

The Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost – Year A
30th August 2026

Sentence: Matthew 16.24-25

If you want to become a disciple of Jesus, deny yourself, take up your cross and follow him.

Collect:

O God, whose Son has shown the way of the cross
to be the way of life;
transform and renew our minds
that we may not be conformed to this world
but may offer ourselves wholly to you as a living sacrifice
through Jesus Christ our Saviour;
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

First Reading: Jeremiah 15.15-21

A readings from the book of the Prophet Jeremiah

¹⁵ O Lord, you know; remember me and visit me, and bring down retribution for me on my persecutors. In your forbearance do not take me away; know that on your account I suffer insult. ¹⁶ Your words were found, and I ate them, and your words became to me a joy and the delight of my heart; for I am called by your name, O Lord, God of hosts. ¹⁷ I did not sit in the company of merry-makers, nor did I rejoice; under the weight of your hand I sat alone, for you had filled me with indignation. ¹⁸ Why is my pain unceasing, my wound incurable, refusing to be healed? Truly, you are to me like a deceitful brook, like waters that fail. ¹⁹ Therefore, thus says the Lord: If you turn back, I will take you back, and you shall stand before me. If you utter what is precious, and not what is worthless, you shall serve as my mouth. It is they who will turn to you, not you who will turn to them. ²⁰ And I will make you to this people a fortified wall of bronze; they will fight against you, but they shall not prevail over you, for I am with you to save you and deliver you, says the Lord. ²¹ I will deliver you out of the hand of the wicked, and redeem you from the grasp of the ruthless.

Hear the Word of the Lord,

Thanks be to God.

Psalms 26.1-8

¹ Give judgement for me, O Lord,
for I have walked in my integrity:
I have trusted in the Lord and not wavered.

² Put me to the test, O Lord, and prove me:
try my mind and my heart.

³ For your steadfast love has been ever before my eyes:
and I have walked in your truth.

⁴ I have not sat with deceivers:
nor consorted with the hypocrites;

⁵ I hate the assembly of the wicked:
I will not sit with the ungodly.

⁶ I wash my hands in innocence, O Lord:
that I may go about your altar,

⁷ And lift up the voice of thanksgiving:
to tell of all your marvellous works.

⁸ Lord, I love the house of your habitation:
and the place where your glory dwells.

Second Reading: Romans 12.9-21

A reading from the Letter of St Paul to the Romans

⁹ Let love be genuine; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; ¹⁰ love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honour. ¹¹ Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. ¹² Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. ¹³ Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers. ¹⁴ Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. ¹⁵ Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. ¹⁶ Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. ¹⁷ Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. ¹⁸ If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. ¹⁹ Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God; for it is written, 'Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.' ²⁰ No, 'if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink; for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads.' ²¹ Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

Hear the Word of the Lord,

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation: Ephesians 1.17-18

Alleluia. **Alleluia!**

May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ
enlighten the eyes of our heart,
That we might see how great is the hope
to which we are called.

Alleluia!

The Holy Gospel: Matthew 16.21-28

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew,

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

²¹ From that time on, Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised. ²² And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, 'God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you.' ²³ But he turned and said to Peter, 'Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling-block to me; for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.' ²⁴ Then Jesus told his disciples, 'If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ²⁵ For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. ²⁶ For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life? ²⁷ 'For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done. ²⁸ Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord,

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.