

# SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY

## AFTER PENTECOST

### 11 SEPTEMBER 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.*

#### **Exodus 32.7-14**

<sup>7</sup> The Lord said to Moses, 'Go down at once! Your people, whom you brought up out of the land of Egypt, have acted perversely; <sup>8</sup> they have been quick to turn aside from the way that I commanded them; they have cast for themselves an image of a calf, and have worshipped it and sacrificed to it, and said, "These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!" ' <sup>9</sup> The Lord said to Moses, 'I have seen this people, how stiff-necked they are. <sup>10</sup> Now let me alone, so that my wrath may burn hot against them and I may consume them; and of you I will make a great nation.' <sup>11</sup> But Moses implored the Lord his God, and said, 'O Lord, why does your wrath burn hot against your people, whom you brought out of the land of Egypt with great power and with a mighty hand? <sup>12</sup> Why should the Egyptians say, "It was with evil intent that he brought them out to kill them in the mountains, and to consume them from the face of the earth"? Turn from your fierce wrath; change your mind and do not bring disaster on your people. <sup>13</sup> Remember Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, your servants, how you swore to them by your own self, saying to them, "I will multiply your descendants like the stars of heaven, and all this land that I have promised I will give to your descendants, and they shall inherit it for ever." ' <sup>14</sup> And the Lord changed his mind about the disaster that he planned to bring on his people.

## **Psalm 14**

<sup>1</sup> Fools have said in their hearts 'There is no God':

they have all become vile and abominable in their doings, there is not one that does good.

<sup>2</sup> The Lord looked down from heaven upon the children of Adam:

to see if there were any who would act wisely and seek after God.

<sup>3</sup> But they have all turned out of the way, they have all alike become corrupt:

there is none that does good, no not one.

<sup>4</sup> Are all the evildoers devoid of understanding:

who eat up my people as they eat bread, and do not pray to the Lord?

<sup>5</sup> They shall be struck with terror:

for God is with the company of the righteous.

<sup>6</sup> Though they frustrate the poor in their hopes:

surely the Lord is their refuge.

<sup>7</sup> O that deliverance for Israel might come forth from Zion:

when the Lord turns again the fortunes of his people, then shall Jacob rejoice and Israel be glad.

## **1 Timothy 1.1-2, 12-19a**

<sup>1</sup> Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the command of God our Saviour and of Christ Jesus our hope, <sup>2</sup> To Timothy, my loyal child in the faith: Grace, mercy, and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord. <sup>12</sup> I am grateful to Christ Jesus our Lord, who has strengthened me, because he judged me faithful and appointed me to his service, <sup>13</sup> even though I was formerly a blasphemer, a persecutor, and a man of violence. But I received mercy because I had acted ignorantly in unbelief, <sup>14</sup> and the grace of our Lord overflowed for me with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. <sup>15</sup> The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners—of whom I am

the foremost. <sup>16</sup> But for that very reason I received mercy, so that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display the utmost patience, making me an example to those who would come to believe in him for eternal life. <sup>17</sup> To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honour and glory for ever and ever. Amen. <sup>18</sup> I am giving you these instructions, Timothy, my child, in accordance with the prophecies made earlier about you, so that by following them you may fight the good fight, <sup>19</sup> having faith and a good conscience. By rejecting conscience, certain persons have suffered shipwreck in the faith;

## **Luke 15.1-10**

<sup>1</sup> Now all the tax-collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to him. <sup>2</sup> And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, 'This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them.' <sup>3</sup> So he told them this parable: <sup>4</sup> 'Which one of you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the one that is lost until he finds it? <sup>5</sup> When he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders and rejoices. <sup>6</sup> And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbours, saying to them, "Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost." <sup>7</sup> Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous people who need no repentance. <sup>8</sup> 'Or what woman having ten silver coins, if she loses one of them, does not light a lamp, sweep the house, and search carefully until she finds it? <sup>9</sup> When she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbours, saying, "Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost." <sup>10</sup> Just so, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents.'