

**Readings for the Twenty First Sunday after Pentecost –
13th October 2024**

Sentence

There is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or fields, for Jesus' sake, who will not receive a hundredfold now in this age, with persecutions, and in the age to come eternal life.

Mark 10.29–30

Collect

Merciful God,
in your Son you call not the righteous but sinners to repentance:
draw us away from the easy road that leads to destruction,
and guide us into paths that lead to life abundant,
that in seeking your truth,
and obeying your will,
we may know the joy of being a disciple of Jesus our Saviour;
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

1st Reading – Job 23.1-9; 16-17

Our first reading is taken from the book of Job,
Chapter 23 beginning at verse 1.

¹ Then Job answered:

² 'Today also my complaint is bitter;
his hand is heavy despite my groaning.

³ O that I knew where I might find him,
that I might come even to his dwelling!

⁴ I would lay my case before him,
and fill my mouth with arguments.

⁵ I would learn what he would answer me,
and understand what he would say to me.

⁶ Would he contend with me in the greatness of his power?
No; but he would give heed to me.

⁷ There an upright person could reason with him,
and I should be acquitted for ever by my judge.

⁸ 'If I go forward, he is not there;
or backward, I cannot perceive him;

⁹ on the left he hides, and I cannot behold him;
I turn to the right, but I cannot see him.

¹⁶ God has made my heart faint;
the Almighty has terrified me;

¹⁷ If only I could vanish in darkness,
and thick darkness would cover my face!

Hear the word of the Lord, ***thanks be to God.***

Psalm 22.1-15

Our Psalm today comes from Psalm 22. I will read one verse, and I invite you to respond with the next verse,

- ¹ My God, my God, why have you forsaken me:
why are you so far from helping me
and from the words of my groaning?
- ² **My God, I cry to you by day, but you do not answer:
and by night also I take no rest.**
- ³ But you continue holy: you that are the praise of Israel.
- ⁴ **In you our forebears trusted:
they trusted, and you delivered them;**
- ⁵ To you they cried and they were saved:
they put their trust in you and were not confounded.
- ⁶ **But as for me, I am a worm and no man:
the scorn of all and despised by the people.**
- ⁷ Those that see me laugh me to scorn:
they shoot out their lips at me and wag their heads, saying,
- ⁸ **‘He trusted in the Lord—let him deliver him:
let him deliver him, if he delights in him.’**
- ⁹ But you are he that took me out of the womb:
that brought me to lie at peace on my mother’s breast.
- ¹⁰ **On you have I been cast since my birth:
you are my God, even from my mother’s womb.**
- ¹¹ O go not from me, for trouble is hard at hand:
and there is none to help.
- ¹² **Many oxen surround me:
fat bulls of Bashan close me in on every side.**
- ¹³ They gape wide their mouths at me: like lions that roar and rend.
- ¹⁴ **I am poured out like water, and all my bones are out of joint:
my heart within my breast is like melting wax.**
- ¹⁵ My mouth is dried up like a potsherd:
and my tongue clings to my gums.

2nd Reading – Hebrews 4.12-16

Our second reading is taken from the Letter to Hebrews, Chapter 4, beginning at verse 12.

¹² Indeed, the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing until it divides soul from spirit, joints from marrow; it is able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart. ¹³ And before him no creature is hidden, but all are naked and laid bare to the eyes of the one to whom we must render an account. ¹⁴ Since, then, we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast to our confession. ¹⁵ For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who in every respect has been tested as we are, yet without sin. ¹⁶ Let us therefore approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

Hear the word of the Lord, ***thanks be to God.***

Gospel – Mark 10.17-31

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark, chapter 10, beginning at verse 17. **Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

¹⁷ As he was setting out on a journey, a man ran up and knelt before him, and asked him, ‘Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?’ ¹⁸ Jesus said to him, ‘Why do you call me good? No one is good but God alone. ¹⁹ You know the commandments: “You shall not murder; You shall not commit adultery; You shall not steal; You shall not bear false witness; You shall not defraud; Honour your father and mother.”’ ²⁰ He said to him, ‘Teacher, I have kept all these since my youth.’ ²¹ Jesus, looking at him, loved him and said, ‘You lack one thing; go, sell what you own, and give the money to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me.’ ²² When he heard this, he was shocked and went away grieving, for he had many possessions. ²³ Then Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, ‘How hard it will be for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God!’ ²⁴ And the disciples were perplexed at these words. But Jesus said to them again, ‘Children, how hard it is to enter the kingdom of God! ²⁵ It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for someone who is rich to enter the kingdom of God.’ ²⁶ They were greatly astounded and said to one another, ‘Then who can be saved?’ ²⁷ Jesus looked at them and said, ‘For mortals it is impossible, but not for God; for God all things are possible.’ ²⁸ Peter began to say to him, ‘Look, we have left everything and followed you.’ ²⁹ Jesus said, ‘Truly I tell you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or fields, for my sake and for the sake of the good news, ³⁰ who will not receive a hundredfold now in this age—houses, brothers and sisters, mothers and children, and fields, with persecutions—and in the age to come eternal life. ³¹ But many who are first will be last, and the last will be first.’

This is the gospel of the Lord, ***praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.***