

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, ⁶we are always confident;
even though we know that while we are at home
in the body we are away from the Lord – ⁷for we
walk by faith, not by sight. ⁸Yes, we do have
confidence, and we would rather be away from
the body and at home with the Lord. ⁹So whether
we are at home or away, we make it our aim to
please him. ¹⁰For 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.

¹¹Therefore, 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. ¹²We 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. ¹³For if
we are beside ourselves, it is for God; if we are in
our right mind, it is for you. ¹⁴The love of Christ
urges us on, because we are convinced that one
has died for all; therefore all have died. ¹⁵And 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.

¹⁶From 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. ¹⁷So 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. ²⁶Jesus said, 'The kingdom of God
is as if someone would scatter seed on the
ground, ²⁷and would sleep and rise night and day,
and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not
know how. ²⁸The earth produces of itself, first the
stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the
head. ²⁹But when the grain is ripe, at once he goes
in with his sickle, because the harvest has come.'

³⁰Jesus also said, 'With what can we compare the
kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for
it? ³¹It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown
upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds
on earth; ³²yet 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.' ³³With many such
parables he spoke the word to them, as they
were able to hear it; ³⁴he 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.