

ELEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

➔ FIRST READING – Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28

Jacob settled in the land where his father had lived as an alien, the land of Canaan. This is the story of the family of Jacob.

Joseph, being seventeen years old, was shepherding the flock with his brothers; he was a helper to the sons of Bilhah and Zilpah, his father's wives; and Joseph brought a bad report of them to their father. Now Israel loved Joseph more than any other of his children, because he was the son of his old age; and he had made him a long robe with sleeves. But when his brothers saw that their father loved him more than all his brothers, they hated him, and could not speak peaceably to him.

Now his brothers went to pasture their father's flock near Shechem. And Israel said to Joseph, "Are not your brothers pasturing the flock at Shechem? Come, I will send you to them." He answered, "Here I am." So he said to him, "Go now, see if it is well with your brothers and with the flock; and bring word back to me." So he sent him from the valley of Hebron.

He came to Shechem, and a man found him wandering in the fields; the man asked him, "What are you seeking?" "I am seeking my brothers," he said; "tell me, please, where they are pasturing the flock." The man said, "They have gone away, for I heard them say, 'Let us go to Dothan.'" So Joseph went after his brothers, and found them at Dothan. They saw him from a distance, and before he came near to them, they conspired to kill him. They said to one another, "Here comes this dreamer. Come now, let us kill him and throw him into one of the pits; then we shall say that a wild animal has devoured him, and we shall see what will become of his dreams." But when Reuben heard it, he delivered him out of their hands, saying, "Let us not take his life." Reuben said to them, "Shed no blood; throw him into this pit here in the wilderness, but lay no hand on him" —that he might rescue him out of their hand and restore him to his father. So when Joseph came to his brothers, they stripped him of his robe, the long robe with sleeves that he wore; and they took him and threw him into a pit. The pit was empty; there was no water in it.

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Then they sat down to eat; and looking up they saw a caravan of Ishmaelites coming from Gilead, with their camels carrying gum, balm, and resin, on their way to carry it down to Egypt. Then Judah said to his brothers, "What profit is it if we kill our brother and conceal his blood? Come, let us sell him to the Ishmaelites, and not lay our hands on him, for he is our brother, our own flesh." And his brothers agreed. When some Midianite traders passed by, they drew Joseph up, lifting him out of the pit, and sold him to the Ishmaelites for twenty pieces of silver. And they took Joseph to Egypt.

Reader	The Word of the Lord.
<i>People</i>	Thanks be to God.

➔ **SECOND READING – Romans 10:5-15**

Moses writes concerning the righteousness that comes from the law, that "the person who does these things will live by them." But the righteousness that comes from faith says, "Do not say in your heart, 'Who will ascend into heaven?'" (that is, to bring Christ down) "or 'Who will descend into the abyss?'" (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). But what does it say?

"The word is near you,

on your lips and in your heart"

(that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); because if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For one believes with the heart and so is justified, and one confesses with the mouth and so is saved. The scripture says, "No one who believes in him will be put to shame." For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him. For, "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved."

But how are they to call on one in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in one of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone to proclaim him? And how are they to proclaim him unless they are sent? As it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!"

Reader	The Word of the Lord.
<i>People</i>	Thanks be to God.

➔ PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Form VI

Silence

Reader In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

Reader For all people in their daily life and work;

People For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.

Reader For this community, the nation, and the world;

People For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.

Reader For the just and proper use of your creation;

People For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.

Reader For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;

People For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.

Reader For the peace and unity of the Church of God;

People For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.

Reader For Shaun, our Presiding Bishop; Douglas, our Bishop; Sylvia, our priest; Ken, our deacon; and for all bishops and other ministers;

People For all who serve God in his Church.

Reader For the special needs and concerns of this congregation.

Silence

The People may add their own petitions.

Reader Hear us, Lord;

People For your mercy is great.

Reader We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.

Silence

The People may add their own thanksgivings.

CONTINUE THE READING TO THE NEXT PAGE

Reader

We will exalt you, O God our King;

People

And praise your Name for ever and ever.

Reader

We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place
in your eternal kingdom.

Silence

The People may add their own petitions.

Reader

Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;

People

Who put their trust in you.

Reader

We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.

Silence may be kept

All

**Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; in your
compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown,
things done and left undone; and so uphold us by your
Spirit that we may live and serve you in newness of
life, to the honor and glory of your Name; through
Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**