

The Collect and Readings for the ninth Sunday after Trinity

The Collect

Almighty God,
who sent your Holy Spirit
to be the life and light of your Church:
open our hearts to the riches of your grace,
that we may bring forth the fruit of the Spirit
in love and joy and peace;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Prayer after Communion

Holy Father,
who gathered us here around the table of your Son
to share this meal with the whole household of God:
in that new world where you reveal the fullness of your peace,
gather people of every race and language
to share in the eternal banquet of Jesus Christ our Lord

Today's Readings

First Reading 2 Kings 4:42-end

Elisha feeds one hundred men with twenty loaves of barley and some grain. They eat and there is food left over.

Second Reading Ephesians 3:14-end

Paul prays for the Ephesians; that they may be rooted and grounded in love.

Gospel John 6:1-21

The crowds follow Jesus and they have nothing to eat. A young boy gives his five loaves and two fish and they are miraculously enough to feed everyone, with plenty left over. Then Jesus joins the disciples in the boat, walking on the water.

First Reading

A reading from the second book of Kings

⁴²A man came bringing food from the first fruits to Elisha, the man of God: twenty loaves of barley and fresh ears of grain in his sack. Elisha said, 'Give it to the people and let them eat.' ⁴³But his servant said, 'How can I set this before a hundred people?' So he repeated, 'Give it to the people and let them eat, for thus says the LORD, "They shall eat and have some left."' ⁴⁴He set it before them, they ate, and had some left, according to the word of the LORD.

Psalm 145.10–19

¹⁰ All your works praise you, O Lord,
and your faithful servants bless you.

¹¹ They make known the glory of your kingdom
and speak of your power;

¹² That the peoples may know of your power
and the glorious splendour of your kingdom.

¹³ Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom;
your dominion endures throughout all ages.

¹⁴ The Lord is faithful in all his words
and merciful in all his deeds.

¹⁵ The Lord upholds all those who fall;
he lifts up those who are bowed down.

¹⁶ The eyes of all wait upon you, O Lord,
and you give them their food in due season.

¹⁷ You open wide your hand
and satisfy the needs of every living creature.

¹⁸ The Lord is righteous in all his ways
and loving in all his works.

¹⁹ The Lord is near to those who call upon him,
to all who call upon him faithfully.

**You open wide your hand, O Lord,
and satisfy our needs**

Second reading

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Ephesians.

¹⁴I bow my knees before the Father, ¹⁵from whom every family in heaven and on earth takes its name.

¹⁶I pray that, according to the riches of his glory, he may grant that you may be strengthened in your inner being with power through his Spirit, ¹⁷and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, as you are being rooted and grounded in love.

¹⁸I pray that you may have the power to comprehend, with all the saints, what is the breadth and length and height and depth, ¹⁹and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

²⁰Now to him who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine, ²¹to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, for ever and ever. Amen.

Gospel Reading

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹Jesus went to the other side of the Sea of Galilee, also called the Sea of Tiberias. ²A large crowd kept following him, because they saw the signs that he was doing for the sick. ³Jesus went up the mountain and sat down there with his disciples. ⁴Now the Passover, the festival of the Jews, was near. ⁵When he looked up and saw a large crowd coming towards him, Jesus said to Philip, 'Where are we to buy bread for these people to eat?' ⁶He said this to test him, for he himself knew what he was going to do. ⁷Philip answered him, 'Six months' wages would not buy enough bread for each of them to get a little.' ⁸One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, said to Jesus, ⁹'There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish. But what are they among so many people?' ¹⁰Jesus said, 'Make the people sit down.' Now there was a great deal of grass in the place; so they sat down, about five thousand in all.

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¹¹Then Jesus took the loaves, and when he had given thanks, he distributed them to those who were seated; so also the fish, as much as they wanted. ¹²When they were satisfied, he told his disciples, 'Gather up the fragments left over, so that nothing may be lost.'

¹³So they gathered them up, and from the fragments of the five barley loaves, left by those who had eaten, they filled twelve baskets. ¹⁴When the people saw the sign that he had done, they began to say, 'This is indeed the prophet who is to come into the world.'

¹⁵When Jesus realized that they were about to come and take him by force to make him king, he withdrew again to the mountain by himself.

¹⁶When evening came, his disciples went down to the lake, ¹⁷got into a boat, and started across the lake to Capernaum. It was now dark, and Jesus had not yet come to them. ¹⁸The lake became rough because a strong wind was blowing. ¹⁹When they had rowed about three or four miles, they saw Jesus walking on the lake and coming near the boat, and they were terrified.

²⁰But he said to them, 'It is I; do not be afraid.' ²¹Then they wanted to take him into the boat, and immediately the boat reached the land towards which they were going.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.