

SUNDAY READINGS & PRAYERS

TRINITY 14 (YEAR B) PROPER 17

COLLECT

Almighty God, whose only Son has opened for us a new and living way into your presence: give us pure hearts and steadfast wills to worship you in spirit and in truth; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

FIRST READING

Deu 4.1-2,6-9

A reading from the book of Deuteronomy.

Moses said to the people:—

“Now, O Israel, listen to the statutes and the rules that I am teaching you, and do them, that you may live, and go in and take possession of the land that the Lord, the God of your fathers, is giving you. You shall not add to the word that I command you, nor take from it, that you may keep the commandments of the Lord your God that I command you.

“Keep them and do them, for that will be your wisdom and your understanding in the sight of the peoples, who, when they hear all these statutes, will say, ‘Surely this great nation is a wise and understanding people.’ For what great nation is there that has a god so near to it as the Lord our God is to us, whenever we call upon him? And what great nation is there, that has statutes and rules so righteous as all this law that I set before you today?

“Only take care, and keep your soul diligently, lest you forget the things that your eyes have seen, and lest they depart from your heart all the days of your life. Make them known to your children and your children’s children.”

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 15



R. The just will live in the presence of the Lord. (*All repeat*)



Lord who may dwell | in your tabernacle?
Who may abide upon your | holy hill?
He who walks blamelessly, who | acts with
justice,
who speaks the truth | from his heart. *R.*

He who does no evil | to his brother,
who casts no slur up-|on his neighbour;
in whose sight the wicked | are rejected,
but who honours those who | fear the
Lord. *R.*

He who keeps his pledge, | come what may,
who does not lend his money in | hope of
gain,
and accepts no bribes a-|gainst the innocent.
He who does these things shall | never fall. *R.*

SECOND READING

Jas 1.17-27

A reading from the letter of James.

Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. Of his own will he brought us forth by the word of truth, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures.

Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger; for the anger of man does not produce the righteousness of God. Therefore put away all filthiness and rampant wickedness and receive with meekness the implanted word, which is able to save your souls.

But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man who looks intently at his natural face in a mirror. For he looks at himself and goes away and at once forgets what he was like. But the one who looks into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and perseveres, being no hearer who forgets but a doer who acts, he will be blessed

in his doing.

If anyone thinks he is religious and does not bridle his tongue but deceives his heart, this person's religion is worthless. Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to visit orphans and widows in their affliction, and to keep oneself unstained from the world.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Jas 1.18

Alleluia.

The Father brought us forth by the word of truth:

that we might be as the first-fruits of his creation.

Alleluia.

GOSPEL READING

Mk 7.1-8,14-15,21-23

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Hear the Gospel ✠ of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Now when the Pharisees gathered to Jesus, with some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem, they saw that some of his disciples ate with hands that were defiled, that is, unwashed. (For the Pharisees and all the Jews do not eat unless they wash their hands, holding to the tradition of the elders, and when they come from the market-place, they do not eat unless they wash. And there are many other traditions that they observe, such as the washing of cups and pots and copper vessels and dining couches.) And the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, "Why do your disciples not walk according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?" And he said to them, "Well did Isaiah prophesy of you hypocrites, as it is written, 'This people honours me with their lips, but their heart is far from me; in vain do they worship me, teaching as doctrines the commandments of men.' You leave the commandment of God and hold

to the tradition of men."

And he called the people to him again and said to them, "Hear me, all of you, and understand: There is nothing outside a person that by going into him can defile him, but the things that come out of a person are what defile him.

"For from within, out of the heart of man, come evil thoughts, sexual immorality, theft, murder, adultery, coveting, wickedness, deceit, sensuality, envy, slander, pride, foolishness. All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person."

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

In your mercy and goodness, Lord, listen to our prayers and accept our gifts. We offer them to you to express our adoration; grant that they may bring us all to salvation; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

POST-COMMUNION

Lord God, the source of truth and love, keep us faithful to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, united in prayer and the breaking of bread, and one in joy and simplicity of heart, in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**