



# 19 Pentecost

October 7, 2007 - Proper 22



FIRST READING: HABAKKUK 1:1-4, 2:1-4

The oracle that the prophet Habakkuk saw. O LORD, how long shall I cry for help, and you will not listen? Or cry to you “Violence!” and you will not save? Why do you make me see wrongdoing and look at trouble? Destruction and violence are before me; strife and contention arise. So the law becomes slack and justice never prevails. The wicked surround the righteous—therefore judgment comes forth perverted...I will stand at my watchpost, and station myself on the rampart; I will keep watch to see what he will say to me, and what he will answer concerning my complaint. Then the LORD answered me and said: “Write the vision; make it plain on tablets, so that a runner may read it. For there is still a vision for the appointed time; it speaks of the end, and does not lie. If it seems to tarry, wait for it; it will surely come, it will not delay. Look at the proud! Their spirit is not right in them, but the righteous live by their faith.”

SUNG PSALM 37:1-10

- <sup>1</sup> Do not fret yourself because of evildoers; \*  
do not be jealous of those who do wrong.
- <sup>2</sup> For they shall soon wither like the grass, \*  
and like the green grass fade away.
- <sup>3</sup> Put your trust in the Lord and do **good**;  
dwell in the land and feed on its **riches**.
- <sup>4</sup> Take delight in the **Lord**,  
and he shall give you your heart’s **desire**.
- <sup>5</sup> Commit your way to the Lord and put your trust **in him**,  
and he will bring it to **pass**.
- <sup>6</sup> He will make your righteousness as clear as the **light**  
and your just dealing as the **noontday**.
- <sup>7</sup> Be still before the **Lord**  
and wait patiently for **him**.
- <sup>8</sup> Do not fret yourself over the one who **prosper**s,  
the one who succeeds in evil **schemes**.

<sup>9</sup> Refrain from anger, leave rage **alone**;  
do not fret yourself; it leads only to **evil**.

<sup>10</sup> For evildoers shall be **cut off**,  
but those who wait upon the Lord shall possess the **land**.

SECOND READING: 2 TIMOTHY 1:1-14

Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, for the sake of the promise of life that is in Christ Jesus, To Timothy, my beloved child: Grace, mercy, an peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord. I am grateful to God - whom I worship with a clear conscience, as my ancestors did - when I remember you constantly in my prayers night and day. Recalling your tears, I long to see you so that I may be filled with you. I am reminded of your sincere faith, a faith that lived first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice and now, I am sure, lives in you. For this reason I remind you to rekindle the gift of God that is within you through the laying on of my hands; for God did not give us a spirit of cowardice, but rather a spirit of power and of love and of self-discipline. Do not be ashamed, then, of the testimony about our Lord or of me his prisoner, but join with me in suffering for the gospel, relying on the power of God, who saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works but according to his own purpose and grace. This grace was given to us in Christ Jesus before the ages began, but it has now been revealed through the appearing of our Savior Christ Jesus, who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel. For this gospel I was appointed a herald and an apostle and a teacher, and for this reason I suffer as I do. But I am not ashamed, for I know the one in whom I have put my trust, and I am sure that he is able to guard until that day what I have entrusted to him. Hold to the standard of sound teaching that you have heard from me, in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. Guard the good treasure entrusted to you, with the help of the Holy Spirit living in us.

GOSPEL: LUKE 17:5-10

The apostles said to the Lord, "Increase our faith!" The Lord replied, "If you had faith the size of a mustard seed, you could say to this mulberry tree, 'Be uprooted and planted in the sea,' and it would obey you. Who among you would say to your slave who has just come in from plowing or tending sheep in the field, 'Come here at once and take your place at the table'? Would you not rather say to him, 'Prepare supper for me, put on your apron and serve me while I eat and drink; later you may eat and drink'? Do you thank the slave for doing what was commanded? So you also, when you have done all that you were ordered to do, say, 'We are worthless slaves; we have done only what we ought to have done!'"



## 20 Pentecost

October 14, 2007 - Proper 23



FIRST READING: JEREMIAH 29:1, 4-7

These are the words of the letter that the prophet Jeremiah sent from Jerusalem to the remaining elders among the exiles, and to the priests, the prophets, and all the people, whom Nebuchadnezzar had taken into exile from Jerusalem to Babylon. Thus says the Lord of hosts, the God of Israel, to all the exiles whom I have sent into exile from Jerusalem to Babylon: Build houses and live in them; plant gardens and eat what they produce. Take wives and have sons and daughters; take wives for your sons, and give your daughters in marriage, that they may bear sons and daughters; multiply there, and do not decrease. But seek the welfare of the city where I have sent you into exile, and pray to the Lord on its behalf, for in its welfare you will find your welfare.

SUNG PSALM 66:1-11

- <sup>1</sup> Be joyful in God, all you lands; \*  
sing the glory of his Name; sing the glory of his praise.
- <sup>2</sup> Say to God, “ How awesome are your deeds! \*  
because of your great strength your enemies cringe before you.
- <sup>3</sup> All the earth bows down before you, \*  
sings to you, sings out your Name.”
- <sup>4</sup> Come now and see the works of God, \*  
how wonderful he is in his doing toward all people.
- <sup>5</sup> He turned the sea into dry land,  
so that they went through the water on foot, \*  
and there we rejoiced in him.
- <sup>6</sup> In his might he rules for ever; his eyes keep watch over the nations; \*  
let no rebel rise up against him.
- <sup>7</sup> Bless our God, you peoples; \*  
make the voice of his praise to be heard;
- <sup>8</sup> Who holds our souls in life, \*  
and will not allow our feet to slip.

- <sup>9</sup> For you, O God, have proved us; \*  
    you have tried us just as silver is tried.
- <sup>10</sup> You brought us into the snare; \*  
    you laid heavy burdens upon our backs.
- <sup>11</sup> You let enemies ride over our heads; we went through fire and water; \*  
    but you brought us out into a place of refreshment.

SECOND READING: 2 TIMOTHY 2:8-15

Remember Jesus Christ, raised from the dead, a descendant of David—that is my gospel, for which I suffer hardship, even to the point of being chained like a criminal. But the word of God is not chained. Therefore I endure everything for the sake of the elect, so that they may also obtain the salvation that is in Christ Jesus, with eternal glory. The saying is sure: If we have died with him, we will also live with him; if we endure, we will also reign with him; if we deny him, he will also deny us; if we are faithless, he remains faithful—for he cannot deny himself. Remind them of this, and warn them before God that they are to avoid wrangling over words, which does no good but only ruins those who are listening. Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved by him, a worker who has no need to be ashamed, rightly explaining the word of truth.

GOSPEL: LUKE 17:11-19

On the way to Jerusalem Jesus was going through the region between Samaria and Galilee. As he entered a village, ten lepers approached him. Keeping their distance, they called out, saying, “Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!” When he saw them, he said to them, “Go and show yourselves to the priests.” And as they went, they were made clean. Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice. He prostrated himself at Jesus’ feet and thanked him. And he was a Samaritan. Then Jesus asked, “Were not ten made clean? But the other nine, where are they? Was none of them found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?” Then he said to him, “Get up and go on your way; your faith has made you well.”



## 21 Pentecost

October 21, 2007 - Proper 24



FIRST READING: JEREMIAH 31:27-32

The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will sow the house of Israel and the house of Judah with the seed of humans and the seed of animals. And just as I have watched over them to pluck up and break down, to overthrow, destroy, and bring evil, so I will watch over them to build and to plant, says the Lord. In those days they shall no longer say: “The parents have eaten sour grapes, and the children’s teeth are set on edge.” But all shall die for their own sins; the teeth of everyone who eats sour grapes shall be set on edge. The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the Lord. But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, “Know the Lord,” for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the Lord; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

SUNG PSALM 119:97-104

- <sup>97</sup> Oh, how I love your law! \*  
all the day long it is in my mind.
- <sup>98</sup> Your commandment has made me wiser than my enemies, \*  
and it is always with me.
- <sup>99</sup> I have more understanding than all my teachers, \*  
for your decrees are my study.
- <sup>100</sup> I am wiser than the elders, \*  
because I observe your commandments.
- <sup>101</sup> I restrain my feet from every evil way, \*  
that I may keep your word.

- <sup>102</sup> I do not shrink from your judgments, \*  
because you yourself have taught me.
- <sup>103</sup> How sweet are your words to my taste! \*  
they are sweeter than honey to my mouth.
- <sup>104</sup> Through your commandments I gain understanding; \*  
therefore I hate every lying way.

SECOND READING: 2 TIMOTHY 3:14 -- 4:5

As for you, continue in what you have learned and firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it, and how from childhood you have known the sacred writings that are able to instruct you for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. All scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, so that everyone who belongs to God may be proficient, equipped for every good work. In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and in view of his appearing and his kingdom, I solemnly urge you: proclaim the message; be persistent whether the time is favorable or unfavorable; convince, rebuke, and encourage, with the utmost patience in teaching. For the time is coming when people will not put up with sound doctrine, but having itching ears, they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own desires, and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander away to myths. As for you, always be sober, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, carry out your ministry fully.

GOSPEL: LUKE 18:1-8

Then Jesus told them a parable about their need to pray always and not to lose heart. He said, "In a certain city there was a judge who neither feared God nor had respect for people. In that city there was a widow who kept coming to him and saying, 'Grant me justice against my opponent.' For a while he refused; but later he said to himself, 'Though I have no fear of God and no respect for anyone, yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will grant her justice, so that she may not wear me out by continually coming.'"

And the Lord said, "Listen to what the unjust judge says. And will not God grant justice to his chosen ones who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long in helping them? I tell you, he will quickly grant justice to them. And yet, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?"



## 22 Pentecost

October 28, 2007 - Proper 25



### FIRST READING: JOEL 2:23-32

O children of Zion, be glad and rejoice in the Lord your God; for he has given the early rain for your vindication, he has poured down for you abundant rain, the early and the later rain, as before. The threshing floors shall be full of grain, the vats shall overflow with wine and oil. I will repay you for the years that the swarming locust has eaten, the hopper, the destroyer, and the cutter, my great army, which I sent against you. You shall eat in plenty and be satisfied, and praise the name of the Lord your God, who has dealt wondrously with you. And my people shall never again be put to shame. You shall know that I am in the midst of Israel, and that I, the Lord, am your God and there is no other. And my people shall never again be put to shame. Then afterward I will pour out my spirit on all flesh; your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, and your young men shall see visions. Even on the male and female slaves, in those days, I will pour out my spirit. I will show portents in the heavens and on the earth, blood and fire and columns of smoke. The sun shall be turned to darkness, and the moon to blood, before the great and terrible day of the Lord comes. Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved; for in Mount Zion and in Jerusalem there shall be those who escape, as the Lord has said, and among the survivors shall be those whom the Lord calls.

### SUNG PSALM 65

- <sup>1</sup> You are to be praised, O God, in Zion; \*  
to you shall vows be performed in Jerusalem.
- <sup>2</sup> To you that hear prayer shall all flesh come, \*  
because of their transgressions.
- <sup>3</sup> Our sins are stronger than we are, \*  
but you will blot them out.
- <sup>4</sup> Happy are they whom you choose  
and draw to your courts to dwell there! \*  
they will be satisfied by the beauty of your house,  
by the holiness of your temple.
- <sup>5</sup> Awesome things will you show us in your righteousness,  
O God of our salvation, \*  
O Hope of all the ends of the earth  
and of the seas that are far away.
- <sup>6</sup> You make fast the mountains by your power; \*  
they are girded about with might.

- <sup>7</sup> You still the roaring of the seas, \*  
the roaring of their waves, and the clamor of the peoples.
- <sup>8</sup> Those who dwell at the ends of the earth will tremble at your  
marvelous signs; \*  
you make the dawn and the dusk to sing for joy.
- <sup>9</sup> You visit the earth and water it abundantly; you make it very  
plenteous; \*  
the river of God is full of water.
- <sup>10</sup> You prepare the grain, \*  
for so you provide for the earth.
- <sup>11</sup> I You drench the furrows and smooth out the ridges; \*  
with heavy rain you soften the ground and bless its increase.
- <sup>12</sup> You crown the year with your goodness, \*  
and your paths overflow with plenty.
- <sup>13</sup> May the fields of the wilderness be rich for grazing, \*  
and the hills be clothed with joy.
- <sup>14</sup> May the meadows cover themselves with flocks,  
and the valleys cloak themselves with grain; \*

SECOND READING: 2 TIMOTHY 4:6-8, 16-18

As for me, I am already being poured out as a libation, and the time of my departure has come. I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. From now on there is reserved for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will give me on that day, and not only to me but also to all who have longed for his appearing. At my first defense no one came to my support, but all deserted me. May it not be counted against them! But the Lord stood by me and gave me strength, so that through me the message might be fully proclaimed and all the Gentiles might hear it. So I was rescued from the lion's mouth. The Lord will rescue me from every evil attack and save me for his heavenly kingdom. To him be the glory forever and ever. Amen.

GOSPEL: LUKE 18:9-14

Jesus told his parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous and regarded others with contempt: "Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee, standing by himself, was praying thus, 'God, I thank you that I am not like other people: thieves, rogues, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week; I give a tenth of all my income.' But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even look up to heaven, but was beating his breast and saying, 'God, be merciful to me, a sinner!' I tell you, this man went down to his home justified rather than the other; for all who exalt themselves will be humbled, but all who humble themselves will be exalted."