ST THOMAS ANGLICAN CHURCH
Winnipeg, Manitoba 1567 William Ave W
204-775-1107 st.thomas1567@gmail.com
Social Media @stthomasweston

September 27, 2026 - Weekly Readings

18th Pentecost

We acknowledge that we meet and work in Treaty 1 Land. We appreciate the Gifts of Resources from Creator coming from Treaty 2 and 3 Land. Treaty 1, 2 & 3 Land are the traditional lands of the Anishinaabe, Cree, Oji-Cree, Dakota, Dene, Sioux and the homeland of the Metis Nation. We are grateful for their stewardship of this land and their hospitality which allows us to live, work and serve God the Creator here.

Hymns for the Day

Opening #661 (WOV)

- My song is love unknown

Gradual #144 (SNC)

- Jesus knows the inmost heart

Closing #492 (CP)

- sing hallelujah to our god

Exodus 17:1-7

Water from the rock

17:1From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the LORD commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink.

17:2The people quarreled with Moses and said, "Give us water to drink." Moses said to them, "Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the LORD?"

17:3But the people thirsted there for water, and the people complained against Moses and said, "Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?"

17:4So Moses cried out to the LORD, "What shall I do for this people? They are almost ready to stone me."

17:5The LORD said to Moses, "Go on ahead of the people and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile and go.

17:6I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink." Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel.

17:7He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarreled and tested the LORD,

saying, "Is the LORD among us or not?"

Psalm 78:1-4, 12-16

78:1Give ear, O my people, to my teaching; incline your ears to the words of my mouth.

78:2I will open my mouth in a parable; I will utter dark sayings from of old,

78:3things that we have heard and known, that our ancestors have told us.

78:4We will not hide them from their children; we will tell to the coming generation the glorious deeds of the LORD and his might and the wonders that he has done.

78:12In the sight of their ancestors he worked marvels in the land of Egypt, in the fields of Zoan.

78:13He divided the sea and let them pass through it and made the waters stand like a heap.

78:14In the daytime he led them with a cloud and all night long with a fiery light.

78:15He split rocks open in the wilderness and gave them drink abundantly as from the deep.

78:16He made streams come out of the rock and caused waters to flow down like rivers.

God of pilgrims, strengthen our faith, we pray. Guide us through the uncertainties of our journey, and hold before us the vision of your eternal kingdom, made known to us in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Philippians 2:1-13

Christ humbled to the point of death

2:1If, then, there is any comfort in Christ, any consolation from love, any partnership in the Spirit, any tender affection and sympathy,

2:2make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind.

2:3Do nothing from selfish ambition or empty conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves.

2:4Let each of you look not to your own interests but to the interests of others.

2:5Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,

2:6who, though he existed in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be grasped,

2:7but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, assuming human likeness. And being found in appearance as a human,

2:8he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death-- even death on a cross.

2:9Therefore God exalted him even more highly and gave him the name that is above every other name,

2:10so that at the name given to Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth,

2:11and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

2:12Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence but much more now in my absence, work on your own salvation with fear and trembling,

2:13for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

Matthew 21:23-32

A parable of doing God's will

21:23When he entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching and said, "By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?"

21:24Jesus said to them, "I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things.

21:25Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?" And they argued with one another, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will say to us, 'Why, then, did you not believe him?'

21:26But if we say, 'Of human origin,' we are afraid of the crowd, for all regard John as a prophet."

21:27So they answered Jesus, "We do not know." And he said to them, "Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.

21:28"What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, 'Son, go and work in the vineyard today.'

21:29He answered, 'I will not,' but later he changed his mind and went.

21:30The father went to the second and said the same, and he answered, 'I go, sir,' but he did not go.

21:31Which of the two did the will of his father?" They said, "The first." Jesus said to them, "Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you.

21:32For John came to you in the way of righteousness, and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him, and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him.

The Dismissal

To all our donors and those who have contacted us
for one concern or the other, we are grateful for
your gifts and presence. Thank you for your
generous donations and giving.

Go Forth into the world rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.

And be what you are, the church in the World.
Thanks be to God. **Amen**.

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