

# Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

## Lectionary 14 - July 5, 2020

### Greeting

Opening Hymn - 765 Lord of All Hopefulness

*The Prayer of the Day may be prayed.*

Let us pray. You are great, O God, and greatly to be praised. You have made us for yourself, and our hearts are restless until they rest in you. Grant that we may believe in you, call upon you, know you, and serve you, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

*Then the readings for this Sunday may be read, as follows:*

Genesis 24:34-38, 42-49, 58-67

[Laban, Rebekah's brother, received a visitor who said,] <sup>34</sup>"I am Abraham's servant. <sup>35</sup>The LORD has greatly blessed my master, and he has become wealthy; he has given him flocks and herds, silver and gold, male and female slaves, camels and donkeys. <sup>36</sup>And Sarah my master's wife bore a son to my master when she was old; and he has given him all that he has. <sup>37</sup>My master made me swear, saying, 'You shall not take a wife for my son from the daughters of the Canaanites, in whose land I live; <sup>38</sup>but you shall go to my father's house, to my kindred, and get a wife for my son.'

<sup>42</sup>"I came today to the spring, and said, 'O LORD, the God of my master Abraham, if now you will only make successful the way I am going! <sup>43</sup>I am standing here by the spring of water; let the young woman who comes out to draw, to whom I shall say, "Please give me a little water from your jar to drink," <sup>44</sup>and who will say to me, "Drink, and I will draw for your camels also"—let her be the woman whom the LORD has appointed for my master's son.'

<sup>45</sup>"Before I had finished speaking in my heart, there was Rebekah coming out with her water jar on her shoulder; and she went down to the spring, and drew. I said to her, 'Please let me drink.' <sup>46</sup>She quickly let down her jar from her shoulder, and said, 'Drink, and I will also water your camels.' So I drank, and she also watered the camels. <sup>47</sup>Then I asked her, 'Whose daughter are you?' She said, 'The daughter of Bethuel, Nahor's son, whom Milcah bore to him.' So I put the ring on her nose, and the bracelets on her arms. <sup>48</sup>Then I bowed my head and worshiped the LORD, and blessed the LORD, the God of my master Abraham, who had led me by the right way to obtain the daughter of my master's kinsman for his son. <sup>49</sup>Now then, if you will deal loyally and truly with my master, tell me; and if not, tell me, so that I may turn either to the right hand or to the left."

<sup>58</sup>And they called Rebekah, and said to her, "Will you go with this man?" She said, "I will." <sup>59</sup>So they sent away their sister Rebekah and her nurse along with Abraham's servant and his men. <sup>60</sup>And they blessed Rebekah and said to her,

"May you, our sister, become  
thousands of myriads;  
may your offspring gain possession  
of the gates of their foes."

<sup>61</sup>Then Rebekah and her maids rose up, mounted the camels, and followed the man; thus the servant took Rebekah, and went his way.

<sup>62</sup>Now Isaac had come from Beer-lahai-roi, and was settled in the Negeb. <sup>63</sup>Isaac went out in the evening to walk in the field; and looking up, he saw camels coming. <sup>64</sup>And Rebekah looked up, and when she saw Isaac, she slipped quickly from the camel, <sup>65</sup>and said to the servant, "Who is the man over there, walking in the field to meet us?" The servant said, "It is my master." So she took her veil and covered herself. <sup>66</sup>And the servant told Isaac all the things that he had done. <sup>67</sup>Then Isaac brought her into his mother Sarah's tent. He took Rebekah, and she became his wife; and he loved her. So Isaac was comforted after his mother's death.

**Psalm:** *Psalm 145:8-14 may be sung or spoken in response to the First Reading.*

<sup>8</sup>The LORD is gracious and full of compassion,  
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.  
<sup>9</sup>LORD, you are good to all,  
and your compassion is over all your works.  
<sup>10</sup>All your works shall praise you, O LORD,  
and your faithful ones shall bless you.  
<sup>11</sup>They shall tell of the glory of your kingdom  
and speak of your power,  
<sup>12</sup>that all people may know of your power  
and the glorious splendor of your kingdom.  
<sup>13</sup>Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom; your dominion endures through- out all  
ages.  
You, LORD, are faithful in all your words, and loving in all your works.  
<sup>14</sup>The LORD upholds all those who fall  
and lifts up those who are bowed down.

**Second Reading: Romans 7:15-25a**

<sup>15</sup>I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. <sup>16</sup>Now if I do what I do not want, I agree that the law is good. <sup>17</sup>But in fact it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within me. <sup>18</sup>For I know that nothing good dwells within me, that is, in my flesh. I can will what is right, but I cannot do it. <sup>19</sup>For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I do. <sup>20</sup>Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within me.

<sup>21</sup>So I find it to be a law that when I want to do what is good, evil lies close at hand. <sup>22</sup>For I delight in the law of God in my inmost self, <sup>23</sup>but I see in my physical body another law at war with the law of my mind, making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my body. <sup>24</sup>Wretched man that I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death? <sup>25a</sup>Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Gospel:** Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30

The holy gospel according to Matthew. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said:] <sup>16</sup>"To what will I compare this generation? It is like children sitting in the marketplaces and calling to one another,  
<sup>17</sup>"We played the flute for you, and you did not dance;  
<sup>18</sup>we wailed, and you did not mourn.'

<sup>18</sup>For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, 'He has a demon'; <sup>19</sup>the Son-of-Man came eating and drinking, and they say, 'Look, a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!' Yet wisdom is vindicated by wise deeds."

<sup>25</sup>At that time Jesus said, "I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent and have revealed them to infants; <sup>26</sup>yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. <sup>27</sup>All things have been handed over to me by my Father; and no one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal the Father.

<sup>28</sup>"Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. <sup>29</sup>Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. <sup>30</sup>For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light." The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

## Reflection

### Hymn Of The Day - 742 What A Friend We Have In Jesus

*Whether alone or with a small group, let us join together to pray to God, our stronghold, for all the needs of the world, responding to each petition with the phrase "in mercy, receive our prayer."*

*A brief silence.*

We pray for the church around the globe. Where Christians are assembling for worship, protect them from viral infection. Where Christians are worshiping with print and screen, grant them steadfastness in your word. Strengthen those believers who doubt your goodness. Bless pastors, deacons, and committee members as they serve our congregations in this difficult time. *A brief silence.*

O God, you are gracious and full of compassion:  
**in mercy, receive our prayer.**

We pray for the well-being of creation. Grant renewal to the air, the waters, and the lands. Save the animals whose natural habitat is threatened by climate change or human carelessness, and direct us toward sustainable living. Preserve the fields of Kenya from locusts. Nourish our country's green spaces. *A brief silence.*

O God, you are gracious and full of compassion:  
**in mercy, receive our prayer.**

We pray for the nations. Keep the world from war. Pave the way for just elections. Protect citizens from the designs of autocratic rulers. Uphold our courts. Guide our national and state governments in finding ways to redress the wrongs of racism and to ensure equality for all. *A brief silence.*

O God, you are gracious and full of compassion:  
**in mercy, receive our prayer.**

We pray for those who are sick and suffering. Console the fearful, feed the hungry, house the homeless, shelter the run-aways. Heal the many who are newly afflicted with the coronavirus, and guide researchers in discovering a vaccine. Visit the sick whom we name here: *A brief silence.*

O God, you are gracious and full of compassion:  
**in mercy, receive our prayer.**

We pray for infants and young children, that they be carefully tended. We pray for teens, that they keep patience throughout the contagion. We pray for school boards, that they find solutions for the fall semester. We pray for the unemployed, that they find jobs. We pray for medical workers, that they remain healthy. We pray for the aged, especially those in care facilities, that they find companionship in your presence. *A brief silence.*

O God, you are gracious and full of compassion:  
**in mercy, receive our prayer.**

We pray finally for ourselves. Show us that the yoke of faith is easy; may we find our rest in you. Hear now our private petitions. *A longer time of silence.*

O God, you are gracious and full of compassion:  
**in mercy, receive our prayer.**

We give thanks for those who have died in faith, especially the martyr Jan Hus and the monk Benedict of Nursia. Comfort all who mourn their dead, and at the end, bring us and all your people into your eternal rest. *A time of silence.*

O God, you are gracious and full of compassion:  
**in mercy, receive our prayer.**

Receive these prayers, O God, for the sake of him who bore the heavy yoke for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

*Then conclude with these prayers:*

Let us pray.

*A brief silence is kept before the prayer.*

Praise and thanks to you, holy God, for by your Word you made all things: you spoke light into the darkness, called forth beauty from chaos, and brought life into being. For your Word of life, O God,  
**we give you thanks and praise.**

By your Word you called your people Israel to tell of your wonderful gifts: freedom from captivity, water on the desert journey, a pathway home from exile, wisdom for life, O God,  
**we give you thanks and praise.**

Through Jesus, your Word made flesh, you speak to us and call us to witness: forgiveness through the cross, life to those entombed by death, the way of your self-giving love. For your Word of life, O God,  
**we give you thanks and praise.**

Send your Spirit of truth, O God; rekindle your gifts within us: renew our faith, increase our hope, and deepen our love, for the sake of the world in need. Faithful to your Word, O God, draw near to all who call on you; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory forever.  
**Amen.**

**Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial,  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours,  
now and forever.  
Amen.**

Almighty God, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless us now and forever.  
**Amen**

### **CLOSING HYMN - 726 Light Dawns on a Weary World.**

#### **Readings for the Week:**

**Monday** (commemoration of Jan Hus, martyr, died 1415) Psalm 131. **Tuesday** Jeremiah 28:10-17. **Wednesday** Jeremiah 13:1-11. **Thursday** Psalm 65:[1-8] 9-13. **Friday** Romans 15:14-21. **Saturday** (commemoration of Benedict of Nursia, Abbot of Monte Cassino, died around 540) Isaiah 52:1-6. **Sixth Sunday after Pentecost** (commemoration of Nathan Söderblom, Bishop of Uppsala, died 1931) Isaiah 55:10-13; Psalm 65:[1-8] 9-13; Romans 8:1-11; Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23.

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