



Today's Readings

Sunday, July 31, 2022

8th Sunday after Pentecost

Prayer of the Day

Benevolent God, you are the source, the guide, and the goal of our lives. Teach us to love what is worth loving, to reject what is offensive to you, and to treasure what is precious in your sight, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

First Reading

Ecclesiastes 1:2, 12-14; 2:18-23

Vanity of vanities, says the Teacher,
vanity of vanities! All is vanity.

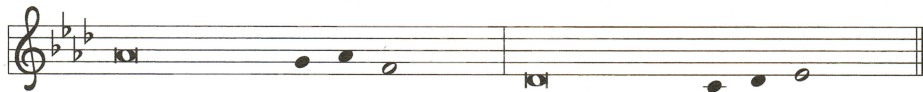
¹²I, the Teacher, when king over Israel in Jerusalem, ¹³applied my mind to seek and to search out by wisdom all that is done under heaven; it is an unhappy business that God has given to human beings to be busy with. ¹⁴I saw all the deeds that are done under the sun; and see, all is vanity and a chasing after wind.

^{2:18}I hated all my toil in which I had toiled under the sun, seeing that I must leave it to those who come after me ¹⁹— and who knows whether they will be wise or foolish? Yet they will be master

of all for which I toiled and used my wisdom under the sun. This also is vanity. ²⁰So I turned and gave my heart up to despair concerning all the toil of my labors under the sun, ²¹because sometimes one who has toiled with wisdom and knowledge and skill must leave all to be enjoyed by another who did not toil for it. This also is vanity and a great evil. ²²What do mortals get from all the toil and strain with which they toil under the sun? ²³For all their days are full of pain, and their work is a vexation; even at night their minds do not rest. This also is vanity.

Psalm

Psalm 49:1-12; tone 3



Hear this, ¹all you peoples;
give ear,
all you who dwell ¹in the world,
²**you of high de- ¹gree and low,
rich and ¹poor together.**
³My mouth shall ¹speak of wisdom,
and my heart
shall meditate on ¹understanding.
⁴**I will incline my ear ¹to a proverb
and set forth my riddle
up- ¹on the harp.**
⁵Why should I be afraid in ¹evil days,
when the wickedness
of those at my ¹heels surrounds me,

⁶**the wickedness of those
who trust in ¹their own prowess,
and boast of ¹their great riches?**
⁷One can never re- ¹deem another,
or give to God the ransom
for an- ¹other's life;
⁸**for the ransom of a life ¹is so great
that there would never be
e- ¹nough to pay it,**
⁹in order to live forev- ¹er and ever
and never ¹see the grave.
¹⁰**For we see that the wise die also;
like the dull and stu- ¹pid they perish
and leave their wealth
to those who come ¹after them.**

continued

¹¹Their graves shall be their homes forever, their dwelling places from generation to ¹ generation, though they had named lands af- ¹ ter themselves.

¹²Even though honored, they cannot ¹ live forever; they are like the ¹ beasts that perish.

Second Reading

Colossians 3:1-11

So if you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. ²Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth, ³for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. ⁴When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory.

⁵Put to death, therefore, whatever in you is earthly: fornication, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed (which is idolatry). ⁶On account of these the wrath of God is coming on those who are disobedient. ⁷These are the ways you

also once followed, when you were living that life. ⁸But now you must get rid of all such things—anger, wrath, malice, slander, and abusive language from your mouth. ⁹Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have stripped off the old self with its practices ¹⁰and have clothed yourselves with the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge according to the image of its creator. ¹¹In that renewal there is no longer Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave and free; but Christ is all and in all!

Gospel

Luke 12:13-21

Someone in the crowd said to [Jesus], “Teacher, tell my brother to divide the family inheritance with me.” ¹⁴But he said to him, “Friend, who set me to be a judge or arbitrator over you?” ¹⁵And he said to them, “Take care! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; for one’s life does not consist in the abundance of possessions.” ¹⁶Then he told them a parable: “The land of a rich man produced abundantly. ¹⁷And he thought to himself, ‘What should I do, for I have no place to store my crops?’

¹⁸Then he said, ‘I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. ¹⁹And I will say to my soul, Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.’ ²⁰But God said to him, ‘You fool! This very night your life is being demanded of you. And the things you have prepared, whose will they be?’ ²¹So it is with those who store up treasures for themselves but are not rich toward God.”

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Next Sunday's Readings: Genesis 15:1-6; Psalm 33:12-22; Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16; Luke 12:32-40.

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