

THIRD SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY**KJV****COLLECT**

O Lord, who hast taught us
that all our doings without charity are nothing worth:
send thy Holy Spirit
and pour into our hearts that most excellent gift of charity,
the very bond of peace and of all virtues
without which whosoever liveth is counted dead before thee;
grant this for thine only Son Jesus Christ's sake,
who liveth and reigneth with thee,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

FIRST READING**Ezekiel 17.22–24**

A reading from the book of the prophet Ezekiel

Thus saith the Lord GOD; I will also take of the highest branch of the high cedar, and will set it; I will crop off from the top of his young twigs a tender one, and will plant it upon an high mountain and eminent: In the mountain of the height of Israel will I plant it: and it shall bring forth boughs, and bear fruit, and be a goodly cedar: and under it shall dwell all fowl of every wing; in the shadow of the branches thereof shall they dwell. And all the trees of the field shall know that I the LORD have brought down the high tree, have exalted the low tree, have dried up the green tree, and have made the dry tree to flourish: I the LORD have spoken and have done it.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

SECOND READING**2 Corinthians 5.6–10, 14–17**

A reading from the second letter of Paul to the Corinthians

Therefore we are always confident, knowing that, whilst we are at home in the body, we are absent from the Lord: (For we walk by faith, not by sight:) We are confident, I say, and willing rather to be absent from the body, and to be present with the Lord. Wherefore we labour, that, whether present or absent, we may be accepted of him. For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad. For the love of Christ constraineth us; because we thus judge, that if one died for all, then were all dead: And that he died for all, that they which live should not henceforth live unto themselves, but unto him which died for them, and rose again. Wherefore henceforth know we no man after the flesh: yea, though we have known Christ after the flesh, yet

now henceforth know we him no more. Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

GOSPEL

Mark 4.26–34

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according Mark

Glory be to you, O Lord

And he said, So is the kingdom of God, as if a man should cast seed into the ground; And should sleep, and rise night and day, and the seed should spring and grow up, he knoweth not how. For the earth bringeth forth fruit of herself; first the blade, then the ear, after that the full corn in the ear. But when the fruit is brought forth, immediately he putteth in the sickle, because the harvest is come. And he said, Whereunto shall we liken the kingdom of God? or with what comparison shall we compare it? It is like a grain of mustard seed, which, when it is sown in the earth, is less than all the seeds that be in the earth: But when it is sown, it groweth up, and becometh greater than all herbs, and shooteth out great branches; so that the fowls of the air may lodge under the shadow of it. And with many such parables spake he the word unto them, as they were able to hear it. But without a parable spake he not unto them: and when they were alone, he expounded all things to his disciples.

This is the Gospel of the Lord

Praise be to you, O Christ

POST COMMUNION

O loving Father,
we thank thee for feeding us at the supper of thy Son:
sustain us with thy Spirit
that we, serving thee here on earth,
may come at last to the fullness of thy joy in heaven
and be partakers of thine eternal banquet
with Jesus Christ our Lord.