



*This Sunday at St. Luke's Blue Ridge  
November 12, 2017  
(Confirmation at both services; Bishop present)*

# **The Twenty-second Sunday after Trinity (Remembrance Sunday)**



St. Paul is thinking here of Christian friends in Philippi. These dear folk are the focus of his prayers. Their memory is a cause of thanksgiving to God.. Think back at people in your own life who have guided and supported you in the Christian faith. Remember and give thanks to God for them.

## *The Collect for the 22th Sunday after Trinity*

LORD, we beseech thee to keep thy household the Church in continual godliness; that through thy protection it may be free from all adversities, and devoutly given to serve thee in good works, to the glory of thy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

### **THE EPISTLE (H.C.) – Philippians 1:3-11 (J.B. Phillips)**

*I have the most pleasant memories of you*

<sup>3-6</sup> I thank God for you Christians at Philippi whenever I think of you. My constant prayers for you are a real joy, for they bring back to my mind how we have worked together for the Gospel from the earliest days until now. I feel sure that the one who has begun his good work in you will go on developing it until the day of Jesus Christ.

<sup>7-11</sup> It is only natural that I should feel like this about you all—you are very dear to me. For during the time I was in prison as well as when I was out defending and demonstrating the power of the Gospel we shared together the grace of God. God knows how much I long, with the deepest Christian love and affection, for your companionship. My prayer for you is that you may have still more love—a love that is full of knowledge and wise insight. I want you to be able always to recognise the highest and the best, and to live sincere and blameless lives until the day of Jesus Christ. I want to see your lives full of true goodness, produced by the power that Jesus Christ gives you to the praise and glory of God.

NOTE: This passage is the thanksgiving prayer with which the Epistle to the Philippians opens. In those who are faithful to him God "has begun a good work," and the apostle's prayer is that God "will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ." Certainly this is of the essence of Christian vocation. (William Sydnor)

### **THE GOSPEL (H.C.) – St. Matthew 18:21-35 (J.B. Phillips)**

*The necessity for forgiveness*

<sup>21</sup> Then Peter approached him with the question, "Master, how many times can my brother wrong me and I must forgive him? Would seven times be enough?"  
<sup>22-27</sup> "No," replied Jesus, "not seven times, but seventy times seven! For the kingdom of Heaven is like a king who decided to settle his accounts with his servants. When he had started calling in his accounts, a man was brought to him who owed him millions of pounds. And when it was plain that he had no means of repaying the debt, his master gave orders for him to be sold as a slave, and his wife and children and all his possessions as well, and the money to be paid

over. At this the servant fell on his knees before his master, ‘Oh, be patient with me!’ he cried, ‘and I will pay you back every penny!’ Then his master was moved with pity for him, set him free and cancelled his debt.

<sup>28-30</sup> “But when this same servant had left his master’s presence, he found one of his fellow-servants who owed him a few shillings. He grabbed him and seized him by the throat, crying, ‘Pay up what you owe me!’ At this his fellow-servant fell down at his feet, and implored him, ‘Oh, be patient with me, and I will pay you back!’ But he refused and went out and had him put in prison until he should repay the debt.

<sup>31</sup> When the other fellow-servants saw what had happened, they were horrified and told their master the whole incident.

<sup>32-35</sup> Then his master called him in. “‘You wicked servant!’ he said. ‘Didn’t I cancel all that debt when you begged me to do so? Oughtn’t you to have taken pity on your fellow-servant as I, your master, took pity on you? And his master in anger handed him over to the gaolers till he should repay the whole debt. This is how my Heavenly Father will treat you unless you each forgive your brother from your heart.’”

NOTE: The parable of the unjust steward deals with forgiveness. The Christian not only believes in the forgiveness of God, he witnesses to it. (William Sydnor)

## **READINGS FOR 10 A.M. SERVICE**

### **OLD TESTAMENT LESSON – Numbers 20:14-29 (ESV)**

#### *Edom Refuses Passage*

<sup>14</sup> Moses sent messengers from Kadesh to the king of Edom: “Thus says your brother Israel: You know all the hardship that we have met: <sup>15</sup> how our fathers went down to Egypt, and we lived in Egypt for a long time. And the Egyptians dealt harshly with us and our fathers. <sup>16</sup> And when we cried to the Lord, he heard our voice and sent an angel and brought us out of Egypt. And here we are in Kadesh, a city on the edge of your territory. <sup>17</sup> Please let us pass through your land. We will not pass through field or vineyard, or drink water from a well. We will go along the King's Highway. We will not turn aside to the right hand or to the left until we have passed through your territory.” <sup>18</sup> But Edom said to him, “You shall not pass through, lest I come out with the sword against you.” <sup>19</sup> And the people of Israel said to him, “We will go up by the highway, and if we drink of your water, I and my livestock, then I will pay for it. Let me only pass through on foot, nothing more.” <sup>20</sup> But he said, “You shall not pass through.” And Edom came out against them with a large army and with a strong force. <sup>21</sup> Thus Edom refused to give Israel passage through his territory, so Israel turned away from him.

#### *The Death of Aaron*

<sup>22</sup> And they journeyed from Kadesh, and the people of Israel, the whole congregation, came to Mount Hor. <sup>23</sup> And the Lord said to Moses and Aaron at Mount Hor, on the border of the land of Edom, <sup>24</sup> “Let Aaron be gathered to his people, for he shall not enter the land that I have given to the people of Israel, because you rebelled against my command at the waters of Meribah. <sup>25</sup> Take Aaron and Eleazar his son and bring them up to Mount Hor. <sup>26</sup> And strip Aaron of his garments and put them on Eleazar his son. And Aaron shall be gathered to his people and shall die there.” <sup>27</sup> Moses did as the Lord commanded. And they went up Mount Hor in the sight of all the congregation. <sup>28</sup> And Moses stripped Aaron of his garments and put them on Eleazar his son. And Aaron died there on the top of the mountain. Then Moses and Eleazar came down from the mountain. <sup>29</sup> And when all the congregation saw that Aaron had perished, all the house of Israel wept for Aaron for thirty days.

**NOTE:** Near the end of the years in the wilderness Aaron died, and his son, Eleazar, succeeds him as high priest. The vocation as God's servant has been passed on from father to son.

## **NEW TESTAMENT LESSON -- 2 Timothy 1:3-14**

*I thank God for your faith: guard it well*

<sup>3-4</sup> I thank the God of my forefathers, whom I serve with a clear conscience, as I remember you in my prayers. Every day and every night I have been longing to see you, for I can't forget how moved you were when I left you, and to have you with me again would be the greatest possible joy.

<sup>5-7</sup> I often think of that genuine faith of yours—a faith that first appeared in your grandmother Lois, then in Eunice your mother, and is now, I am convinced, in you as well. Because you have this faith, I now remind you to stir up that inner fire which God gave you at your ordination. For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but a spirit of power and love and a sound mind.

<sup>8-12</sup> So never be ashamed of bearing witness to our Lord, nor of me, his prisoner. Accept, as I do, all the hardship that faithfulness to the Gospel entails in the strength that God gives you. For he has rescued us from all that is really evil and called us to a life of holiness—not because of any of our achievements but for his own purpose. Before time began he planned to give us in Christ the grace to achieve this purpose, but it is only since our saviour Jesus Christ has been revealed that the method has become apparent. For Christ has completely abolished death, and has now, through the Gospel, opened to us men the shining possibilities of the life that is eternal. It is this Gospel that I am commissioned to proclaim; it is of this Gospel that I am appointed both messenger and teacher, and it is for this Gospel that I am now suffering these things. Yet I am not in the least ashamed. For I know the one in whom I have placed my confidence, and I am perfectly certain that the work he has committed to me is safe in his hands until that day.

<sup>13-14</sup> So keep my words in your mind as the pattern of sound teaching, given to you in the faith and love of Jesus Christ. Take the greatest care of the good things which were entrusted to you by the Holy Spirit who lives within us.

**NOTE:** Paul urges his son in the faith to live as befits both his Christian heritage and his Christian commission.

## **SERVICES ON TRINITY 22**

- **8:15 a.m.** – Holy Communion (said service)

*A quiet meditative service*

Preacher: The Rt. Rev. Dr. William W. Millsaps, Bishop

Celebrant: The Rev. Ronald O. Wikander

Lector: Joe Brandon

Acolyte / Server: Finn Thoreson

- **10:00 a.m.** – Morning Prayer and Sermon (choral)  
with Confirmation

*Classic Anglican morning service with hymns and exposition of the Scriptures*

Preacher: Rt. Rev. Dr. William W. Millsaps, Bishop

Officiant: The Rector

Acolyte: Sheila McConnell

Lay Reader: Bob Morgan

Ushers: Dick Gensel and Dewey Cates

- **11:00 a.m.** -- Two-minute silence and laying of poppy wreath

Officiant: The Rev. Ronald O. Wikander

Laying the Wreath: Dick Gensel, Captain, USN (ret)



## **HELP NEEDED FOR ST. LUKE'S THANKSGIVING LUNCH**

St. Luke's annual dinner will be held following the 11 a.m. celebration of Holy Communion. A sign-up sheet is in Thomason Hall.



**REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY IS NOV. 12  
TWO-MINUTE SILENCE TO BE OBSERVED AT 11 A.M.**

All who served in any branch of the Armed Services are encouraged to be present at the 10 a.m. service on Sunday, Nov. 12, which will conclude at 11 a.m. with the laying of a poppy wreath and the observance of a two-minute silence.

Remembrance Sunday is held each year on the second Sunday in November. It complements Armistice or Veterans' Day.

**REMEMBER THE NEEDY  
EVERY TIME YOU COME TO CHURCH**



*Please bring one or more item for the needy -- paper, soap products, tinned and dried food, etc. Leave in Narthex. Items will be distributed through North Georgia Community Action Agency*



A sign-up sheet for Altar flowers is available in Thomason Hall for 2017.  
Please sign up for days you wish to commemorate.

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