

**14 June 2015**

## **Second Sunday after Trinity**

### **Collect of the Day**

Lord, you have taught us  
that all our doings without love are nothing  
worth:  
send your Holy Spirit  
and pour into our hearts that most excellent gift  
of love,  
the true bond of peace and of all virtues,  
without which whoever lives is counted dead  
before you.  
Grant this for your only Son Jesus Christ's sake,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

### **First Reading**

*2 Corinthians 5.6-10(11-13)14-17*

Brothers and sisters, <sup>6</sup>we are always confident;  
even though we know that while we are at home  
in the body we are away from the Lord – <sup>7</sup>for we  
walk by faith, not by sight. <sup>8</sup>Yes, we do have  
confidence, and we would rather be away from  
the body and at home with the Lord. <sup>9</sup>So whether  
we are at home or away, we make it our aim to  
please him. <sup>10</sup>For all of us must appear before the  
judgement seat of Christ, so that each may  
receive recompense for what has been done in  
the body, whether good or evil.

<sup>11</sup>Therefore, knowing the fear of the Lord, we try  
to persuade others; but we ourselves are well  
known to God, and I hope that we are also well  
known to your consciences. <sup>12</sup>We are not  
commending ourselves to you again, but giving  
you an opportunity to boast about us, so that you  
may be able to answer those who boast in  
outward appearance and not in the heart. <sup>13</sup>For if  
we are beside ourselves, it is for God; if we are in  
our right mind, it is for you. <sup>14</sup>The love of Christ  
urges us on, because we are convinced that one  
has died for all; therefore all have died. <sup>15</sup>And he  
died for all, so that those who live might live no  
longer for themselves, but for him who died and  
was raised for them.

<sup>16</sup>From now on, therefore, we regard no one  
from a human point of view; even though we  
once knew Christ from a human point of view,  
we know him no longer in that way. <sup>17</sup>So if anyone  
is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything  
old has passed away; see, everything has become  
new! (NRSV)

## **Gospel**

*Mark 4.26-34*

Such a large crowd gathered around Jesus that he  
got into a boat and began to teach them using  
many parables. <sup>26</sup>Jesus said, 'The kingdom of God  
is as if someone would scatter seed on the  
ground, <sup>27</sup>and would sleep and rise night and day,  
and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not  
know how. <sup>28</sup>The earth produces of itself, first the  
stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the  
head. <sup>29</sup>But when the grain is ripe, at once he goes  
in with his sickle, because the harvest has come.'

<sup>30</sup>Jesus also said, 'With what can we compare the  
kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for  
it? <sup>31</sup>It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown  
upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds  
on earth; <sup>32</sup>yet when it is sown it grows up and  
becomes the greatest of all shrubs, and puts forth  
large branches, so that the birds of the air can  
make nests in its shade.' <sup>33</sup>With many such  
parables he spoke the word to them, as they  
were able to hear it; <sup>34</sup>he did not speak to them  
except in parables, but he explained everything in  
private to his disciples. (NRSV)

### **Post Communion Prayer**

Loving Father,  
we thank you for feeding us at the supper of your  
Son:  
sustain us with your Spirit,  
that we may serve you here on earth  
until our joy is complete in heaven,  
and we share in the eternal banquet  
with Jesus Christ our Lord.