



Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

20 August 2017

Sentence

Thus says the Lord,' Maintain justice, and do what is right, for soon my salvation will come, and my deliverance be revealed'.

Isaiah 56.1

Collect

Unclean God,
Braving defilement, inviting offence; you share your bread
with vermin and outsiders;
you let the Gentile woman subvert your plans;
give us the faith that comes from the heart
and walks beyond our boundary posts
that we might be surprised
by outrageous grace;
through Jesus Christ, son of David and light of the world. **Amen.**

A reading from the book of Genesis

Then Joseph could no longer control himself before all those who stood by him, and he cried out, 'Send everyone away from me.' So no one stayed with him when Joseph made himself known to his brothers. And he wept so loudly that the Egyptians heard it, and the household of Pharaoh heard it. Joseph said to his brothers, 'I am Joseph. Is my father still alive?' But his brothers could not answer him, so dismayed were they at his presence.

Then Joseph said to his brothers, 'Come closer to me.' And they came closer. He said, 'I am your brother Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. And now do not be distressed, or angry with yourselves,

because you sold me here; for God sent me before you to preserve life. For the famine has been in the land these two years; and there are five more years in which there will be neither ploughing nor harvest. God sent me before you to preserve for you a remnant on earth, and to keep alive for you many survivors. So it was not you who sent me here, but God; he has made me a father to Pharaoh, and lord of all his house and ruler over all the land of Egypt.

Hurry and go up to my father and say to him, "Thus says your son Joseph, God has made me lord of all Egypt; come down to me, do not delay. You shall settle in the land of Goshen, and you shall be near me, you and your children and your children's children, as well as your flocks, your herds, and all that you have. I will provide for you there—since there are five more years of famine to come—so that you and your household, and all that you have, will not come to poverty." And now your eyes and the eyes of my brother Benjamin see that it is my own mouth that speaks to you. You must tell my father how greatly I am honoured in Egypt, and all that you have seen. Hurry and bring my father down here.' Then he fell upon his brother Benjamin's neck and wept, while Benjamin wept upon his neck. And he kissed all his brothers and wept upon them; and after that his brothers talked with him.

Genesis 45.1-15

Reader Hear the word of the Lord

All Thanks be to God

Psalm 133, at 8am APBA, p. 365

At 10am, responsorial psalm on page 2

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans

Now I am speaking to you Gentiles. Inasmuch then as I am an apostle to the Gentiles, I glorify my ministry in order to make my own people

jealous, and thus save some of them. For if their rejection is the reconciliation of the world, what will their acceptance be but life from the dead! If the part of the dough offered as first fruits is holy, then the whole batch is holy; and if the root is holy, then the branches also are holy. But if some of the branches were broken off, and you, a wild olive shoot, were grafted in their place to share the rich root of the olive tree, do not vaunt yourselves over the branches. If you do vaunt yourselves, remember that it is not you that support the root, but the root that supports you. You will say, 'Branches were broken off so that I might be grafted in.' That is true. They were broken off because of their unbelief, but you stand only through faith. So do not become proud, but stand in awe. For if God did not spare the natural branches, perhaps he will not spare you.

Note then the kindness and the severity of God: severity towards those who have fallen, but God's kindness towards you, provided you continue in his kindness; otherwise you also will be cut off. And even those of Israel, if they do not persist in unbelief, will be grafted in, for God has the power to graft them in again. For if you have been cut from what is by nature a wild olive tree and grafted, contrary to nature, into a cultivated olive tree, how much more will these natural branches be grafted back into their own olive tree.

So that you may not claim to be wiser than you are, brothers and sisters, I want you to understand this mystery: a hardening has come upon part of Israel, until the full number of the Gentiles has come in. And so all Israel will be saved; as it is written,

'Out of Zion will come the Deliverer;
he will banish ungodliness from Jacob.'
'And this is my covenant with them,
when I take away their sins.'

As regards the gospel they are enemies of God for your sake; but as regards election they are beloved, for the sake of their ancestors; for the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. Just as you were once disobedient to God but have now received mercy because of their

disobedience, so they have now been disobedient in order that, by the mercy shown to you, they too may now receive mercy. For God has imprisoned all in disobedience so that he may be merciful to all.

Romans 11.13-32

Reader May your word live in us

All And bear much fruit to your glory.

Gospel Acclamation

All Alleluia! Alleluia!

Cantor Jesus said, 'Woman great is your faith, let it be done for you as you wish'.

All Alleluia, alleluia!

Reader The Lord be with you

ALL And also with you

Reader A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

ALL Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.

Jesus went to the district of Tyre and Sidon. Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, 'Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon.' But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, 'Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us.' He answered, 'I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.' But she came and knelt before him, saying, 'Lord, help me.' He answered, 'It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs.' She said, 'Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table.' Then Jesus answered her, 'Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish.' And her daughter was healed instantly.

Matthew 15.21-28

Reader For the Gospel of the Lord

ALL Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ

Prayer for the Week

Almighty God,
you have given your only Son
to be for us both a sacrifice for sin
and also an example of godly life:
give us grace that we may always thankfully receive
the benefits of his sacrifice,
and also daily endeavour
to follow the blessed steps of his most holy life;
through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Bible Readings next week

Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

Exodus 1.8-2.10 Psalm 124 Romans 12.1-8 Matthew 16.16-30

Pray for the Faithful Departed

We remember before God, Annie Dalton, Justine Tsiang, Mona Reid, Marjorie Tozer, Helen Pritchard, Alfred Watson, Reginald Hayden Priest, Bertram Cowley, Freda Burnett *whose anniversaries occur this week.*

Commemorations of the week

August 20 Bernard of Clairvaux, (meaning the Valley of Light) (c.1090-1153). He was a Cistercian abbot and teacher whose primary focus was on God's love for us and our loving God in return for so great a gift.

August 24 Bartholomew, apostle and martyr.

Nothing is known of him, except his listing as one of the Twelve Apostles.

