

**NINETEENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY
(18.10.2020)**

GREETING

Grace, mercy and peace from God our Father
and the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

and also with you.

Hold out your hands, God of grace, and receive all that we offer.
Take our lives, our love and all that we bring in faith today,
and use us and our gifts for the well-being of the world.

Amen.

WELCOME

CONFESSION

God, who does not turn away from the truth about our life,
even unto death,

we confess that we have far less courage.

We often pretend to ourselves,

we often pretend to others,

and sometimes we even try to pretend in your presence.

If we are afraid to see who we have become,

if we are too grieved about our lives to ask for forgiveness,

or if we are too proud to ask others for forgiveness:

Stand before us in the truth of your costly grace.

When our lives celebrate comfort and complacency
instead of the journey of faith,

when we close off the reality of the lives of others

because it demands a response we will not give:

Speak before us in the truth of your costly grace, Jesus Christ.

Speak into our hearts in new ways,

the ways of your faithfulness to us, O God.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Even as we pray,
the life of Jesus
moves towards all that would destroy us,
healing, loving and bringing grace.
We are forgiven!
Thanks be to God.

COLLECT

Faithful Lord,
whose steadfast love never ceases
and whose mercies never come to an end:
grant us the grace to trust you
and to receive the gifts of your love,
new every morning,
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

READINGS

Exodus 33: 12-23

Moses said to the Lord, 'See, you have said to me, "Bring up this people"; but you have not let me know whom you will send with me. Yet you have said, "I know you by name, and you have also found favour in my sight." Now if I have found favour in your sight, show me your ways, so that I may know you and find favour in your sight. Consider too that this nation is your people.' He said, 'My presence will go with you, and I will give you rest.' And he said to him, 'If your presence will not go, do not carry us up from here. For how shall it be known that I have found favour in your sight, I and your people, unless you go with us? In this way, we shall be distinct, I and your people, from every people on the face of the earth.'

The Lord said to Moses, 'I will do the very thing that you have asked; for you have found favour in my sight, and I know you by name.' Moses said, 'Show me your glory, I pray.' And he said, 'I will make all my goodness pass before you, and will proclaim before you the name, "The Lord"; and I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and will show mercy on whom I will show mercy. But', he said, 'you cannot see my face; for no one shall see me and

live.’ And the Lord continued, ‘See, there is a place by me where you shall stand on the rock; and while my glory passes by I will put you in a cleft of the rock, and I will cover you with my hand until I have passed by; then I will take away my hand, and you shall see my back; but my face shall not be seen.’

Matthew 22: 15-22

Then the Pharisees went and plotted to entrap him in what he said. So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, ‘Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one; for you do not regard people with partiality. Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to the emperor, or not?’ But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, ‘Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? Show me the coin used for the tax.’ And they brought him a denarius. Then he said to them, ‘Whose head is this, and whose title?’ They answered, ‘The emperor’s.’ Then he said to them, ‘Give therefore to the emperor the things that are the emperor’s, and to God the things that are God’s.’ When they heard this, they were amazed; and they left him and went away.

REFLECTION

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Let us affirm our faith together:

**We believe in God the Father,
from whom every family
in heaven and on earth is named.**

**We believe in God the Son,
who lives in our hearts through faith,
and fills us with his love.**

**We believe in God the Holy Spirit,
who strengthens us
with power from on high.**

**We believe in one God;
Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Silence

God of all, we pray for those who have too little money:
for those who are hungry, those denied healthcare,
those unable to provide for their families, those in debt.

**May they be enriched and enabled
and may they know your love.**

We pray for those for whom too much money
brings loneliness, apathy and a sense of superiority.

**May they be cherished and challenged
and may they know your love.**

We pray for those who worship money,
for those tempted to steal or to deceive.

**May they be transformed and trusted
and may they know your love.**

We pray for those reluctant to share their money,
for those who avoid paying taxes,
for those tempted not to declare their earnings.

**May they be mindful and ministered to
and may they know your love.**

We pray for our churches, and for ourselves,
that we may live, give and share in your name
and to your glory.

Amen.

THE PEACE

Let love be genuine. Never pay back evil for evil.
As far as it lies with you, live at peace with everyone.

Romans 12.9,17,18

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

As our Saviour taught his disciples, so we pray:

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come;
thy will be done;
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
the power and the glory,
for ever and ever.
Amen.**

BLESSING

May the peace of the Lord Christ go with you,
wherever he may send you.
May he guide you through the wilderness,
protect you through the storm.
May he bring you home rejoicing
at the wonders he has shown you.
May he bring you home rejoicing
once again into our doors. **Amen.**

In the name of the Father,
and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

NOTICES

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