Sunday 13th September 2020

14th Sunday after Trinity

Special Prayer for the day

Almighty God,

whose only Son has opened for us a new and living way into your presence:

give us pure hearts and steadfast wills to worship you in spirit and in truth; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord

who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Amen

First Reading

Psalm 103:1-14

[1] Bless the LORD, O my

soul,

and all that is within

me,

bless his holy name! [2] Bless the LORD, O my

soul,

and forget not all his

benefits,

[3] who forgives all your

iniquity,

who heals all your

diseases,

[4] who redeems your life from the pit,

who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy.

[5] who satisfies you with good

so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.

[6] The LORD works righteousness

and justice for all who

[7] He made known his ways to Moses,

his acts to the people

[8] The LORD is merciful and gracious,

slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

[9] He will not always chide, nor will he keep his

anger forever.

are oppressed.

of Israel.

[10] He does not deal with us according to our sins,

nor repay us according to our iniquities.

[11] For as high as the heavens are above the earth,

so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him;

[12] as far as the east is from the west,

so far does he remove our transgressions from us.

[13] As a father shows compassion to his children,

so the LORD shows compassion to those who fear him.

[14] For he knows our frame; he remembers that we

are dust. (ESV)

Second Reading Romans 14:1–12

[1] As for the one who is weak in faith, welcome him, but not to quarrel over opinions. [2] One person believes he may eat anything, while the weak person eats only vegetables. [3] Let not the one who eats despise the one who abstains, and let not the one who abstains pass judgment on the one who eats, for God has welcomed him. [4] Who are you to pass judgment on the servant of another? It is before his own master that he stands or falls. And he will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make him stand.

[5] One person esteems one day as better than another, while another esteems all days alike. Each one should be fully convinced in his own mind. [6] The one who observes the day, observes it in honour of the Lord. The one who eats, eats in honour of the Lord, since he gives thanks to God, while the one who abstains, abstains in honour of the Lord and gives thanks to God. [7] For none of us lives to himself, and none of us dies to himself. [8] For if we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord. So then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. [9] For to this end Christ died and lived again, that he might be Lord both of the dead and of the living.

[10] Why do you pass judgment on your brother? Or you, why do you despise your brother? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God; [11] for it is written,

"As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me,

and every tongue shall confess to God."

[12] So then each of us will give an account of himself to God. (ESV)

Gospel Reading Matthew 18:21–35

[21] Then Peter came up and said to him, "Lord, how often will my brother sin against me, and I forgive him? As many as seven times?" [22] Jesus said to him, "I do not say to you seven times, but seventy-seven times.

[23] "Therefore the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his servants. [24] When he began to settle, one was brought to him who owed him ten thousand talents. [25] And since he could not pay, his master ordered him to be sold, with his wife and children and all that he had, and payment to be made. [26] So the servant fell on his knees, imploring him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything." [27] And out of pity for him, the master of that servant released him and forgave him the debt. [28] But when that same servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii, and seizing him, he began to choke him, saying, 'Pay what you owe.' [29] So his fellow servant fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' [30] He refused and went and put him in prison until he should pay the debt. [31] When his fellow servants saw what had taken place, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their master all that had taken place. [32] Then his master summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked servant! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. [33] And should not you have had mercy on your fellow servant, as I had mercy on you?' [34] And in anger his master delivered him to the jailers, until he should pay all his debt. [35] So also my heavenly Father will do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother from your heart." (ESV)

Final Prayer

Lord God, the source of truth and love, keep us faithful to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, united in prayer and the breaking of bread, and one in joy and simplicity of heart, in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

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