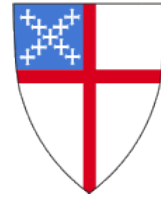


Lessons for September 3rd, 2017
Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost



First Reading: Jeremiah 15:15-21

Hear the Word of God as it is written in Jeremiah chapter 15 verses 15 to 21.

O LORD, you know; remember me and visit me, and bring down retribution for me on my persecutors. In your forbearance do not take me away; know that on your account I suffer insult. Your words were found, and I ate them, and your words became to me a joy and the delight of my heart; for I am called by your name, O LORD, God of hosts. I did not sit in the company of merry-makers, nor did I rejoice; under the weight of your hand I sat alone, for you had filled me with indignation. Why is my pain unceasing, my wound incurable, refusing to be healed? Truly, you are to me like a deceitful brook, like waters that fail. Therefore, thus says the LORD: If you turn back, I will take you back, and you shall stand before me. If you utter what is precious, and not what is worthless, you shall serve as my mouth. It is they who will turn to you, not you who will turn to them. And I will make you to this people a fortified wall of bronze; they will fight against you, but they shall not prevail over you, for I am with you to save you and deliver you, says the LORD. I will deliver you out of the hand of the wicked, and redeem you from the grasp of the ruthless.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Psalm 26:1-8

Let us all stand and read Psalm 26 verses 1 to 8.

1

Give judgment for me, O LORD, for I have lived with integrity;
I have trusted in the Lord and have not faltered.

2

Test me, O LORD, and try me; examine my heart and my mind.

3

For your love is before my eyes; I have walked faithfully with you.

4

I have not sat with the worthless, nor do I consort with the deceitful.

5

I have hated the company of evildoers; I will not sit down with the wicked.

6

I will wash my hands in innocence, O LORD, that I may go
in procession round your altar,

7

Singing aloud a song of thanksgiving and recounting all your wonderful deeds.

8

LORD, I love the house in which you dwell and the place where your glory abides.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, World without end. Amen.

Romans 12:9-21

Hear the Word of God as it is written in Romans chapter 12 verses 9 to 21.

Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers.

Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God; for it is written, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord." No, "if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink; for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads." Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

This is the Word of the Lord.