

06 September 2020

Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity

The Collect

Almighty God,
who called your Church to bear witness that you were in
Christ reconciling the world to yourself: help us to
proclaim the good news of your love, that all who hear it
may be drawn to you; through him who was lifted up on
the cross, and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy
Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

First Reading

Ezekiel 33.7-11

The word of the Lord came to me: So you, mortal, I have made a sentinel for the house of Israel; whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me. If I say to the wicked, 'O wicked ones, you shall surely die,' and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but their blood I will require at your hand. But if you warn the wicked to turn from their ways, and they do not turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but you will have saved your life.

Now you, mortal, say to the house of Israel, Thus you have said: 'Our transgressions and our sins weigh upon us, and we waste away because of them; how then can we live?' Say to them, As I live, says the Lord GOD, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from their ways and live; turn back, turn back

from your evil ways; for why will you die, O house of Israel?

Psalm 119.33-40

Refrain: My delight shall be in your commandments.

Teach me, O Lord, the way of your statutes ♦
and I shall keep it to the end.

Give me understanding and I shall keep your law; ♦
I shall keep it with my whole heart.

Lead me in the path of your commandments, ♦
for therein is my delight.

Incline my heart to your testimonies ♦
and not to unjust gain. **R**

Turn away my eyes lest they gaze on vanities; ♦
O give me life in your ways.

Confirm to your servant your promise, ♦
which stands for all who fear you.

Turn away the reproach which I dread, ♦
because your judgements are good.

Behold, I long for your commandments; ♦
in your righteousness give me life. **R**

Second Reading

Romans 13.8-14

Owe no one anything, except to love one another; for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. The commandments, 'You shall not commit adultery; You shall not murder; You shall not steal; You shall not covet'; and any other commandment, are summed up in this

word, 'Love your neighbour as yourself.' Love does no wrong to a neighbour; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law.

Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armour of light; let us live honourably as in the day, not in revelling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarrelling and jealousy. Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

Gospel

Matthew 18.15-20

Jesus spoke to his disciples. 'If another member of the church sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If the member listens to you, you have regained that one. But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. If the member refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a Gentile and a tax-collector. Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.'

Post communion

God our creator,
you feed your children with the true manna,
the living bread from heaven:
let this holy food sustain us through our earthly
pilgrimage until we come to that place
 where hunger and thirst are no more;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.