



Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost 11 September 2016

Sentence. I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents. *Luke 15.10*

Collect

God of the dirtied hands, the wandering feet;
you seek out the lost before ever they turn to you:
take us with you into the abandoned places
to find a new community outside our fortress walls,
through Jesus Christ, the Searching One. **Amen.**

A reading from the book of Exodus

While Moses is on Mt Sinai receiving the law, the Israelites have broken the covenant God made with them after their rescue from slavery in Egypt and God is about to give them up. Moses pleads with God for the people and God has a change of heart.

At the top of Mount Sinai, the LORD said to Moses, 'Go down at once! Your people, whom you brought up out of the land of Egypt, have acted perversely; they have been quick to turn aside from the way that I commanded them; they have cast for themselves an image of a calf, and have worshipped it and sacrificed to it, and said, "These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!" ' The LORD said to Moses, 'I have seen this people, how stiff-necked they are. Now let me alone, so that my wrath may burn hot against them and I may consume them; and of you I will make a great nation.' But Moses implored the LORD his God, and said, 'O LORD, why does your wrath burn hot against your people, whom you brought out of the land of Egypt with great power and with a mighty hand? Why should the Egyptians say, "It was with evil intent that he brought them out to kill them in the mountains, and to consume them from the face of the earth"? Turn from your fierce wrath; change your mind and do not bring

disaster on your people. Remember Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, your servants, how you swore to them by your own self, saying to them, “I will multiply your descendants like the stars of heaven, and all this land that I have promised I will give to your descendants, and they shall inherit it for ever.”’ And the LORD changed his mind about the disaster that he planned to bring on his people.

Exodus 32.7-14

Reader For the word of the Lord

All Thanks be to God

Psalm 51.1-10 APBA, page 274

This is the song of a person who has wronged another and seeks God's forgiveness.

A reading from the first letter of Paul to Timothy

The letters to Timothy were written to a fellow worker by Paul, but would have been read by others for instruction. Here is a portrait of Paul the transformed opponent of the risen Christ; in this letter Paul's writing moves between narrative and praise.

Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the command of God our Saviour and of Christ Jesus our hope,

To Timothy, my loyal child in the faith: Grace, mercy, and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.

I am grateful to Christ Jesus our Lord, who has strengthened me, because he judged me faithful and appointed me to his service, even though I was formerly a blasphemer, a persecutor, and a man of violence. But I received mercy because I had acted ignorantly in unbelief, and the grace of our Lord overflowed for me with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners—of whom I am the foremost. But for that very reason I received mercy, so that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display the utmost patience, making me an example to those who would come to believe in him for eternal life. To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honour and glory for ever and ever. Amen. I am giving you these instructions, Timothy, my child, in accordance with the prophecies made earlier about you, so that by following

them you may fight the good fight, having faith and a good conscience.

1 Timothy 1.1-2, 12-19

Reader May your word live in us,

ALL And bear much fruit to your glory.

Gospel Acclamation

ALL Alleluia! Alleluia!

The Son of man came to seek out and save the lost.

ALL Alleluia!

Reader The Lord be with you

ALL And also with you

Reader A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke

ALL Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ

In this section of Luke, Jesus tells three stories of God seeking what is lost. These first two, which we receive today, draw on familiar imagery of God as Israel's shepherd and the image of God as a woman busy keeping the household just as God is busy keeping the creation. The joy over recovering what is lost occurs in all three stories with the theme of being found and valued by God.

All the tax-collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to Jesus. And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, 'This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them.' So he told them this parable: 'Which one of you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the one that is lost until he finds it? When he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders and rejoices. And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbours, saying to them, "Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost." Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous people who need no repentance. 'Or what woman having ten silver coins,* if she loses one of them, does not light a lamp, sweep the house, and search carefully until she finds it? When she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbours, saying, "Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost." Just so, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents.'

Luke 15.1-10

Reader For the Gospel of the Lord
ALL Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ

Bible Readings next week Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Amos 8.4-7 Psalm 113 1 Timothy 3.14-4.6 Luke 16.1-13

Prayer for the Week

O God,
without you we are not able to please you:
mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit
may in all thins direct and rule out hearts;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Pray for the Faithful Departed

We remember before God: Marjorie Sawyer, Paula Abrahams, Eva Davis, Violet Atkins, Rita Campbell, Elsie Alfred, Margaret Hansen, Emma Giggins, Edith Augusta Elliott, Georgina Alice Bray, John Taylor, John Hetherington, Dorothy Corden *whose anniversaries occur this week.*

Commemorations of the week

September 13 Cyprian of Carthage, bishop and martyr (200-258). His best known writing is a volume on the Unity of the Church. He was martyred in a Roman persecution.

September 14 Holy Cross. Celebrating the Cross as the means of our salvation.

September 15 John Oliver Feetham, bishop and bush brother (d.1947).

September 16 Ninian of Galloway, bishop and missionary (d. c 432). Missionary to the Scots. Ninian founded a church at Whithorn in Wigtownshire (now in Galloway), which remains a place of pilgrimage. **September 17 Hildegard of Bingen**, abbess of Rupertsberg (near Bingen on the Rhine) (1098-1179). One of the great mystics of the Middle Ages, she received many visions which she recorded (now available in books of meditations) and her original compositions of music are still sung today.

September 18 John Ramsden Wollaston, priest and missionary of Western Australia (d. 1856)

**MALVERN CARER SUPPORT GROUP -
OPEN TO ALL PARISHIONER CARERS**

Are you providing unpaid care for someone in the community? If so you may be interested to know that Caulfield Community Health Service (CCHS) facilitates the Malvern Carer Support Group for carers who reside in Malvern and surrounding areas. This group is provided by CCHS because we recognize that caring can be rewarding but also challenging.

The group meets monthly and is currently seeking new members. Most members are caring for a spouse or an aged parent who has a chronic illness or dementia. The group is facilitated by a Social Worker. There is no cost required to attend the group except gold coin donation to cover afternoon tea.

What Happens In The Group?

- Individual sharing of carer experiences
- Facilitator provides support and information
- Social outings occur several times per year
- Guest speakers provided as requested

Meeting details: When: 1st Wednesday of the month from 1.30-3.30pm (except January)

Where: St. George's Anglican Centre (North Room)

How to attend the group: Please contact facilitator Sue Bottomley on 9076 6869 before attending the group.