

COLLECT & READINGS

NINTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

August 2, 2020

Jacob, with his wives and children, is returning to Canaan where he will meet with his brother Esau whom he has wronged. After a night of struggling with God, God gives him a new name, Israel. This new name signifies that he is now a man transformed, ready to meet with Esau, and be reconciled with him.

READING FROM THE BOOK OF GENESIS

The same night Jacob got up and took his two wives, his two maids, and his eleven children, and crossed the ford of the Jabbok. He took them and sent them across the stream, and likewise everything that he had. Jacob was left alone; and a man wrestled with him until daybreak. When the man saw that he did not prevail against Jacob, he struck him on the hip socket; and Jacob's hip was put out of joint as he wrestled with him. Then he said, "Let me go, for the day is breaking." But Jacob said, "I will not let you go, unless you bless me." So he said to him, "What is your name?" And he said, "Jacob." Then the man said, "You shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel, for you have striven with God and with humans, and have prevailed." Then Jacob asked him, "Please tell me your name." But he said, "Why is it that you ask my name?" And there he blessed him. So Jacob called the place Peniel, saying, "For I have seen God face to face, and yet my life is preserved." The sun rose upon him as he passed Penuel, limping because of his hip.

GENESIS 32:22-31

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church

People Thanks be to God

Paul has written of the new life in Christ, in the love of God, aided by the Holy Spirit. Christians are adopted as children of God and share in the heritage of Christ. Now he confronts a thorny question: why have most of God's people, the Jews, rejected the good news?

A READING FROM THE LETTER OF PAUL TO THE ROMANS

I am speaking the truth in Christ - I am not lying; my conscience confirms it by the Holy Spirit - I have great sorrow and unceasing anguish in my heart. For I could wish that I myself were accursed and cut off from Christ for the sake of my own people, my kindred according to the flesh. They are Israelites, and to them belong the adoption, the glory, the covenants, the giving of the law, the worship, and the promises; to them belong the

patriarchs, and from them, according to the flesh, comes the Messiah, who is over all, God blessed forever. Amen.

Romans 9:1-5

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church

People Thanks be to God

Jesus, having heard of the death of John the Baptist, seeks solitude in a quiet place. Crowds follow him and he heals many of their sick. When the disciples point out that the people are hungry and there is almost no food for them, Jesus, in an action that reminds us of the Eucharist, feeds them from what is available, seven loaves and a few little fish.

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF MATTHEW

Reader The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Reader The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew

People Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Now when Jesus heard this, he withdrew from there in a boat to a deserted place by himself. But when the crowds heard it, they followed him on foot from the towns. When he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had compassion for them and cured their sick. When it was evening, the disciples came to him and said, "This is a deserted place, and the hour is now late; send the crowds away so that they may go into the villages and buy food for themselves." Jesus said to them, "They need not go away; you give them something to eat." They replied, "We have nothing here but five loaves and two fish." And he said, "Bring them here to me." Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven, and blessed and broke the loaves, and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds. And all ate and were filled; and they took up what was left over of the broken pieces, twelve baskets full. And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children.

MATTHEW 14:13-21

Reader The Gospel of Christ

People Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

God our sustainer, accept all we offer you this day, and feed us continually with that bread which satisfies all hunger, your Son our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.