

# THE TWENTIETH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

## 22nd OCTOBER 2017

### First Reading

Exodus 33.12-23

### A reading from the book of Exodus

<sup>12</sup> 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.'" <sup>13</sup> 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." <sup>14</sup> He said, "My presence will go with you, and I will give you rest." <sup>15</sup> And he said to him, "If your presence will not go, do not carry us up from here. <sup>16</sup> 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." <sup>17</sup> 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." <sup>18</sup> Moses said, "Show me your glory, I pray." <sup>19</sup> 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. <sup>20</sup> But," he said, "you cannot see my face; for no one shall see me and live." <sup>21</sup> And the Lord continued, "See, there is a place by me where you shall stand on the rock; <sup>22</sup> 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; <sup>23</sup> then I will take away my hand, and you shall see my back; but my face shall not be seen."

Hear the word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God**

## **Psalm 99**

- 1 The Lord is king; let the peoples tremble!  
He sits enthroned upon the cherubim; let the earth quake!
- 2 The Lord is great in Zion:  
he is exalted over all the peoples.
- 3 Let them praise your great and awesome name:  
Holy is he!
- 4 Mighty King, lover of justice, you have established equity:  
you have executed justice and righteousness in Jacob.
- 5 Extol the Lord our God; worship at his footstool:  
Holy is he!
- 6 Moses and Aaron were among his priests, Samuel also was  
among those who called on his name:  
They cried to the Lord, and he answered them.
- 7 He spoke to them in the pillar of cloud:  
they kept his decrees, and the statutes that he gave them.
- 8 O Lord our God, you answered them:  
you were a forgiving God to them, but an avenger of their  
wrongdoings.
- 9 Extol the Lord our God, and worship at his holy mountain:  
for the Lord our God is holy.

## **Second Reading**

## **1 Thessalonians 1.1-10**

### **A reading from the First Letter of Paul to the Thessalonians**

1 Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy,

To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the  
Lord Jesus Christ:

Grace to you and peace.

<sup>2</sup>We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in  
our prayers, constantly <sup>3</sup>remembering before our God and Father  
your work of faith and labour of love and steadfastness of hope in  
our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>4</sup>For we know, brothers and sisters beloved

by God, that chosen you, <sup>5</sup> 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. <sup>6</sup> 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, <sup>7</sup> so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. <sup>8</sup> 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. <sup>9</sup> 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, <sup>10</sup> and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead—Jesus, who rescues us from the wrath that is coming. he has

Hear the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God**

## **Gospel**

**Matthew 22.15-22**

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew  
**Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

<sup>15</sup> Then the Pharisees went and plotted to entrap him in what he said. <sup>16</sup> So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, “Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one; for you do not regard people with partiality. <sup>17</sup> Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to the emperor, or not?” <sup>18</sup> But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, “Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? <sup>19</sup> Show me the coin used for the tax.” And they brought him a denarius. <sup>20</sup> Then he said to them, “Whose head is this, and whose title?” <sup>21</sup> They answered, “The emperor’s.” Then he said to them, “Give therefore to the emperor the things that are the emperor’s, and to God the things that are God’s.” <sup>22</sup> When they heard this, they were amazed; and they left him and went away.

The Gospel of the Lord

**Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

## **Sentence**

Give to Caesar the things that are Caesar's and to God the things that are God's.

Matthew 22.21

## **Prayer of the day**

Almighty and everlasting God,  
in Christ you have revealed your glory among the nations:  
grant that your Church throughout the world  
may persevere with steadfast faith  
in proclaiming the cross to be the way that leads to life eternal;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

**or**

O God,  
whose beauty is beyond our imagining  
and whose power we cannot comprehend:  
show us glory,  
as far as we can grasp it,  
and shield us from knowing more than we can bear,  
until we may look upon you without fear,  
through Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

## **Supplementary Readings**

Exodus 34.1-8

Psalm 96

Philippians 4.10-20

## **Prayer Response**

Spirit of God,  
**guide us and strengthen us.**