



Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost 25 September 2016

Sentence 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. *The letter of James 1.72*

Collect

God of Abraham, Moses and the prophets,
your covenant binds us as sisters and brothers:
Help us to overcome the scandal of poverty, the fixed chasm of
indifference to recognize you in the wounded poor:
through Jesus Christ, the Builder of Bridges. **Amen.**

A reading from the book of the prophet Amos.

Amos was active in the first half of the eight century BC. A farmer and herder from Judah in the south of the large territory Israel now had, here Amos is scathing about those who rule in luxury while the poor go without. They are not paying attention to the world around them which is about to collapse.

Alas for those who are at ease in Zion,
and for those who feel secure on Mount Samaria.

Alas for those who lie on beds of ivory,
and lounge on their couches,
and eat lambs from the flock,
and calves from the stall;

who sing idle songs to the sound of the harp,
and like David improvise on instruments of music;

who drink wine from bowls,
and anoint themselves with the finest oils,
but are not grieved over the ruin of Joseph!

Therefore they shall now be the first to go into exile,
and the revelry of the loungers shall pass away. *Amos 6.1a, 4-7*

Reader For the word of the Lord
All **Thanks be to God**

Psalm 146 APBA, 377

A song of praise of God as creator and redeemer

A reading from the first letter of Paul to Timothy

There is nothing wrong with having possessions but the scriptures consistently warn against our possessions having us. It is all too easy to place our trust in what we have, which can be lost or taken from us, rather than the God of life whose commitment to us is irrevocable.

There is great gain in godliness combined with contentment; for we brought nothing into the world, so that we can take nothing out of it; but if we have food and clothing, we will be content with these. But those who want to be rich fall into temptation and are trapped by many senseless and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil, and in their eagerness to be rich some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pains. But as for you, man of God, shun all this; pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance, gentleness. Fight the good fight of the faith; take hold of the eternal life, to which you were called and for which you made the good confession in the presence of many witnesses. In the presence of God, who gives life to all things, and of Christ Jesus, who in his testimony before Pontius Pilate made the good confession, I charge you to keep the commandment without spot or blame until the manifestation of our Lord Jesus Christ, which he will bring about at the right time—he who is the blessed and only Sovereign, the King of kings and Lord of lords. It is he alone who has immortality and dwells in unapproachable light, whom no one has ever seen or can see; to him be honour and eternal dominion. Amen. As for those who in the present age are rich, command them not to be haughty, or to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches, but rather on God who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. They are to do good, to be rich in good works, generous, and ready to share, thus storing up for themselves the treasure of a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of the life that really is life.

1 Tim 6.6-19

Reader May your word live in us,
ALL **And bear much fruit to your glory.**

Gospel Acclamation

ALL Alleluia! Alleluia!

'If they do not listen to Moses and the prophets:
neither will they be convinced
even if someone rises from the dead.'

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

Of all the gospels it is Luke who most frequently warns us about the dangers of trusting in our possessions rather than God. In this parable the rich man fails even to notice the poor beggar at his gate. The rich man has clearly not heeded the injunctions of his Jewish scriptures to be generous with all that God has given him. This is not teaching about the life beyond this one, but a story that tells us how to live this life now.

Jesus told this parable to those among the Pharisees who loved money: "There was a rich man who was dressed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day. And at his gate lay a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores, who longed to satisfy his hunger with what fell from the rich man's table; even the dogs would come and lick his sores. The poor man died and was carried away by the angels to be with Abraham. The rich man also died and was buried. In Hades, where he was being tormented, he looked up and saw Abraham far away with Lazarus by his side. He called out, "Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue; for I am in agony in these flames." But Abraham said, "Child, remember that during your lifetime you received your good things, and Lazarus in like manner evil things; but now he is comforted here, and you are in agony. Besides all this, between you and us a great chasm has been fixed, so that those who might want to pass from here to you cannot do so, and no one can cross from there to us." He said, "Then, father, I beg you to send him to my father's house— for I have five brothers— that he may warn them, so that they will not also come into this place of torment." Abraham replied, "They have Moses and the prophets; they should listen to them." He said, "No, father Abraham; but if someone goes to them from the dead, they will repent." He said to him, "If they do not lis-

ten to Moses and the prophets, neither will they be convinced even if someone rises from the dead." ' Luke 16.19-31

Reader For the Gospel of the Lord

ALL Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ

Bible Readings next week 21st Sunday after Pentecost

Habakkuk 1.1-4, 2.1-4 Ps 37.1-9 2 Timothy 1.1-14 Luke 17. 5-10

Prayer for the Week Loving Father, whose Son Jesus Christ has taught us that what we do for the least of our brothers and sisters we do also for him: give us the will to be the servant of others as he was the servant of all, who gave up his life and died for us, and yet lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Pray for the Faithful Departed

We remember before God: Annie Logan, Margaret Bauer, Verna Coles, Esther Monica vanden Driesen, Elaine Jarvie, Richard Coles, Mary Lewis, William (Bill) Tickner, Jean Collier Armstrong, Richard Markillie, Llewellyn Moline, Margaret Bridges, Irene Lowe, James Essex Holt - Priest, David McInnes, Nancy Milne, Kenneth Moss *whose anniversaries occur this week.*

Commemorations of the week

September 25 Sergius of Moscow (1315-1392). Restored monastic life in Russia after the Mongol invasions and founded about 40 monasteries.

September 26 Lancelot Andrewes.(1555-1626), Bishop of Winchester, brilliant preacher and scholar (he knew 15 languages!). One of the translators of the Authorised Version of the Bible. Espoused a distinctive Anglican theology after the rigidities of Puritanism.

September 27 Vincent de Paul (1580-1660), priest and worker for the poor. Societies of St. Vincent de Paul exist in many countries, including Australia.

September 29 Michael and All Angels. Michael is mentioned in the books of Daniel, Revelation and Jude. Has often been represented in art.

September 30 Jerome (c. 341-420), priest and the greatest biblical scholar of the early church. Most famous as the translator of the bible into Latin from the original languages – called the Latin Vulgate – still is use in the Roman Catholic Church.

**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.