

21<sup>st</sup> Sunday after Pentecost Order of Svc, Readings and Prayer

**Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost  
October 22, 2023**

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<b>Children’s Church</b>	

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***\*The Congregation will stand in reverence.***



# Today's Readings

Sunday, October 22, 2023  
21st Sunday after Pentecost

## Prayer of the Day

Sovereign God, raise your throne in our hearts. Created by you, let us live in your image; created for you, let us act for your glory; redeemed by you, let us give you what is yours, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

## First Reading

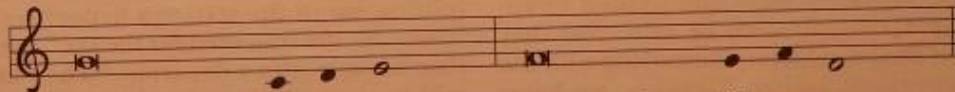
Isaiah 45:1-7

Thus says the LORD to his anointed,  
to Cyrus,  
whose right hand I have grasped  
to subdue nations before him  
and strip kings of their robes,  
to open doors before him—  
and the gates shall not be closed:  
<sup>2</sup>I will go before you  
and level the mountains,  
I will break in pieces the doors of bronze  
and cut through the bars of iron,  
<sup>3</sup>I will give you the treasures of darkness  
and riches hidden in secret places,  
so that you may know that it is I, the  
LORD,  
the God of Israel, who call you by your  
name.

<sup>4</sup>For the sake of my servant Jacob,  
and Israel my chosen,  
I call you by your name,  
I surname you, though you do not  
know me.  
<sup>5</sup>I am the LORD, and there is no other;  
besides me there is no god.  
I arm you, though you do not know  
me,  
<sup>6</sup>so that they may know, from the rising  
of the sun  
and from the west, that there is no one  
besides me;  
I am the LORD, and there is no other.  
<sup>7</sup>I form light and create darkness,  
I make weal and create woe;  
I the LORD do all these things.

## Psalm

Psalm 96:1-9 [10-13]; tone 10



Sing to the LORD <sup>1</sup>a new song;  
sing to the LORD, <sup>1</sup>all the earth.  
<sup>2</sup>Sing to the LORD,  
bless the name <sup>1</sup>of the LORD;  
proclaim God's salvation  
from <sup>1</sup>day to day.  
<sup>3</sup>Declare God's glory a-<sup>1</sup>mong the nations  
and God's wonders a-<sup>1</sup>mong  
all peoples.  
<sup>4</sup>For great is the LORD  
and greatly <sup>1</sup>to be praised,  
more to be feared <sup>1</sup>than all gods.  
<sup>5</sup>As for all the gods of the nations,  
they <sup>1</sup>are but idols;  
but you, O LORD,  
have <sup>1</sup>made the heavens.

<sup>6</sup>Majesty and magnificence  
are <sup>1</sup>in your presence;  
power and splendor  
are in your <sup>1</sup>sanctuary.  
<sup>7</sup>Ascribe to the LORD,  
you families <sup>1</sup>of the peoples,  
ascribe to the LORD  
hon-<sup>1</sup>or and power.  
<sup>8</sup>Ascribe to the LORD  
the honor due the <sup>1</sup>holy name;  
bring offerings  
and enter the courts <sup>1</sup>of the LORD.  
<sup>9</sup>Worship the LORD in the beau-<sup>1</sup>ty  
of holiness;  
tremble before the LORD,  
<sup>1</sup>all the earth.

continued

Psalm, continued

<sup>10</sup>Tell it out among the nations:  
“The <sup>1</sup>LORD is king!

The one who made the world so firm  
that it cannot be moved  
will judge the peo- <sup>1</sup>ples with equity.”

<sup>11</sup>Let the heavens rejoice,  
and let the <sup>1</sup>earth be glad;

let the sea thunder and all that is in it;  
let the field be joyful  
and all that <sup>1</sup>is therein.

<sup>12</sup>Then shall all the trees of the wood  
shout for joy at your com- <sup>1</sup>ing, O LORD,  
for you come to <sup>1</sup>judge the earth.

<sup>13</sup>You will judge the <sup>1</sup>world  
with righteousness  
and the peoples <sup>1</sup>with your truth.]

## Second Reading

## 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy,  
To the church of the Thessalonians in  
God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ:  
Grace to you and peace.

<sup>2</sup>We always give thanks to God for all of  
you and mention you in our prayers, con-  
stantly <sup>3</sup>remembering before our God  
and Father your work of faith and labor  
of love and steadfastness of hope in our  
Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>4</sup>For we know, brothers  
and sisters beloved by God, that he  
has chosen you, <sup>5</sup>because our message  
of the gospel came to you not in word  
only, but also in power and in the Holy  
Spirit and with full conviction; just as you  
know what kind of persons we proved to  
be among you for your sake. <sup>6</sup>And you

became imitators of us and of the Lord,  
for in spite of persecution you received  
the word with joy inspired by the Holy  
Spirit, <sup>7</sup>so that you became an example  
to all the believers in Macedonia and  
in Achaia. <sup>8</sup>For the word of the Lord  
has sounded forth from you not only  
in Macedonia and Achaia, but in every  
place your faith in God has become  
known, so that we have no need to speak  
about it. <sup>9</sup>For the people of those regions  
report about us what kind of welcome  
we had among you, and how you turned  
to God from idols, to serve a living and  
true God, <sup>10</sup>and to wait for his Son from  
heaven, whom he raised from the dead—  
Jesus, who rescues us from the wrath that  
is coming.

## Gospel

## Matthew 22:15-22

The Pharisees went and plotted to en-  
trap [Jesus] in what he said. <sup>16</sup>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. <sup>17</sup>Tell us,  
then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay  
taxes to the emperor, or not?” <sup>18</sup>But Jesus,  
aware of their malice, said, “Why are you

putting me to the test, you hypocrites?  
<sup>19</sup>Show me the coin used for the tax.” And  
they brought him a denarius. <sup>20</sup>Then he  
said to them, “Whose head is this, and  
whose title?” <sup>21</sup>They answered, “The em-  
peror’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.” <sup>22</sup>When they heard this,  
they were amazed; and they left him and  
went away.

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Next Sunday's Readings: Reformation Sunday Jeremiah 31:31-34; Psalm 46; Romans 3:19-28; John 8:31-36 or Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost Leviticus 19:1-2, 15-18; Psalm 1; 1 Thessalonians 2:1-8; Matthew 22:34-46.

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