

## **FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST 28 AUGUST 2016**

*These readings are provided, first, so you can re-read and reflect on them during the week, and second, if you wish, to follow the readings during the service.*

### **Proverbs 25.6-7**

<sup>6</sup> Do not put yourself forward in the king's presence or stand in the place of the great;

<sup>7</sup> for it is better to be told, 'Come up here', than to be put lower in the presence of a noble.

What your eyes have seen

### **Psalms 112**

<sup>1</sup> O praise the Lord. Blessed are they who fear the Lord:

and greatly delight in his commandments.

<sup>2</sup> Their children shall be mighty in the land:

an upright race who will be blessed.

<sup>3</sup> Riches and plenty shall be in their house:

and their righteousness shall stand for ever.

<sup>4</sup> Light arises in darkness for the upright:

gracious and merciful are the righteous.

<sup>5</sup> It goes well with those who act generously and lend:

who guide their affairs with justice.

<sup>6</sup> Surely they shall never be moved: the righteous shall be held in everlasting remembrance.

<sup>7</sup> They will not fear bad tidings: their hearts are steadfast, trusting in the Lord.

<sup>8</sup> Their hearts are confident and will not fear:

they will see the downfall of their enemies.

<sup>9</sup> They give freely to the poor:

their righteousness stands for ever, their head is uplifted in glory.

<sup>10</sup> The wicked shall see it and be angry: they shall gnash their teeth and consume away; and the hope of the wicked shall fail.

### **Hebrews 13.1-8, 15-16**

<sup>1</sup> Let mutual love continue.

<sup>2</sup> Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it.

<sup>3</sup> Remember those who are in prison, as though you were in prison with them; those who are being tortured, as though you yourselves were being tortured.

<sup>4</sup> Let marriage be held in honour by all, and let the marriage bed be kept undefiled; for God will judge fornicators and adulterers.

<sup>5</sup> Keep your lives free from the love of money, and be content with what you have; for he has said, 'I will never leave you or forsake you.'

<sup>6</sup> So we can say with confidence, 'The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid. What can anyone do to me?'

<sup>7</sup> Remember your leaders, those who spoke the word of God to you; consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith.

<sup>8</sup> Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and for ever.

<sup>15</sup> Through him, then, let us continually offer a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that confess his name.

<sup>16</sup> Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

### **Luke 14.1-14**

<sup>1</sup> On one occasion when Jesus was going to the house of a leader of the

Pharisees to eat a meal on the sabbath, they were watching him closely. <sup>2</sup> Just then, in front of him, there was a man who had dropsy. <sup>3</sup> And Jesus asked the lawyers and Pharisees, 'Is it lawful to cure people on the sabbath, or not?' <sup>4</sup> But they were silent. So Jesus took him and healed him, and sent him away. <sup>5</sup> Then he said to them, 'If one of you has a child or an ox that has fallen into a well, will you not immediately pull it out on a sabbath day?' <sup>6</sup> And they could not reply to this. <sup>7</sup> When he noticed how the guests chose the places of honour, he told them a parable. <sup>8</sup> 'When you are invited by someone to a wedding banquet, do not sit down at the place of honour, in case someone more distinguished than you has been invited by your host; <sup>9</sup> and the host who invited both of you may come and say to you, "Give this person your place", and then in disgrace you would start to take the lowest place. <sup>10</sup> But when you are invited, go and sit down at the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he may say to you, "Friend, move up higher"; then you will be honoured in the presence of all who sit at the table with you. <sup>11</sup> For all who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.' <sup>12</sup> He said also to the one who had invited him, 'When you give a luncheon or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or rich neighbours, in case they may invite you in return, and you would be repaid. <sup>13</sup> But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. <sup>14</sup> And you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you, for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous.'