

18TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST – OCT. 16, 2011

Exodus 33:12-23

Moses said to the LORD, "See, you have said to me, 'Bring up this people'; but you have not let me know whom you will send with me. Yet you have said, 'I know you by name, and you have also found favor in my sight.' Now if I have found favor in your sight, show me your ways, so that I may know you and find favor in your sight. Consider too that this nation is your people." He said, "My presence will go with you, and I will give you rest." And he said to him, "If your presence will not go, do not carry us up from here. For how shall it be known that I have found favor in your sight, I and your people, unless you go with us? In this way, we shall be distinct, I and your people, from every people on the face of the earth."

The LORD said to Moses, "I will do the very thing that you have asked; for you have found favor in my sight, and I know you by name." Moses said, "Show me your glory, I pray." And he said, "I will make all my goodness pass before you, and will proclaim before you the name, 'The LORD'; and I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and will show mercy on whom I will show mercy. But," he said, "you cannot see my face; for no one shall see me and live." And the LORD continued, "See, there is a place by me where you shall stand on the rock; and while my glory passes by I will put you in a cleft of the rock, and I will cover you with my hand until I have passed by; then I will take away my hand, and you shall see my back; but my face shall not be seen."

Psalms 99

God reigns; let the people tremble; *
God is enthroned upon the cherubim;
let the earth shake.

God is great in Zion *
and is high above all peoples.

Let them confess God's Name, which is great
and awesome; *
God is the Holy One.

"O mighty Ruler, lover of justice,
you have established equity; *
you have executed justice and righteousness in Jacob."

We proclaim your greatness, O God,
and fall down before your footstool; *
you are the Holy One.

Moses and Aaron among your priests,
and Samuel among those who call upon your Name, *
they called upon you, and you answered them.

You spoke to them out of the pillar of cloud; *
they kept your testimonies and the decree that
you gave them.

"O Holy God, you answered them indeed; *
you were a God who forgave them,
yet punished them for their evil deeds."

Proclaim the greatness of our God
and worship on God's holy hill, *
for our God is the Holy One.

1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy, To the church of the
Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus
Christ:

Grace to you and peace.

We always give thanks to God for all of you and
mention you in our prayers, constantly remembering
before our God and Father your work of faith and
labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord
Jesus Christ. For we know, brothers and sisters
beloved by God, that he has chosen you, because our
message of the gospel came to you not in word only,
but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full
conviction; just as you know what kind of persons we
proved to be among you for your sake. And you
became imitators of us and of the Lord, for in spite of
persecution you received the word with joy inspired
by the Holy Spirit, so that you became an example to
all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. For the
word of the Lord has sounded forth from you not
only in Macedonia and Achaia, but in every place your
faith in God has become known, so that we have no
need to speak about it. For the people of those
regions report about us what kind of welcome we had
among you, and how you turned to God from idols,
to serve a living and true God, and to wait for his Son
from heaven, whom he raised from the dead-- Jesus,
who rescues us from the wrath that is coming.

Matthew 22:15-22

The Pharisees went and plotted to entrap Jesus in
what he said. So they sent their disciples to him, along
with the Herodians, saying, "Teacher, we know that
you are sincere, and teach the way of God in
accordance with truth, and show deference to no one;

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for you do not regard people with partiality. Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to the emperor, or not?" But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, "Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? Show me the coin used for the tax." And they brought him a denarius. Then he said to them, "Whose head is this, and whose title?" They answered, "The emperor's." Then he said to them, "Give therefore to the emperor the things that are the emperor's, and to God the things that are God's." When they heard this, they were amazed; and they left him and went away.

Collect

Almighty and everlasting God, in Christ you have revealed your glory among the nations: Preserve the works of your mercy, that your Church throughout the world may persevere with steadfast faith in the confession of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.