

**Third Sunday after Pentecost.**

**10 June 2018**

**Sentence.**

Jesus said: Here are my mother and my brothers! Whoever does the will of God is my brother and my sister and my mother. *Mark 3.34–35*

**Collect.**

Almighty God, give us such a vision of your purpose,  
and such an assurance of your love and power,  
that we may ever hold fast the hope  
which is in Jesus Christ our Lord;  
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

**A Reading from the book of Genesis.**

*This story (not intended as historical) is often taken by Christians as an account of 'original sin' but the word 'sin' is never used! It does tell of the evolving damage to the relationships between God, humanity and the earth established in 2.4-25 (the integrity of creation). Hiding from God and blaming another (and implicitly God) are also signs of this damage.*

The man and the woman heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden at the time of the evening breeze, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden. But the LORD God called to the man, and said to him, 'Where are you?' He said, 'I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself.' He said, 'Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?' The man said, 'The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit from the tree, and I ate.' Then

the LORD God said to the woman, 'What is this that you have done?' The woman said, 'The serpent tricked me, and I ate.' The LORD God said to the serpent,  
'Because you have done this, cursed are you among all animals and among all wild creatures;  
upon your belly you shall go, and dust you shall eat all the days of your life.  
I will put enmity between you and the woman,  
and between your offspring and hers;  
he will strike your head,  
and you will strike his heel.'

*Genesis 3.8-15*

Reader For the word of the Lord

All Thanks be to God

**Psalm 130 at 8am APBA page 364.**

*An individual lament, this penitential psalm invokes God as fundamentally forgiving and compassionate towards humanity.*

**A Reading from the second letter of Paul to the Corinthians.**

*Paul uses dualistic imagery to express the tension between present physical struggles and ongoing spiritual renewal. The temporary and eternal are not separate but overlapping dimensions of our life in Christ.*

Just as we have the same spirit of faith that is in accordance with scripture—'I believed, and so I spoke'—we also believe, and so we speak, because we know that the one who raised the Lord Jesus will raise us also with Jesus, and will bring us with you into his presence. Yes, everything is for your sake, so that grace, as it extends to more and more people, may increase thanksgiving, to the glory of God. So we do not lose heart. Even though our outer nature is wasting away, our inner nature is being renewed day by day. For this slight momentary affliction is preparing us for an eternal weight of glory beyond all measure, because we look not at what can be seen but at

### **Commemorations of the week.**

**June 11 Barnabas**, apostle and martyr. Companion of Paul on Paul's first missionary journey and at the Council of Jerusalem, where he supported Paul. Later he quarrelled with Paul and returned to Syria. His later ministry is not known.

**June 13 Antony of Padua**, missionary and preacher (1185-1231). A Franciscan friar and priest, born in Lisbon. In 1220 he sailed for North Africa but ill-health forced him to return. He then went to Italy where he spent the rest of his life. He had exceptional intellectual and oratorical gifts and was an eloquent preacher, attracting large crowds.

**June 15 Evelyn Underhill**, spiritual writer (1875-1941). English poet and mystic, who produced many books on mysticism and spirituality; one of them, *Mysticism* (1911), remains a classic text.

has come. But no one can enter a strong man's house and plunder his property without first tying up the strong man; then indeed the house can be plundered. 'Truly I tell you, people will be forgiven for their sins and whatever blasphemies they utter; but whoever blasphemes against the Holy Spirit can never have forgiveness, but is guilty of an eternal sin'— for they had said, 'He has an unclean spirit.' Then his mother and his brothers came; and standing outside, they sent to him and called him. A crowd was sitting around him; and they said to him, 'Your mother and your brothers and sisters are outside, asking for you.' And he replied, 'Who are my mother and my brothers?' And looking at those who sat around him, he said, 'Here are my mother and my brothers! Whoever does the will of God is my brother and sister and mother.'

*Mk 3.20-35.*

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

### **Bible Readings next week 17 June 2018**

#### **Fourth Sunday after Pentecost [11]**

Ezekiel 17.22-24 Ps 92.1-4, 12-15 Cor.5.6-10, 14-17 Mark 4.36-34

**Prayer for the Week.** Lord, we beseech you to keep your family, the Church, in continual godliness, that through your protection it may be free from all adversities, and devoutly given to serve you in good works, to the glory of your name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

#### **Pray for the Faithful Departed.**

We remember before God: Katharine (Kitty) Roff; Ruby Wailes; Winifred Mary Barber; Edmund Hagerty; William Wedlake; George Hill; Sydney Haselden; Caroline Sanderson; Alexander Green; Eric Douglas Brangwin Green; Ula Sanderson; Eric Vanden Driesen; Vera Theobald; Joan Jackson; Lillian Lobb & Michael Duffield *whose anniversaries occur this week.*

what cannot be seen; for what can be seen is temporary, but what cannot be seen is eternal. For we know that if the earthly tent we live in is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. *2 Cor 4.13-5.1*

Reader May your word live in us.

**ALL And bear much fruit to your glory.**

#### **Gospel Acclamation**

**ALL Alleluia! Alleluia!**

Cantor Let us hear your word and do your will;  
make us disciples with understanding.

**ALL Alleluia! Alleluia!**

Reader The Lord be with you

**ALL And also with you**

Reader A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

**ALL Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

*Mark is teaching that Jesus has broken into the realm of evil and already plundered that 'property'; now God's kingdom is the only one, and Jesus acts in accord with its ways and values. Notice the relativising of family, as Jesus says his new 'family' community are those who share with him in doing God's will.*

The crowd came together again, so that Jesus and his companions could not even eat. When his family heard it, they went out to restrain him, for people were saying, 'He has gone out of his mind.' And the scribes who came down from Jerusalem said, 'He has Beelzebul, and by the ruler of the demons he casts out demons.' And he called them to him, and spoke to them in parables, 'How can Satan cast out Satan? If a kingdom is divided against itself, that kingdom cannot stand. And if a house is divided against itself, that house will not be able to stand. And if Satan has risen up against himself and is divided, he cannot stand, but his end