

**Let the message about Christ, in all its richness, fill your lives.**

**May you never give up praying.**

**When you pray, may you keep alert and be thankful.**

**Pray that together we may make the message of the mystery of  
Christ as clear as possible.**

**Amen**

**(Based on Colossians 3 and 4)**

**Welcome to our meeting.** *Our meetings are designed so that we may grow together spiritually in a relaxed atmosphere of mutual respect and honour, recognising that we are all on a journey. Doubts and questions are welcome. We trust in God's unconditional love.*

**We begin** *by sharing time together then we pray, sometimes sing, read the scriptures, there is a short message and discussion.*

**We then** *pray for one another and for what is on our hearts.*

**We finish** *by praying together the prayer Jesus taught.*

✠ TENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST -- PROPER 15 ✠

August 17, 2025

Year C, Revised Common Lectionary .

Isaiah 5:1-7 I will sing for my beloved my love song concerning his vineyard: My beloved had a vineyard on a very fertile hill. He dug it and cleared it of stones and planted it with choice vines; he built a watchtower in the midst of it and hewed out a wine vat in it; he expected it to yield grapes, but it yielded rotten grapes. And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem and people of Judah, judge between me and my vineyard. What more was there to do for my vineyard that I have not done in it? When I expected it to yield grapes, why did it yield rotten grapes? And now I will tell you what I will do to my vineyard. I will remove its hedge, and it shall be devoured; I will break down its wall, and it shall be trampled down. I will make it a wasteland; it shall not be pruned or hoed, and it shall be overgrown with briars and thorns; I will also command the clouds that they rain no rain upon it. For the vineyard of the LORD of hosts is the house of Israel, and the people of Judah are his cherished garden; he expected justice but saw bloodshed; righteousness but heard a cry!

Psalm 80:1-2, 8-19

- ✧ Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel, you who lead Joseph like a flock!
- ✧ You who are enthroned upon the cherubim, shine forth before Ephraim and Benjamin and Manasseh.
- ✧ Stir up your might, and come to save us! You brought a vine out of Egypt; you drove out the nations and planted it.
- ✧ You cleared the ground for it; it took deep root and filled the land.
- ✧ The mountains were covered with its shade, the mighty cedars with its branches;
- ✧ it sent out its branches to the sea and its shoots to the River.
- ✧ Why then have you broken down its walls, so that all who pass along the way pluck its fruit?
- ✧ The boar from the forest ravages it, and all that move in the field feed on it.
- ✧ Turn again, O God of hosts; look down from heaven and see; have regard for this vine, the stock that your right hand planted.
- ✧ It has been burned with fire; it has been cut down; may they perish at the rebuke of your countenance.
- ✧ But let your hand be upon the one at your right hand, the one whom you made strong for yourself.
- ✧ Then we will never turn back from you; give us life, and we will call on your name.
- ✧ Restore us, O LORD God of hosts; let your face shine, that we may be saved.

Hebrews 11:29-12:2 By faith the people passed through the Red Sea as if it were dry land, but when the Egyptians attempted to do so they were drowned. By faith the walls of Jericho fell after they had been encircled for seven days. By faith Rahab the prostitute did not perish with those who were disobedient, because she had received the spies in peace. And what more should I say? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets, who through faith

conquered kingdoms, administered justice, obtained promises, shut the mouths of lions, quenched the power of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, were made strong out of weakness, became mighty in war, put foreign armies to flight. Women received their dead by resurrection. Others were tortured, refusing to accept release, in order to obtain a better resurrection. Others suffered mocking and flogging and even chains and imprisonment. They were stoned to death; they were sawn in two; they were killed by the sword; they went about in skins of sheep and goats, destitute, persecuted, tormented— of whom the world was not worthy. They wandered in deserts and mountains and in caves and holes in the ground. Yet all these, though they were commended for their faith, did not receive what was promised, since God had provided something better so that they would not, apart from us, be made perfect. Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God.

Luke 12:49-56 “I have come to cast fire upon the earth, and how I wish it were already ablaze! I have a baptism with which to be baptized, and what constraint I am under until it is completed! Do you think that I have come to bring peace to the earth? No, I tell you, but rather division! From now on five in one household will be divided, three against two and two against three; they will be divided: father against son and son against father, mother against daughter and daughter against mother, mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law.” He also said to the crowds, “When you see a cloud rising in the west, you immediately say, ‘It is going to rain,’ and so it happens. And when you see the south wind blowing, you say, ‘There will be scorching heat,’ and it happens. You hypocrites! You know how to interpret the appearance of earth and sky, but why do you not know how to interpret the present time?”

### **Let us pray** (Psalm 19)

Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart  
be acceptable in your sight, Lord, my rock, and my redeemer. Amen

### **Short Message and discussion**

**Listen carefully to these words from Jesus' Sermon on the Mount:**

Matthew 5:40-42

...and if anyone wants to sue you and take your coat, give your cloak as well; <sup>41</sup> and if anyone forces you to go one mile, go also the second mile. <sup>42</sup> Give to everyone who begs from you, and do not refuse anyone who wants to borrow from you.

Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin  
against us.  
Lead us not into temptation  
but deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours  
now and for ever.  
Amen.

**Numbers 6:24-26**

The LORD bless you and keep you;  
the LORD make his face to shine  
upon you, and be gracious to  
you; the LORD lift up his  
countenance upon you, and give  
you peace.

Please join us to find a place of prayer and rest in a busy week. From intimacy in prayer God is able to do many things. Wednesday at 8pm.

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