and highly to be praised.

Third Reading Romans 9: 1-5

9 I speak the truth in Christ—I am not lying, my conscience confirms it through the Holy Spirit— 2 I have great sorrow and unceasing anguish in my heart. 3 For I could wish that I myself were cursed and cut off from Christ for the sake of my people, those of my own race, 4 the people of Israel. Theirs is the adoption to sonship; theirs the divine glory, the covenants, the receiving of the law, the temple worship and the promises. 5 Theirs are the patriarchs, and from them is traced the human ancestry of the Messiah, who is God over all, forever praised! Amen.

Gospel Reading Matthew 14: 13-21

13 When Jesus heard what had happened, he withdrew by boat privately to a solitary place. Hearing of this, the crowds followed him on foot from the towns. 14 When Jesus landed and saw a large crowd, he had compassion on them and healed their sick.

15 As evening approached, the disciples came to him and said, “This is a remote place, and it’s already getting late. Send the crowds away, so they can go to the villages and buy themselves some food.”

16 Jesus replied, “They do not need to go away. You give them something to eat.”

17 “We have here only five loaves of bread and two fish,” they answered.

18 “Bring them here to me,” he said. 19 And he directed the people to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish and looking up to heaven, he gave thanks and broke the loaves. Then he gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the people. 20 They all ate and were satisfied, and the disciples picked up twelve basketfuls of broken pieces that were left over. 21 The number of those who ate was about five thousand men, besides women and children.

Prayer after Communion

Strengthen for service Lord the hands that have held Holy things;

May the ears that have heard your word be deaf to clamour and dispute;

May the tongues that have sung your praise be free from deceit:

May the eyes that have seen the tokens of your Love shine with the light of hope;

may the bodies that have been fed with your body be refreshed with the fulness of your life;

Glory to you for ever - **AMEN**

**The gracious invitation stands
for any who will come;
The Father runs with open arms
to children heading home -
And all who trudge with weary feet
along life's dusty road
Receive at last a welcome chance
to lose their heavy load.**

**No longer need we clothe our lives
in garments soiled and torn
when Christ gives robes of righteousness
for what was old and worn.
To those bereft of dignity
and yearning to be whole,
forgiveness brings the healing pow'r
which liberates the soul.**

**When all that busy lives produce
is dry futility,
We find in Christ the living source
of full reality;
And if, within our hearts, the truth
is what we long to hear,
The whisper of the Spirit comes
as music to the ear.**

**Whoever looks for nourishment
will find the table spread;
the finest riches Heaven holds
foretold in wine and bread.
The banquet is for everyone
the greatest and the least:
for all are called as honoured guests
to come and join the feast.**