

# Sunday

4 October 2020

Seventeenth Sunday after Trinity

## COLLECT

Almighty God,  
you have made us for yourself,  
and our hearts are restless till they find  
their rest in you:  
pour your love into our hearts and draw  
us to yourself,  
and so bring us at last to your heavenly  
city  
where we shall see you face to face;  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

## FIRST READING Isaiah 5:1-7

*A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.*

Let me sing for my beloved my love-song  
concerning his vineyard: My beloved had  
a vineyard on a very fertile hill. He dug  
it and cleared it of stones, and planted  
it with choice vines; he built a watch-  
tower in the midst of it, and hewed out  
a wine vat in it; he expected it to yield  
grapes, but it yielded wild grapes. And  
now, inhabitants of Jerusalem and people  
of Judah, judge between me and my  
vineyard. What more was there to do for  
my vineyard that I have not done in it?  
When I expected it to yield grapes, why  
did it yield wild grapes? And now I will  
tell you what I will do to my vineyard.  
I will remove its hedge, and it shall be  
devoured; I will break down its wall, and  
it shall be trampled down. I will make it  
a waste; it shall not be pruned or hoed,  
and it shall be overgrown with briars and  
thorns; I will also command the clouds  
that they rain no rain upon it. For the  
vineyard of the Lord of hosts is the house  
of Israel, and the people of Judah are his  
pleasant planting: he expected justice, but  
saw bloodshed; righteousness, but heard  
a cry!

## PSALM Psalm 80:9-17

**R** Turn us again, O God;  
show the light of your countenance,  
and we shall be saved.

You brought a vine out of Egypt;  
you drove out the nations and planted it.  
You made room around it,  
and when it had taken root, it filled the  
land. **R**

The hills were covered with its shadow  
and the cedars of God by its boughs.  
It stretched out its branches to the Sea  
and its tendrils to the River. **R**

Why then have you broken down its wall,  
so that all who pass by pluck off its  
grapes?

The wild boar out of the wood tears it off,  
and all the insects of the field devour it. **R**

Turn again, O God of hosts,  
look down from heaven and behold;  
Cherish this vine which your right hand has  
planted,  
and the branch that you made so strong  
for yourself.

Let those who burnt it with fire, who cut it  
down,  
perish at the rebuke of your countenance. **R**

## SECOND READING

**Philippians 3:4b-14**

*A reading from the letter of Paul to the Philippians.*

If anyone else has reason to be confident  
in the flesh, I have more: circumcised on  
the eighth day, a member of the people  
of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a  
Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law,  
a Pharisee; as to zeal, a persecutor of  
the church; as to righteousness under  
the law, blameless. Yet whatever gains  
I had, these I have come to regard as  
loss because of Christ. More than that, I  
regard everything as loss because of the  
surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus  
my Lord. For his sake I have suffered  
the loss of all things, and I regard them  
as rubbish, in order that I may gain  
Christ and be found in him, not having  
a righteousness of my own that comes  
from the law, but one that comes through  
faith in Christ, the righteousness from  
God based on faith. I want to know Christ  
and the power of his resurrection and the  
sharing of his sufferings by becoming like  
him in his death, if somehow I may attain  
the resurrection from the dead. Not that I  
have already obtained this or have already  
reached the goal; but I press on to make  
it my own, because Christ Jesus has made  
me his own. Beloved, I do not consider  
that I have made it my own; but this one  
thing I do: forgetting what lies behind  
and straining forward to what lies ahead, I  
press on towards the goal for the prize of  
the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

## GOSPEL Matthew 21:33-end

*Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.*

Jesus said to the chief priests and the  
elders of the people: "Listen to another  
parable. There was a landowner who  
planted a vineyard, put a fence around  
it, dug a wine press in it, and built a  
watch-tower. Then he leased it to tenants  
and went to another country. When the  
harvest time had come, he sent his slaves  
to the tenants to collect his produce. But  
the tenants seized his slaves and beat  
one, killed another, and stoned another.  
Again he sent other slaves, more than  
the first; and they treated them in the  
same way. Finally he sent his son to them,  
saying, 'They will respect my son.' But  
when the tenants saw the son, they said  
to themselves, 'This is the heir; come,  
let us kill him and get his inheritance.'  
So they seized him, threw him out of the  
vineyard, and killed him. Now when the  
owner of the vineyard comes, what will he  
do to those tenants?" They said to him,  
"He will put those wretches to a miserable  
death, and lease the vineyard to other  
tenants who will give him the produce  
at the harvest time." Jesus said to them,  
"Have you never read in the scriptures:  
'The stone that the builders rejected has  
become the cornerstone; this was the  
Lord's doing, and it is amazing in our  
eyes'? Therefore I tell you, the kingdom  
of God will be taken away from you and  
given to a people that produces the fruits  
of the kingdom. The one who falls on this  
stone will be broken to pieces; and it will  
crush anyone on whom it falls." When  
the chief priests and the Pharisees heard  
his parables, they realized that he was  
speaking about them. They wanted to  
arrest him, but they feared the crowds,  
because they regarded him as a prophet.

## POST COMMUNION

Lord, we pray that your grace  
may always precede and follow us,  
and make us continually to be given to all  
good works;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

