



12 Pentecost

Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost: Proper 17

COLLECT

LORD OF ALL POWER AND MIGHT, the author and giver of all good things: Graft in our hearts the love of your Name; increase in us true religion; nourish us with all goodness; and bring forth in us the fruit of good works; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.
Amen.

FIRST READING : Ecclesiasticus 10:7-18

ARROGANCE IS HATEFUL before the LORD and before people, and injustice is out of tune to both. Sovereignty passes from nation to nation on account of injustice and insolence and wealth. Why would dust and ash act arrogantly? For even in life his bowels decay. A long illness baffles the physician; the king of today will die tomorrow. For when a man is dead, he will inherit creeping things and wild beasts and worms. The beginning of a person's pride is to depart from the LORD; his heart has forsaken his Maker. For the beginning of pride is sin, and the man who clings to it will pour out abominations. Therefore the LORD brought upon them extraordinary afflictions and destroyed them utterly. The LORD has cast down the thrones of rulers, and has seated the lowly in their place. The LORD has plucked up the roots of the nations and has planted the humble in their place. The LORD has overthrown the lands of the nations and has destroyed them to the foundations of the earth. He has removed some of them and destroyed them and has extinguished the memory of them from the earth. Pride was not created for human beings, nor fierce anger for those born of women.

Refrain

Happy are they who fear the Lord.

Psalm 112

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| 1 | Hallelujah! Happy are they who fear the LORD * and have great delight in his commandments! | 6 | For they will never be shaken; * the righteous will be kept in everlasting remembrance. |
| 2 | Their descendants will be mighty in the land; * the generation of the upright will be blessed. | 7 | They will not be afraid of any evil rumors; * their heart is right; they put their trust in the LORD. |
| 3 | Wealth and riches will be in their house, * and their righteousness will last for ever. | 8 | Their heart is established and will not shrink, * until they see their desire upon their enemies. |
| 4 | Light shines in the darkness for the upright; * the righteous are merciful and full of compassion. | 9 | They have given freely to the poor, * and their righteousness stands fast for ever; they will hold up their head with honor. |
| 5 | It is good for them to be generous in lending * and to manage their affairs with justice. | 10 | The wicked will see it and be angry; they will gnash their teeth and pine away; * the desires of the wicked will perish. |

SECOND READING : Hebrews 13:1-8

LET BROTHERLY LOVE continue. Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for thereby some have entertained angels unawares. Remember those who are in prison, as though in prison with them, and those who are mistreated, since you also are in the body. Let marriage be held in honor among all, and let the marriage bed be undefiled, for God will judge the sexually immoral and adulterous. Keep your life free from love of money, and be content with what you have, for he has said, "I will never leave you nor forsake you." So we can confidently say, "The Lord is my helper; I will not fear; what can man do to me?" Remember your leaders, those who spoke to you the word of God. Consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith. Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.

GOSPEL : Luke 14:1, 7-14

ONE SABBATH, when Jesus went to dine at the house of a ruler of the Pharisees, they were watching him carefully. Now Jesus told a parable to those who were invited, when he noticed how they chose the places of honor, saying to them, "When you are invited by someone to a wedding feast, do not sit down in a place of honor, lest someone more distinguished than you be invited by him, and he who invited you both will come and say to you, 'Give your place to this person,' and then you will begin with shame to take the lowest place. But when you are invited, go and sit in the lowest place, so that when your host comes he may say to you, 'Friend, move up higher.' Then you will be honored in the presence of all who sit at table with you. For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted." He said also to the man who had invited him, "When you give a dinner or a banquet, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or rich neighbors, lest they also invite you in return and you be repaid. But when you give a feast, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind, and you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you. For you will be repaid at the resurrection of the just."