

Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

6th September 2020

THE COLLECT

Almighty and eternal God,
make us grow in faith, hope and charity:
and that we may be worthy of your promises,
cause us to love what you command;
through Jesus Christ, our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, world without end.

Amen.

FIRST READING

Ezekiel 33.7-11

The word of the Lord came to me: ⁷So 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. ⁸If 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. ⁹But 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.

¹⁰Now 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?' ¹¹Say 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?

At the end the reader may say

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church
All Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Psalms 119.33-40

Refrain: My delight shall be in your commandments.

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

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

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

36 Incline my heart to your testimonies
and not to unjust gain.

R: My delight shall be in your commandments.

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

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

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

40 Behold, I long for your commandments;
in your righteousness give me life.

R: My delight shall be in your commandments.

SECOND READING

Romans 13.8-14

⁸Owe no one anything, except to love one another; for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. ⁹The 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.' ¹⁰Love does no wrong to a neighbour; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law.

¹¹Besides 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; ¹²the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armour of light; ¹³let us live honourably as in the day, not in revelling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarrelling and jealousy. ¹⁴Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

At the end the reader may say

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church
All Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 18.15-20

Jesus spoke to his disciples. ¹⁵'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. ¹⁶But 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. ¹⁷If 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. ¹⁸Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. ¹⁹Again, 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. ²⁰For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.'