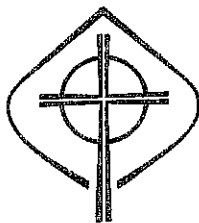


FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



We are called to deny ourselves and to follow God. Only then will we experience God's deliverance. Only then will we gain a true measure of our worth. Only then will we see the cross.

Introit

XI C: Ionian



I love the house where you live,
O Lord,*
the place where your glory dwells.

Vindicate me, O Lord,*
for I have led a blameless life;
I have trusted in the Lord*
without wavering.

Test me, O Lord, and try me,*
examine my heart and my mind.
I wash my hands in innocence,*
and go about your altar, O Lord,
proclaiming aloud your praise,*

and telling of all your wonderful
deeds.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son*
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning,*
is now, and will be forever. Amen

I love the house where you live,
O Lord,*
the place where your glory dwells.

*(Antiphon, Ps. 26:8;
Ps. 26:1-2, 6-7)*

Collect of the Day

Lord of all power and might, 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, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Gradual

Oh, the depth of the riches of the wisdom and knowledge of God!*
How unsearchable his judgments, and his paths beyond tracing out!
For from him and through him and to him are all things.*
To him be the glory forever! Amen *(Rom. 11:33, 36)*

For Daily Devotions

September 21: Ps. 105; Jer. 1-3; 22: Ps. 106; Jer. 4-6; 23: Ps. 107; Jer. 7-9; 24: Ps. 108; Jer. 10-12; 25: Ps. 109; Jer. 13-15; 26: Ps. 110; Jer. 16-18; 27: Ps. 111; Jer. 19-22.

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Jeremiah 15:15–21

You understand, O LORD;
remember me and care for me.
Avenge me on my persecutors.
You are long-suffering—do not take
me away;
think of how I suffer reproach for
your sake.
When your words came, I ate them;
they were my joy and my heart's
delight,

for I bear your name,
O LORD God Almighty.

I never sat in the company of revelers;
never made merry with them;
I sat alone because your hand was on
me
and you had filled me with indigna-
tion.

Why is my pain unending
and my wound grievous and
incurable?

Will you be to me like a deceptive
brook,
like a spring that fails?

Therefore this is what the LORD says:

"If you repent, I will restore you
that you may serve me;
if you utter worthy, not worthless,
words,
you will be my spokesman.

Let this people turn to you,
but you must not turn to them.

I will make you a wall to this people,
a fortified wall of bronze;
they will fight against you
but will not overcome you,
for I am with you
to rescue and save you,"

declares the LORD.

"I will save you from the hands of the
wicked
and redeem you from the grasp of
the cruel."

Romans 12:1–8

Therefore, I urge you, brothers, in view
of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as
living sacrifices, holy and pleasing to
God—this is your spiritual act of worship.

Do not conform any longer to the pattern
of this world, but be transformed by the
renewing of your mind. Then you will be
able to test and approve what God's will
is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.

For by the grace given me I say to every
one of you: Do not think of yourself more
highly than you ought, but rather think of
yourself with sober judgment, in accord-
ance with the measure of faith God has
given you. Just as each of us has one body
with many members, and these members
do not all have the same function, so in
Christ we who are many form one body,
and each member belongs to all the oth-
ers. We have different gifts, according
to the grace given us. If a man's gift is
prophesying, let him use it in propor-
tion to his faith. If it is serving, let him
serve; if it is teaching, let him teach; if it
is encouraging, let him encourage; if it is
contributing to the needs of others, let him
give generously; if it is leadership, let him
govern diligently; if it is showing mercy,
let him do it cheerfully.

Matthew 16:21–26

From that time on Jesus began to
explain to his disciples that he must go
to Jerusalem and suffer many things at
the hands of the elders, chief priests and
teachers of the law, and that he must be
killed and on the third day be raised to
life.

Peter took him aside and began to
rebuke him. "Never, Lord!" he said. "This
shall never happen to you!"

Jesus turned and said to Peter, "Get
behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling
block to me; you do not have in mind the
things of God, but the things of men."

Then Jesus said to his disciples, "If
anyone would come after me, he must
deny himself and take up his cross and
follow me. For whoever wants to save his
life will lose it, but whoever loses his life
for me will find it. What good will it be
for a man if he gains the whole world, yet
forfeits his soul? Or what can a man give
in exchange for his soul?"