

THE TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
5th October 2008

First Reading

Isa. 5:1-7

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

The vineyard of the Lord God of hosts is the house of Israel

Let me sing for my beloved my love-song concerning his vineyard: My beloved had a vineyard on a very fertile hill. He dug it and cleared it of stones, and planted it with choice vines; he built a watchtower in the midst of it, and hewed out a wine vat in it; he expected it to yield grapes, but it yielded wild grapes. And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem and people of Judah, judge between me and my vineyard. What more was there to do for my vineyard that I have not done in it? When I expected it to yield grapes, why did it yield wild grapes? now I will tell you what I will do to my vineyard. I will remove its hedge, and it shall be devoured; I will break down its wall, and it shall be trampled down. I will make it a waste; it shall not be pruned or hoed, and it shall be overgrown with briars and thorns; I will also command the clouds that they rain no rain upon it. For the vineyard of the Lord of hosts is the house of Israel, and the people of Judah are his pleasant planting; he expected justice, but saw bloodshed; righteousness, but heard a cry!

Hear the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Responsorial Psalm

Ps. 80

Response: *The vineyard of the Lord is the house of Israel.*

- | | |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1. You brought a vine out of Egypt;
to plant it you drove out the nations.
It stretched out its branches to the sea,
to the Great River it stretched out its
shoots. | God of hosts, turn again, we implore,
look down from heaven and see.
Visit this vine and protect it.
the vine your right hand has planted. R. |
| 2. Then why have you broken down its
walls?
It is plucked by all who pass by.
It is ravaged by the boar of the forest,
devoured by the beasts of the field. R. | 4. And we shall never forsake you again;
give us life that we may call upon your
name.
God of hosts, bring us back;
let your face shine on us and we shall be
saved. R. |

Second Reading

Phil. 4:6-9

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Philippians

The God of peace be with you

Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with

thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honourable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you. Hear the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia! Alleluia! I have chosen you from the world, says the Lord,
to go and bear fruit that will last. **Alleluia!**

GOSPEL

Mtt. 21:33-45

✠ A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew

℟: **Glory to you Lord Christ.**

He leased his vineyard to other farmers

Jesus said to the chief priests and elders of the people, "Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a wine press in it, and built a watchtower. Then he leased it to tenants and went to another country. When the harvest time had come, he sent his slaves to the tenants to collect his produce. But the tenants seized his slaves and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. Again he sent other slaves, more than the first; and they treated them in the same way. Finally he sent his son to them, saying, 'They will respect my son.' But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, 'This is the heir; come, let us kill him and get his inheritance.' So they seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?" They said to him, "He will put those wretches to a miserable death, and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the harvest time." Jesus said to them, "Have you never read in the scriptures: 'The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; this was the Lord's doing, and it is amazing in our eyes'?" Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces the fruits of the kingdom." The one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; and it will crush anyone on whom it falls." When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they realized that he was speaking about them. They wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowds, because they regarded him as a prophet. For the gospel of the Lord **Praise to you Lord Christ.**

The Scripture quotations are from the New Revised Standard Version of the Bible, copyrighted, 1989, by the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America, and are used by permission. All rights reserved.

Printed at the Anglican Benedictine Abbey, Camperdown. 3260. www.benedictineabbey.com.au