

# AFTER PENTECOST

PROPER 20 – THE SUNDAY FROM  
SEPTEMBER 18 TO SEPTEMBER 24  
(Trinitytide)



YEAR B

## OPENING ACCLAMATION

*Celebrant* Blessed be God, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.  
**People** And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever. Amen.

## COLLECT OF THE DAY

O Lord, you have taught us that without love, all our deeds are worth nothing: Send your Holy Spirit and pour into our hearts that most excellent gift of charity, the true bond of peace and of all virtues, without which whoever lives is counted dead before you; grant this for the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

## FIRST READING

Wisdom 1:16-2:1, 12-22

But the ungodly by their deeds and words summoned death; considering him a friend, they pined away, and they made a covenant with him, because they are fit to belong to his party.

2 For they reasoned unsoundly, saying to themselves “Short and sorrowful is our life, and there is no remedy at the death of a human being, and no one has been known to return from death.<sup>12</sup> Let us lie in wait for the righteous man, because he is inconvenient to us and opposes our actions; he reproaches us for sins against the law and accuses us of sins against our training.<sup>13</sup> He professes to have knowledge of God and calls himself a child of the Lord.

<sup>14</sup> He became to us a reproof of our thoughts; <sup>15</sup> the very sight of him is a burden to us, because his manner of life is unlike that of others and his ways are strange. <sup>16</sup> We are considered by him as something base, and he avoids our ways as unclean; he calls the last

end of the righteous happy and boasts that God is his father.<sup>17</sup> Let us see if his words are true, and let us test what will happen at the end of his life; <sup>18</sup> for if the righteous man is God's son, he will help him

and will deliver him from the hand of his adversaries. <sup>19</sup> Let us test him with insult and torture, that we may find out how gentle he is and make trial of his forbearance.

<sup>20</sup> Let us condemn him to a shameful death for, according to what he says, he will be protected."

<sup>21</sup> Thus they reasoned, but they were led astray, for their wickedness blinded them, <sup>22</sup> and they did not know the secret purposes of God or hope for the wages of holiness or discern the prize for blameless souls;

*Reader:* Here ends the Reading.

## PSALTER VERSES

*(In said services, the psalm verses may be placed between the Epistle and the Gospel, with the congregation standing in preparation for the Gospel. At services where there is a hymn or canticle before the Gospel, the psalm might be said between the Old Testament and Epistle, the people seated.)*

### Psalm 54

<sup>1</sup> Save me, O God, for your Name's sake, \*  
and avenge me in your strength.

<sup>2</sup> Hear my prayer, O God, \*  
and hearken to the words of my mouth.

<sup>3</sup> For the arrogant have risen up against me, \*  
and tyrants, who do not have God before their eyes, seek after  
my life.

<sup>4</sup> Behold, God is my helper; \*  
the Lord is he who upholds my life.

<sup>5</sup> He shall repay the evil of my enemies. \*

O destroy them in your faithfulness.

<sup>6</sup> A freewill offering will I give you, \*  
and praise your Name, O LORD, because it is good.

<sup>7</sup> For he has delivered me out of all my trouble, \*  
and my eye has seen the ruin of my enemies.

## NEW TESTAMENT READING

James 3:16-4:6

For where jealousy and selfish ambition exist, there will be disorder and every vile practice. <sup>17</sup> But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, open to reason, full of mercy and good fruits, impartial and sincere. <sup>18</sup> And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace by those who make peace.

4 What causes quarrels and what causes fights among you? Is it not this, that your passions are at war within you? <sup>2</sup> You desire and do not have, so you murder. You covet and cannot obtain, so you fight and quarrel. You do not have, because you do not ask. <sup>3</sup> You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, to spend it on your passions. <sup>4</sup> You adulterous people! Do you not know that friendship with the world is enmity with God? Therefore whoever wishes to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God. <sup>5</sup> Or do you suppose it is to no purpose that the Scripture says, “He yearns jealously over the spirit that he has made to dwell in us”? <sup>6</sup> But he gives more grace. Therefore it says, “God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble.”

*Reader:* The word of the Lord.

**People:** Thanks be to God.

## THE HOLY GOSPEL

*Deacon:* The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ, according to St. Mark.

**People:** Glory to you, Lord Christ.

## Mark 9:30-37

They went on from there and passed through Galilee. And he did not want anyone to know,<sup>31</sup> for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, “The Son of Man is going to be delivered into the hands of men, and they will kill him. And when he is killed, after three days he will rise.”<sup>32</sup> But they did not understand the saying, and were afraid to ask him.

<sup>33</sup> And they came to Capernaum. And when he was in the house he asked them, “What were you discussing on the way?”<sup>34</sup> But they kept silent, for on the way they had argued with one another about who was the greatest.<sup>35</sup> And he sat down and called the twelve. And he said to them, “If anyone would be first, he must be last of all and servant of all.”<sup>36</sup> And he took a child and put him in the midst of them, and taking him in his arms, he said to them,<sup>37</sup> “Whoever receives one such child in my name receives me, and whoever receives me, receives not me but him who sent me.”

*Deacon:* The Gospel of the Lord.

*People:* Praise to you, Lord Christ.

## OFFERTORY AND POST-COMMUNION SENTENCES

*(Drawn from verses of Holy Scripture, these sentences are chosen by the celebrant or preacher to reinforce the lessons or teaching of the day.)*

## PROPER PREFACE

*The Lord's Day*

Through Jesus Christ our Lord, who on the first day of the week overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.

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Sources: The Collect of the Day is taken from the Book of Common Prayer 2019. The Psalm verses are taken from the New Coverdale Psalter of the BCP 2019. Scripture quotations are taken from The ESV® Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®), copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.