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SERVICE OF THE WORD

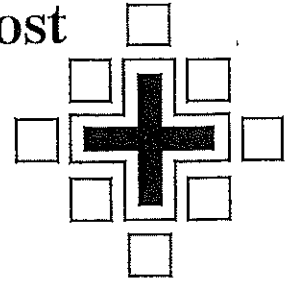
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Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost

October 22, 2023



INTROIT *Ps. 121:1–4, 7–8; antiphon: Ps. 121:5*

The LORD is your | keeper;*
the LORD is your shade on your | right hand.
I lift up my eyes | to the hills.*
From where does my | help come?
My help comes | from the LORD,*
who made | heaven and earth.
He will not let your | foot be moved;*
he who keeps you will not | slumber.
Behold, he who keeps | Israel*
will neither slum- | ber nor sleep.
The LORD will keep you from all | evil;*
he will | keep your life.
The LORD will keep your going out and your | coming in*
from this time forth and for- | evermore.
Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.
The LORD is your | keeper;*
the LORD is your shade on your | right hand.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

O God, the protector of all who trust in You, have mercy on us that with You as our ruler and guide we may so pass through things temporal that we lose not the things eternal; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

GRADUAL *Ps. 91:11; 103:1*

He will command his angels con- | cerning you*
to guard you in | all your ways.
Bless the LORD, | O my soul,*
and all that is within me, bless his | holy name!

DAILY READINGS

October 22: Deut. 21:1–23; Matt. 16:1–12; 23; Deut. 24:10–25:10; Matt. 16:13–28; 24; Deut. 25:17–26:19; Matt. 17:1–13; 25; Deut. 27:1–26; Matt. 17:14–27; 26; Deut. 28:1–22; Matt. 18:1–20; 27; Deut. 29:1–29; Matt. 18:21–35; 28; Deut. 30:1–20; Matt. 19:1–15.

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Old Testament Reading:

Isaiah 45:1-7

- ¹ Thus says the LORD to his anointed, to
Cyrus,
whose right hand I have grasped,
to subdue nations before him
and to loose the belts of kings,
to open doors before him
that gates may not be closed:
- ² "I will go before you
and level the exalted places,
I will break in pieces the doors of
bronze
and cut through the bars of iron,
- ³ I will give you the treasures of
darkness
and the hoards in secret places,
that you may know that it is I, the
LORD,
the God of Israel, who call you by
your name.
- ⁴ For the sake of my servant Jacob,
and Israel my chosen,
I call you by your name,
I name you, though you do not
know me.
- ⁵ I am the LORD, and there is no other,
besides me there is no God;
I equip you, though you do not
know me,
- ⁶ that people may know, from the rising
of the sun
and from the west, that there is none
besides me;
I am the LORD, and there is no other.
- ⁷ I form light and create darkness,
I make well-being and create
calamity,
I am the LORD, who does all these
things."

Epistle: 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

- ¹ Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy,
To the church of the Thessalonians in
God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ:
Grace to you and peace.
- ² We give thanks to God always for all
of you, constantly mentioning you in our
prayers, ³remembering before our God

and Father your work of faith and labor of
love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord
Jesus Christ. ⁴For we know, brothers loved
by God, that he has chosen you, ⁵because
our gospel came to you not only in word,
but also in power and in the Holy Spirit
and with full conviction. You know what
kind of men we proved to be among you
for your sake. ⁶And you became imitators
of us and of the Lord, for you received the
word in much affliction, with the joy of
the Holy Spirit, ⁷so that you became an
example to all the believers in Macedonia
and in Achaia. ⁸For not only has the word
of the Lord sounded forth from you in
Macedonia and Achaia, but your faith
in God has gone forth everywhere, so
that we need not say anything. ⁹For they
themselves report concerning us the kind
of reception we had among you, and how
you turned to God from idols to serve the
living and true God, ¹⁰and to wait for his
Son from heaven, whom he raised from
the dead, Jesus who delivers us from the
wrath to come.

Holy Gospel: Matthew 22:15-22

¹⁵Then the Pharisees went and plotted
how to entangle [Jesus] in his talk. ¹⁶And
they sent their disciples to him, along with
the Herodians, saying, "Teacher, we know
that you are true and teach the way of
God truthfully, and you do not care about
anyone's opinion, for you are not swayed
by appearances. ¹⁷Tell us, then, what you
think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to Caesar,
or not?" ¹⁸But Jesus, aware of their mal-
ice, said, "Why put me to the test, you
hypocrites? ¹⁹Show me the coin for the
tax." And they brought him a denarius.
²⁰And Jesus said to them, "Whose like-
ness and inscription is this?" ²¹They
said, "Caesar's." Then he said to them,
"Therefore render to Caesar the things
that are Caesar's, and to God the things
that are God's." ²²When they heard it, they
marveled. And they left him and went
away.