

Readings for 12th July 2020 – Pentecost +6

A reading from Isaiah chapter 55 beginning at verse 10 [55.10-13]

- ¹⁰ For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven,
and do not return there until they have watered the earth,
making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater,
¹¹ so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth;
it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose,
and succeed in the thing for which I sent it.
- ¹² For you shall go out in joy,
and be led back in peace;
the mountains and the hills before you
shall burst into song,
and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.
- ¹³ Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress;
instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle;
and it shall be to the LORD for a memorial,
for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.

Hear the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 65 beginning at verse 1. [65.1-13]

1. You are to be praised, O God, in Zion:
to you shall vows be paid, you that answer prayer.
2. **To you shall all flesh come to confess their sins:
when our misdeeds prevail against us, you will purge them away.**
3. Blessed are those whom you choose and take to yourself to dwell within your courts:
we shall be filled with the good things of your house, of your holy temple.
4. **You will answer us in your righteousness with terrible deeds, O God our saviour:
you that are the hope of all the ends of the earth and of the distant seas;**
5. Who by your strength made fast the mountains: you that are girded with power;
6. **Who stilled the raging seas, the roaring of the waves:
and the tumult of the peoples.**
7. Those who dwell at the ends of the earth are afraid of your wonders:
the dawn and the evening sing your praises.
8. **You tend the earth and water it: you make it rich and fertile.**
9. The river of God is full of water:
and so providing for the earth, you provide grain for us all.
10. **You drench its furrows, you level the ridges between:
you soften it with showers and bless its early growth.**
11. You crown the year with your goodness:
and the tracks where you have passed drip with fatness.
12. **The pastures of the wilderness run over: and the hills are girded with joy.**
13. The meadows are clothed with sheep:
and the valleys stand so thick with corn, they shout for joy and sing.

Glory to God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit:

as in the beginning, so now, and for ever. Amen

A reading from Paul's letter to the Romans chapter 8 beginning at verse 1. [8.1-11]

¹There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus.

²For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death.

³For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do:

by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and to deal with sin, he condemned sin in the flesh,

⁴so that the just requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us,

who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit.

⁵For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh,

but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit.

⁶To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace.

⁷For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God;

it does not submit to God's law—indeed it cannot,

⁸and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

⁹ But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you.

Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him.

¹⁰But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness.

¹¹If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

Hear the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew chapter 13 beginning at verse 1. [13.1-9,18-23]

Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.

¹That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the lake.

²Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach.

³And he told them many things in parables, saying: 'Listen! A sower went out to sow.

⁴And as he sowed, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up.

⁵Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil.

⁶But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and since they had no root, they withered away.

⁷Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them.

⁸Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty.

⁹Let anyone with ears listen!'

¹⁸ 'Hear then the parable of the sower.

¹⁹When anyone hears the word of the kingdom

and does not understand it,

the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart;

this is what was sown on the path.

²⁰As for what was sown on rocky ground,

this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy;

²¹yet such a person has no root, but endures only for a while,

and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away.

²²As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word,

but the cares of the world and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing.

²³But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it,

who indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.