

Sunday, August 22, 2010  
Lectionary 21  
Proper 16  
Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost  
Holy Communion

Worship Assistants

**FIRST READING: Isaiah 58:9b–14**

A reading from \_\_\_\_\_.

*The Lord promises those who have returned from exile that where justice and mercy prevail, the ruins will be rebuilt and light will rise in the darkness. It is a day for new beginnings.*

<sup>9b</sup>

- If you remove the yoke from among you,  
the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil,  
<sup>10</sup>if you offer your food to the hungry  
and satisfy the needs of the afflicted,  
then your light shall rise in the darkness  
and your gloom be like the noonday.  
<sup>11</sup>The LORD will guide you continually,  
and satisfy your needs in parched places,  
and make your bones strong;  
and you shall be like a watered garden,  
like a spring of water,  
whose waters never fail.  
<sup>12</sup>Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt;  
you shall raise up the foundations of many generations;  
you shall be called the repairer of the breach,  
the restorer of streets to live in.  
<sup>13</sup>If you refrain from trampling the sabbath,  
from pursuing your own interests on my holy day;  
if you call the sabbath a delight  
and the holy day of the LORD honorable;  
if you honor it, not going your own ways,  
serving your own interests, or pursuing your own affairs;  
<sup>14</sup>then you shall take delight in the LORD,  
and I will make you ride upon the heights of the earth;  
I will feed you with the heritage of your ancestor Jacob,  
for the mouth of the LORD has spoken.\

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM: Psalm 103:1–8**

*Refrain: The LORD crowns you with mercy and steadfast love. (Ps. 103:4)*

<sup>1</sup>Bless the LORD, <sup>1</sup> O my soul,  
and all that is within me, bless God's <sup>1</sup> holy name.  
<sup>2</sup>**Bless the LORD, <sup>1</sup> O my soul,  
and forget not <sup>1</sup> all God's benefits—**  
<sup>3</sup>who forgives <sup>1</sup> all your sins  
and heals all <sup>1</sup> your diseases;  
<sup>4</sup>**who redeems your life <sup>1</sup> from the grave  
and crowns you with steadfast <sup>1</sup> love and mercy; R**  
<sup>5</sup>who satisfies your desires <sup>1</sup> with good things  
so that your youth is renewed <sup>1</sup> like an eagle's.  
<sup>6</sup>**O LORD, you provide <sup>1</sup> vindication  
and justice for all who <sup>1</sup> are oppressed.**  
<sup>7</sup>You made known your <sup>1</sup> ways to Moses  
and your works to the chil- <sup>1</sup> dren of Israel.  
<sup>8</sup>**LORD, you are full of compas- <sup>1</sup> sion and mercy,  
slow to anger and abounding in <sup>1</sup> steadfast love. R**

**SECOND READING: Hebrews 12:18–29**

A reading from \_\_\_\_\_.

*Using images of Moses from the Old Testament, the writer presents a striking vision of the new covenant of God made possible in Christ. There is no longer fear; only awe in the new promise in Christ into which we are invited.*

<sup>18</sup>You have not come to something that can be touched, a blazing fire, and darkness, and gloom, and a tempest, <sup>19</sup>and the sound of a trumpet, and a voice whose words made the hearers beg that not another word be spoken to them. <sup>20</sup>(For they could not endure the order that was given, "If even an animal touches the mountain, it shall be stoned to death." <sup>21</sup>Indeed, so terrifying was the sight that Moses said, "I tremble with fear.") <sup>22</sup>But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to innumerable angels in festal gathering, <sup>23</sup>and to the assembly of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven, and to God the judge of all, and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect, <sup>24</sup>and to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel.

<sup>25</sup>See that you do not refuse the one who is speaking; for if they did not escape when they refused the one who warned them on earth, how much less will we escape if we reject the one who warns from heaven! <sup>26</sup>At that time his voice shook the earth; but now he has promised, "Yet once more I will shake not only the earth but also the heaven." <sup>27</sup>This phrase, "Yet once more," indicates the removal of what is shaken — that is, created things — so that what cannot be

shaken may remain. <sup>28</sup>Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us give thanks, by which we offer to God an acceptable worship with reverence and awe; <sup>29</sup>for indeed our God is a consuming fire.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **GOSPEL: Luke 13:10–17**

The holy gospel according to \_\_\_\_\_.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*Jesus heals a woman on the sabbath, offering her a new beginning for her life. When challenged by a narrow reading of the sabbath command, Jesus responds by expanding "sabbath work" to include setting people free from bondage.*

<sup>10</sup>Now he was teaching in one of the synagogues on the sabbath. <sup>11</sup>And just then there appeared a woman with a spirit that had crippled her for eighteen years. She was bent over and was quite unable to stand up straight. <sup>12</sup>When Jesus saw her, he called her over and said, "Woman, you are set free from your ailment." <sup>13</sup>When he laid his hands on her, immediately she stood up straight and began praising God. <sup>14</sup>But the leader of the synagogue, indignant because Jesus had cured on the sabbath, kept saying to the crowd, "There are six days on which work ought to be done; come on those days and be cured, and not on the sabbath day." <sup>15</sup>But the Lord answered him and said, "You hypocrites! Does not each of you on the sabbath untie his ox or his donkey from the manger, and lead it away to give it water? <sup>16</sup>And ought not this woman, a daughter of Abraham whom Satan bound for eighteen long years, be set free from this bondage on the sabbath day?" <sup>17</sup>When he said this, all his opponents were put to shame; and the entire crowd was rejoicing at all the wonderful things that he was doing.

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

### **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

With the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

Continue to guide your church, so that it may be a light that rises in the darkness of this world.

Lord, in your mercy,

**hear our prayer.**

Cause abundant water to spring up in parched places, so that they may be like lush gardens.  
Bless those who work in water treatment plants and all who work to provide safe and clean water  
for all to use. Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

Repair the breaches among peoples, rebuild nations, and bring justice for all who are oppressed.  
Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

Satisfy the needs of the afflicted, and heal those who have diseases or are sick (*especially*), that  
their spirits may be renewed like an eagle's. Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

Inspire this assembly to find delight in honoring your interests and pursuing your affairs in our  
daily lives, that we may be instruments of healing in the lives of others. Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

Receive our thanks for all the saints who now reside in the city of the living God, the heavenly  
Jerusalem (*especially*). Keep us unshaken in our faith until we too join them in that place of  
eternal refreshment. Lord, in your mercy,  
**hear our prayer.**

Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy;  
through Jesus Christ, our Savior.  
**Amen.**

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