

THE FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 65:1-9

I was ready to be sought out by those who did not ask, to be found by those who did not seek me. I said, "Here I am, here I am," to a nation that did not call on my name. I held out my hands all day long to a rebellious people, who walk in a way that is not good, following their own devices; a people who provoke me to my face continually, sacrificing in gardens and offering incense on bricks; who sit inside tombs, and spend the night in secret places; who eat swine's flesh, with broth of abominable things in their vessels; who say, "Keep to yourself, do not come near me, for I am too holy for you." These are a smoke in my nostrils, a fire that burns all day long. See,

it is written before me: I will not keep silent, but I will repay; I will indeed repay into their laps their iniquities and their ancestors' iniquities together, says the Lord; because they offered incense on the mountains and reviled me on the hills, I will measure into their laps full payment for their actions. Thus says the Lord: As the wine is found in the cluster, and they say, "Do not destroy it, for there is a blessing in it," so I will do for my servants' sake, and not destroy them all. I will bring forth descendants from Jacob, and from Judah inheritors of my mountains; my chosen shall inherit it, and my servants shall settle there.

PSALM 22:18-27

Deus, Deus meus

- ¹⁸ Be not far away, O Lord; *
you are my strength; hasten to help me.
- ¹⁹ Save me from the sword, *
my life from the power of the dog.
- ²⁰ Save me from the lion's mouth, *
my wretched body from the horns of wild
bulls.
- ²¹ I will declare your Name to my brethren; *
in the midst of the congregation I will
praise you.
- ²² Praise the Lord, you that fear him; *
stand in awe of him, O offspring of Israel;
all you of Jacob's line, give glory.

- ²³ For he does not despise nor abhor the poor
in their poverty; neither does he hide his
face from them; *
but when they cry to him he hears
them.
- ²⁴ My praise is of him in the great assembly; *
I will perform my vows in the presence
of those who worship him.
- ²⁵ The poor shall eat and be satisfied,
and those who seek the Lord shall praise
him: *
"May your heart live for ever!"

²⁶ All the ends of the earth shall remember
and turn to the Lord,*
and all the families of the nations shall
bow before him.

SECOND LESSON

Now before faith came, we were
imprisoned and guarded under the law
until faith would be revealed. Therefore
the law was our disciplinarian until Christ
came, so that we might be justified by faith.
But now that faith has come, we are no longer
subject to a disciplinarian, for in Christ Jesus
you are all children of God through faith. As

GOSPEL

Jesus and his disciples arrived at the
country of the Gerasenes, which is
opposite Galilee. As he stepped out on
land, a man of the city who had demons met
him. For a long time he had worn no clothes,
and he did not live in a house but in the
tombs. When he saw Jesus, he fell down
before him and shouted at the top of his
voice, "What have you to do with me, Jesus,
Son of the Most High God? I beg you, do not
torment me" -- for Jesus had commanded the
unclean spirit to come out of the man. (For
many times it had seized him; he was kept
under guard and bound with chains and
shackles, but he would break the bonds and
be driven by the demon into the wilds.) Jesus
then asked him, "What is your name?" He
said, "Legion"; for many demons had entered
him. They begged him not to order them to
go back into the abyss. Now there on the
hillside a large herd of swine was feeding; and
the demons begged Jesus to let them enter
these. So he gave them permission. Then the

²⁷ For kingship belongs to the Lord;*
he rules over the nations.

Galatians 3:23-29

many of you as were baptized into Christ
have clothed yourselves with Christ. There is
no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer
slave or free, there is no longer male and
female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus.
And if you belong to Christ, then you are
Abraham's offspring, heirs according to the
promise.

Luke 8:26-39

demons came out of the man and entered the
swine, and the herd rushed down the steep
bank into the lake and was drowned. When
the swineherds saw what had happened, they
ran off and told it in the city and in the
country. Then people came out to see what
had happened, and when they came to Jesus,
they found the man from whom the demons
had gone sitting at the feet of Jesus, clothed
and in his right mind. And they were afraid.
Those who had seen it told them how the one
who had been possessed by demons had been
healed. Then all the people of the
surrounding country of the Gerasenes asked
Jesus to leave them; for they were seized with
great fear. So he got into the boat and
returned. The man from whom the demons
had gone begged that he might be with him;
but Jesus sent him away, saying, "Return to
your home, and declare how much God has
done for you." So he went away, proclaiming
throughout the city how much Jesus had
done for him.