

NINETEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

30TH SEPTEMBER 2018

First Reading

Numbers 11:4–6, 10–16, 24–29

The Fourth Book of Moses Called Numbers

⁴ The rabble among them had a strong craving; and the Israelites also wept again, and said, “If only we had meat to eat! ⁵We remember the fish we used to eat in Egypt for nothing, the cucumbers, the melons, the leeks, the onions, and the garlic; ⁶ but now our strength is dried up, and there is nothing at all but this manna to look at.”

¹⁰ Moses heard the people weeping throughout their families, all at the entrances of their tents. Then the LORD became very angry, and Moses was displeased. ¹¹ So Moses said to the LORD, “Why have you treated your servant so badly? Why have I not found favor in your sight, that you lay the burden of all this people on me? ¹² Did I conceive all this people? Did I give birth to them, that you should say to me, ‘Carry them in your bosom, as a nurse carries a sucking child,’ to the land that you promised on oath to their ancestors? ¹³ Where am I to get meat to give to all this people? For they come weeping to me and say, ‘Give us meat to eat!’ ¹⁴ I am not able to carry all this people alone, for they are too heavy for me. ¹⁵ If this is the way you are going to treat me, put me to death at once—if I have found favor in your sight—and do not let me see my misery.”

¹⁶ So the LORD said to Moses, “Gather for me seventy of the elders of Israel, whom you know to be the elders of the people and officers over them; bring them to the tent of meeting, and have them take their place there with you.

²⁴ So Moses went out and told the people the words of the LORD; and he gathered seventy elders of the people, and placed them all around the tent.

²⁵ Then the LORD came down in the cloud and spoke to him, and took some of the spirit that was on him and put it on the seventy elders; and when the spirit rested upon them, they prophesied. But they did not do so again. ²⁶ Two men remained in the camp, one named Eldad, and the other named Medad, and the spirit rested on them; they were among those registered, but they had not gone out to the tent, and so they prophesied in the camp. ²⁷ And a young man ran and told Moses, “Eldad and Medad are prophesying in the camp.” ²⁸ And Joshua son of Nun, the assistant of Moses, one of his chosen men, said, “My lord Moses, stop them!” ²⁹ But Moses said to him, “Are you jealous for my sake? Would that all the LORD’s people were prophets, and that the LORD would put his spirit on them!”

Hear the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

Psalm 19:7–14

- ⁷The law of the LORD is perfect, reviving the soul:
the decrees of the LORD are sure, making wise the simple.
- ⁸the precepts of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart:
the commandment of the LORD is clear, enlightening the eyes.
- ⁹the fear of the LORD is pure, enduring forever:
the ordinances of the LORD are true and righteous altogether.
- ¹⁰More to be desired are they than gold, even much fine gold:
sweeter also than honey, and drippings of the honeycomb.
- ¹¹Moreover by them is your servant warned:
in keeping them there is great reward.
- ¹²But who can detect their errors?
Clear me from hidden faults.
- ¹³Keep back your servant also from the insolent; do not let them have
dominion over me:
Then I shall be blameless, and innocent of great transgression.
- ¹⁴Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart
be acceptable to you:
O LORD, my rock and my redeemer.

Second Reading

James 5:13–20

The General Epistle of James

¹³ Are any among you suffering? They should pray. Are any cheerful? They should sing songs of praise. ¹⁴ Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord. ¹⁵ The prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise them up; and anyone who has committed sins will be forgiven. ¹⁶ Therefore confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective. ¹⁷ Elijah was a human being like us, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. ¹⁸ Then he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain and the earth yielded its harvest. ¹⁹ My brothers and sisters, if anyone among you wanders from the truth and is brought back by another, ²⁰ you should know that whoever brings back a sinner from wandering will save the sinner's soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.

Hear the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God

Gospel

Mark 9:38–50

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

³⁸ John said to him, “Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him, because he was not following us.”

³⁹ But Jesus said, “Do not stop him; for no one who does a deed of power in my name will be able soon afterward to speak evil of me. ⁴⁰ Whoever is not against us is for us. ⁴¹ For truly I tell you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you bear the name of Christ will by no means lose the reward.

⁴² “If any of you put a stumbling block before one of these little ones who believe in me, it would be better for you if a great millstone were hung around your neck and you were thrown into the sea. ⁴³ If your hand causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life maimed than to have two hands and to go to hell, to the unquenchable fire. ⁴⁵ And if your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life lame than to have two feet and to be thrown into hell. ⁴⁷ And if your eye causes you to stumble, tear it out; it is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than to have two eyes and to be thrown into hell, ⁴⁸ where their worm never dies, and the fire is never quenched.

⁴⁹ “For everyone will be salted with fire. ⁵⁰ Salt is good; but if salt has lost its saltiness, how can you season it? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another.”

The Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

Sentence

Salt is good; but if salt has lost its saltiness, how can it be seasoned?
Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another.

Mark 9.50

Prayer of the day

O God,
your Son has taught us
that those who give a cup of water in his name
will not lose their reward:
open our eyes to see those who are in need,
and teach us to set no store by riches and earthly rewards,

so that, in surrendering ourselves to serve you
in our children,
we may labour for the treasure that endures:
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Supplementary Readings

Esther 9.23-32

Psalm 19.7-14

James 3.13-4.7a

Prayer Response

O God, by your power,
defend us and give your peace.