

Readings, Hymns and Propers for 22nd August 2021, Twelfth Sunday after Trinity

Collect:

Almighty and everlasting God,
you are always more ready to hear than we
to pray and to give more than either we
desire or deserve:
pour down upon us the abundance of your
mercy, forgiving us those things of which
our conscience is afraid
and giving us those good things
which we are not worthy to ask
but through the merits and mediation
of 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

Post Communion:

God of all mercy,
in this eucharist you have set aside our sins
and given us your healing:
grant that we who are made whole in Christ
may bring that healing to this broken world,
in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Reading: A Reading from Paul's letter to the Ephesians

Be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his power. Put on the whole armour of God, so that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For our struggle is not against enemies of blood and flesh, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers of this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. Therefore take up the whole armour of God, so that you may be able to withstand on that evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm. Stand therefore, and fasten the belt of truth around your waist, and put on the breastplate of righteousness. As shoes for your feet put on whatever will make you ready to proclaim the gospel of peace. With all of these, take the shield of faith, with which you will be able to quench all the flaming arrows of the evil one. Take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.

Pray in the Spirit at all times in every prayer and supplication. To that end keep alert and always persevere in supplication for all the saints. Pray also for me, so that when I speak, a message may be given to me to make known with boldness the mystery of the gospel, for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it boldly, as I must speak.

Ephesians 6. 10-20

Gospel:

Jesus said to the crowd: 'Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me, and I in them. Just as the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever eats me will live because of me. This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like that which your ancestors ate, and they died. But the one who eats this bread will live for ever.' He said these things while he was teaching in the synagogue at Capernaum.

When many of his disciples heard it, they said, 'This teaching is difficult; who can accept it?' But Jesus, being aware that his disciples were complaining about it, said to them, 'Does this offend you? Then what if you were to see the Son of Man ascending to where he was before? It is the spirit that gives life; the flesh is useless. The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life. But among you there are some who do not believe.' For Jesus knew from the first who were the ones that did not believe, and who was the one that would betray him. And he said, 'For this reason I have told you that no one can come to me unless it is granted by the Father.'

Because of this many of his disciples turned back and no longer went about with him. So Jesus asked the twelve, 'Do you also wish to go away?' Simon Peter answered him, 'Lord, to whom can we go? You have the words of eternal life. We have come to believe and know that you are the Holy One of God.'

John 6. 56-69

Hymns

Fight the good fight with all thy might;
Christ is thy strength, and Christ thy right:
lay hold on life, and it shall be
thy joy and crown eternally.

Run the straight race through God's good
grace,
lift up thine eyes, and seek his face;
life with its way before us lies,
Christ is the path, and Christ the prize.

Cast care aside; upon thy guide
lean, and his mercy will provide;
lean, and the trusting soul shall prove,
Christ is its life and Christ its love.

Faint not, nor fear, his arms are near;
he changeth not, and thou art dear;
only believe, and thou shalt see
that Christ is all in all to thee.

John Monsell

Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
Be all else but naught to me, save that
thou art;
Be thou my best thought in the day and
the night,
Both waking and sleeping, thy presence
my light.

Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true
word;
Be thou ever with me, and I with thee,
Lord;
Be thou my great Father, and I thy true
son;
Be thou in me dwelling, and I with thee
one.

Be thou my Breastplate, my sword for the
fight;
Be thou my whole armour; be thou my
true might;
Be thou my soul's shelter, be thou my
strong tow'r,
O raise thou me heav'nward, great pow'r
of my pow'r.

Riches I heed not, nor man's empty praise;
Be thou mine inheritance, now and
always;
Be thou and thou only the first in my
heart,
O Sovereign of heaven, my treasure thou
art.

High King of heaven, thou heaven's bright
Sun,
O grant me its joys, after vict'ry is won;
great Heart of my own heart, whatever
befall,
Still be thou my vision, O Ruler of all.

Mary Byrne