

# The Twenty-First Sunday After Pentecost

Proper 24

October 22, 2023

## The Collect of the Day

Set us free, loving Father, from the bondage of our sins, and in your goodness and mercy give us the liberty of that abundant life which you have made known to us in our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

## A Reading from Malachi 3:6-12

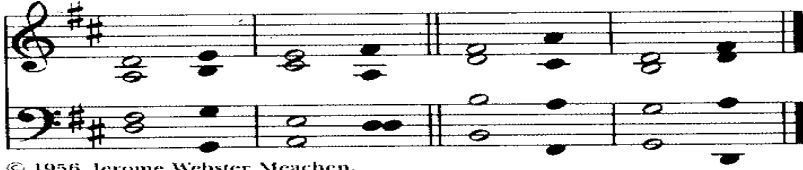
“For I the LORD do not change; therefore you, O children of Jacob, are not consumed. From the days of your fathers you have turned aside from my statutes and have not kept them. Return to me, and I will return to you, says the LORD of hosts. But you say, ‘How shall we return?’ Will man rob God? Yet you are robbing me. But you say, ‘How have we robbed you?’ In your tithes and contributions. You are cursed with a curse, for you are robbing me, the whole nation of you. Bring the full tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. And thereby put me to the test, says the LORD of hosts, if I will not open the windows of heaven for you and pour down for you a blessing until there is no more need. I will rebuke the devourer for you, so that it will not destroy the fruits of your soil, and your vine in the field shall not fail to bear, says the LORD of hosts. Then all nations will call you blessed, for you will be a land of delight, says the LORD of hosts.

**Reader:** The Word of the Lord.

*People:* Thanks be to God

## Psalm 96

*The Psalm will be chanted.*



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- 1 O sing unto the LORD a new **song**; \*  
sing unto the LORD, all the whole **earth**.
- 2 Sing unto the LORD and praise his **Name**; \*  
tell of his salvation from day to **day**.
- 3 Declare his honor to the **nations**, \*  
and his wonders to all **peoples**.
- 4 For the LORD is great, and highly to be **praised**; \*  
he is more to be feared than all **gods**.
- 5 As for all the gods of the nations, they are but **idols**; \*  
but it is the LORD who made the **heavens**.
- 6 Glory and majesty are be-**fore him**; \*  
power and honor are in his **sanctuary**.
- 7 Ascribe unto the LORD, O you families of the **peoples**, \*  
ascribe unto the LORD worship and **power**.
- 8 Ascribe unto the LORD the honor due unto his **Name**; \*  
bring offerings and come into his **courts**.
- 9 O worship the LORD in the beauty of **holiness**; \*  
let the whole earth stand in **awe of him**.
- 10 Tell it out among the nations, "The LORD is **King**; \*  
it is he who has made the world so firm that it cannot be moved;  
he shall judge the peoples **righteously**."
- 11 Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be **glad**; \*  
let the sea make a noise, and all that is there-**in**.
- 12 Let the field be joyful, and all that is **in it**; \*  
then shall all the trees of the wood rejoice before the **LORD**.

13 For he comes, for he comes to judge the **earth**, \*  
and with righteousness to judge the world, and the peoples with his  
**truth**.

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. **A-men**.

### **A Reading from 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10**

We give thanks to God always for all of you, constantly mentioning you in our prayers, remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. For we know, brothers loved by God, that he has chosen you, because our gospel came to you not only in word, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction. You know what kind of men we proved to be among you for your sake. And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for you received the word in much affliction, with the joy of the Holy Spirit, so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. For not only has the word of the Lord sounded forth from you in Macedonia and Achaia, but your faith in God has gone forth everywhere, so that we need not say anything. For they themselves report concerning us the kind of reception we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God, and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead, Jesus who delivers us from the wrath to come.

**Reader:** The Word of the Lord.

*People: Thanks be to God*

## **The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew 22:15-22**

*All standing, the Deacon or a Priest reads the Holy Gospel, first saying*

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to \_\_\_\_\_.

*People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.*

And again Jesus spoke to them in parables, saying, “The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding feast for his son, and sent his servants to call those who were invited to the wedding feast, but they would not come. Again he sent other servants, saying, ‘Tell those who are invited, “See, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready. Come to the wedding feast.”’ But they paid no attention and went off, one to his farm, another to his business, while the rest seized his servants, treated them shamefully, and killed them. The king was angry, and he sent his troops and destroyed those murderers and burned their city. Then he said to his servants, ‘The wedding feast is ready, but those invited were not worthy. Go therefore to the main roads and invite to the wedding feast as many as you find.’ And those servants went out into the roads and gathered all whom they found, both bad and good. So the wedding hall was filled with guests. “But when the king came in to look at the guests, he saw there a man who had no wedding garment. And he said to him, ‘Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding garment?’ And he was speechless. Then the king said to the attendants, ‘Bind him hand and foot and cast him into the outer darkness. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’ For many are called, but few are chosen.”

*People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.*

### **Proper Preface**

*The Lord’s Day*

*For the Celebrant to read after the Sursum Corda.*

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 .