

**THE NINTH SUNDAY after PENTECOST  
JULY 17, 2016**

**Psalm** (*spoken in unison*)

*Psalm 27:7-14*

**☩** <sup>7</sup>Hear, O LORD, when I cry aloud;  
be gracious to me and answer me!  
<sup>8</sup>You have said, “Seek my face.”  
My heart says to you,  
“Your face, LORD, do I seek.”  
<sup>9</sup>Hide not your face from me.  
Turn not your servant away in anger,  
O you who have been my help.  
Cast me not off; forsake me not,  
O God of my salvation!  
<sup>10</sup>For my father and my mother have forsaken me,  
but the LORD will take me in.  
<sup>11</sup>Teach me your way, O LORD,  
and lead me on a level path  
because of my enemies.  
<sup>12</sup>Give me not up to the will of my adversaries;  
for false witnesses have risen against me,  
and they breathe out violence.  
<sup>13</sup>I believe that I shall look upon the goodness of the LORD  
in the land of the living!  
<sup>14</sup>Wait for the LORD;  
be strong, and let your heart take courage;  
wait for the LORD!

**Collect of the Day**

O Lord, grant us the Spirit to hear Your Word and know the one thing  
needful that by Your Word and Spirit we may live according to Your will;  
through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and  
the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

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**Reading***Genesis 18:1–10a*

<sup>1</sup> The LORD appeared to [Abraham] by the oaks of Mamre, as he sat at the door of his tent in the heat of the day.

<sup>2</sup>He lifted up his eyes and looked, and behold, three men were standing in front of him. When he saw them, he ran from the tent door to meet them and bowed himself to the earth <sup>3</sup>and said, “O Lord, if I have found favor in your sight, do not pass by your servant. <sup>4</sup>Let a little water be brought, and wash your feet, and rest yourselves under the tree, <sup>5</sup>while I bring a morsel of bread, that you may refresh yourselves, and after that you may pass on—since you have come to your servant.” So they said, “Do as you have said.” <sup>6</sup>And Abraham went quickly into the tent to Sarah and said, “Quick! Three seahs of fine flour! Knead it, and make cakes.” <sup>7</sup>And Abraham ran to the herd and took a calf, tender and good, and gave it to a young man, who prepared it quickly. <sup>8</sup>Then he took curds and milk and the calf that he had prepared, and set it before them. And he stood by them under the tree while they ate.

<sup>9</sup>They said to him, “Where is Sarah your wife?” And he said, “She is in the tent.”

<sup>10</sup>The LORD said, “I will surely return to you about this time next year, and Sarah your wife shall have a son.” And Sarah was listening at the tent door behind him.

**Reading***Colossians 1:21–29*

<sup>21</sup> You, who once were alienated and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds, <sup>22</sup>he has now reconciled in his body of flesh by his death, in order to present you holy and blameless and above reproach before him, <sup>23</sup>if indeed you continue in the faith, stable and steadfast, not shifting from the hope of the gospel that you heard, which has been proclaimed in all creation under heaven, and of which I, Paul, became a minister.

<sup>24</sup>Now I rejoice in my sufferings for your sake, and in my flesh I am filling up what is lacking in Christ’s afflictions for the sake of his body, that is, the church, <sup>25</sup>of which I became a minister according to the stewardship from God that was given to me for you, to make the word of God fully known, <sup>26</sup>the mystery hidden for ages and generations but now revealed to his saints. <sup>27</sup>To them God chose to make known how great among the Gentiles are the riches of the glory of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory. <sup>28</sup>Him we proclaim, warning everyone and teaching everyone with all wisdom, that we may present everyone mature in Christ. <sup>29</sup>For this I toil, struggling with all his energy that he powerfully works within me.

**Reading***Luke 10:38–42*

<sup>38</sup>Now as they went on their way, Jesus entered a village. And a woman named Martha welcomed him into her house. <sup>39</sup>And she had a sister called Mary, who sat at the Lord’s feet and listened to his teaching. <sup>40</sup>But Martha was distracted with much serving. And she went up to him and said, “Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to serve alone? Tell her then to help me.” <sup>41</sup>But the Lord answered her, “Martha, Martha, you are anxious and troubled about many things, <sup>42</sup>but one thing is necessary. Mary has chosen the good portion, which will not be taken away from her.”

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