

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

➔ FIRST READING – Exodus 16:2-15

The whole congregation of the Israelites complained against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness. The Israelites said to them, “If only we had died by the hand of the Lord in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the fleshpots and ate our fill of bread; for you have brought us out into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger.”

Then the Lord said to Moses, “I am going to rain bread from heaven for you, and each day the people shall go out and gather enough for that day. In that way I will test them, whether they will follow my instruction or not. On the sixth day, when they prepare what they bring in, it will be twice as much as they gather on other days.” So Moses and Aaron said to all the Israelites, “In the evening you shall know that it was the Lord who brought you out of the land of Egypt, and in the morning you shall see the glory of the Lord, because he has heard your complaining against the Lord. For what are we, that you complain against us?” And Moses said, “When the Lord gives you meat to eat in the evening and your fill of bread in the morning, because the Lord has heard the complaining that you utter against him—what are we? Your complaining is not against us but against the Lord.”

Then Moses said to Aaron, “Say to the whole congregation of the Israelites, ‘Draw near to the Lord, for he has heard your complaining.’” And as Aaron spoke to the whole congregation of the Israelites, they looked toward the wilderness, and the glory of the Lord appeared in the cloud. The Lord spoke to Moses and said, “I have heard the complaining of the Israelites; say to them, ‘At twilight you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall have your fill of bread; then you shall know that I am the Lord your God.’”

In the evening quails came up and covered the camp; and in the morning there was a layer of dew around the camp. When the layer of dew lifted, there on the surface of the wilderness was a fine flaky substance, as fine as frost on the ground. When the Israelites saw it, they said to one another, “What is it?” For they did not know what it was. Moses said to them, “It is the bread that the Lord has given you to eat.”

Reader
People

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

➔ SECOND READING – Philippians 1:21-30

To me, living is Christ and dying is gain. If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labor for me; and I do not know which I prefer. I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better; but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you. Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith, so that I may share abundantly in your boasting in Christ Jesus when I come to you again.

Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel, and are in no way intimidated by your opponents. For them this is evidence of their destruction, but of your salvation. And this is God's doing. For he has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ, but of suffering for him as well-- since you are having the same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

Reader	The Word of the Lord.
People	Thanks be to God.

➔ PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Form VI

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

Silence

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.

CONTINUE THE READING TO THE NEXT PAGE

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.

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.