

# Eighteenth Week after Pentecost

8<sup>th</sup> October 2020

## THE COLLECT

O Lord, we beseech you:  
give your people grace to turn away  
from evil;  
and to follow you, the only God,  
in pureness of heart and mind;  
through Jesus Christ, our Lord,  
who lives and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, world without end.  
**Amen.**

## FIRST READING

*Gal 3.1-5*

You foolish Galatians! Who has bewitched you? It was before your eyes that Jesus Christ was publicly exhibited as crucified! <sup>2</sup>The only thing I want to learn from you is this: Did you receive the Spirit by doing the works of the law or by believing what you heard? <sup>3</sup>Are you so foolish? Having started with the Spirit, are you now ending with the flesh? <sup>4</sup>Did you experience so much for nothing?—if it really was for nothing. <sup>5</sup>Well then, does God supply you with the Spirit and work miracles among you by your doing the works of the law, or by your believing what you heard?

*At the end the reader may say*

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church

**All Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM

*Canticle: Benedictus*

- 1 Blessed be the Lord the God of Israel,  
who has come to his people and set them free.
- 2 **He has raised up for us a mighty Saviour,  
born of the house of his servant David.**
- 3 Through his holy prophets God promised of old  
to save us from our enemies,  
from the hands of all that hate us,
- 4 To show mercy to our ancestors,  
and to remember his holy covenant.
- 5 **This was the oath God swore to our father Abraham:  
to set us free from the hands of our enemies,**
- 6 **Free to worship him without fear,  
holy and righteous in his sight  
all the days of our life.**
- 7 And you, child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High,  
for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way,
- 8 To give his people knowledge of salvation  
by the forgiveness of all their sins.

## Psalm (cont.)

- 9 **In the tender compassion of our God  
the dawn from on high shall break upon us,**
- 10 **To shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death,  
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.**

*Luke 1.68-79*

## GOSPEL READING

*Luke 11.5-13*

<sup>5</sup> [Jesus said], 'Suppose one of you has a friend, and you go to him at midnight and say to him, "Friend, lend me three loaves of bread; <sup>6</sup>for a friend of mine has arrived, and I have nothing to set before him." <sup>7</sup>And he answers from within, "Do not bother me; the door has already been locked, and my children are with me in bed; I cannot get up and give you anything." <sup>8</sup>I tell you, even though he will not get up and give him anything because he is his friend, at least because of his persistence he will get up and give him whatever he needs.

<sup>9</sup>So I say to you, Ask, and it will be given to you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you. <sup>10</sup>For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened. <sup>11</sup>Is there anyone among you who, if your child asks for a fish, will give a snake instead of a fish? <sup>12</sup>Or if the child asks for an egg, will give a scorpion? <sup>13</sup>If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!'