

The Fifth Sunday after Trinity

A reading from the Book of Ecclesiastes, chapter 2, beginning at the 1st verse. This passage may be found in your pew Bible on page 764.

(Pause to allow parishioners to find the page.)

I said in my heart, “Come now, I will test you with mirth; therefore enjoy pleasure”; but surely, this also was vanity. I said of laughter—“Madness!”; and of mirth, “What does it accomplish?” I searched in my heart how to gratify my flesh with wine, while guiding my heart with wisdom, and how to lay hold on folly, till I might see what was good for the sons of men to do under heaven all the days of their lives.

I made my works great, I built myself houses, and planted myself vineyards. I made myself gardens and orchards, and I planted all *kinds* of fruit trees in them. I made myself water pools from which to water the growing trees of the grove. I acquired male and female servants, and had servants born in my house. Yes, I had greater possessions of herds and flocks than all who were in Jerusalem before me. I also gathered for myself silver and gold and the special treasures of kings and of the provinces. I acquired male and female singers, the delights of the sons of men, *and* musical instruments of all kinds.

So I became great and excelled more than all who were before me in Jerusalem. Also my wisdom remained with me.

Whatever my eyes desired I did not keep from them.

I did not withhold my heart from any pleasure,
For my heart rejoiced in all my labor;
And this was my reward from all my labor.

Then I looked on all the works that my hands had done
And on the labor in which I had toiled;
And indeed all *was* vanity and grasping for the wind.

There was no profit under the sun.

Then I hated all my labor in which I had toiled under the sun, because I must leave it to the man who will come after me. And who knows whether he will be wise or a fool? Yet he will rule over all my labor in which I toiled and in which I have shown myself wise under the sun. This also *is* vanity. Therefore I turned my heart and despaired of all the labor in which I had toiled under the sun. For there is a man whose labor *is* with wisdom, knowledge, and skill; yet he must leave his heritage to a man who has not labored for it. This also *is* vanity and a great evil. For what has man for all his labor, and for the striving of his heart with which he has toiled under the sun? For all his days *are* sorrowful, and his work burdensome; even in the night his heart takes no rest. This also is vanity.

(Pause for a count of 5)

This is the word of the Lord.

The Fifth Sunday after Trinity

The Psalter – Psalm 63

O GOD, thou art my God; * early
will I seek thee.

My soul thirsteth for thee, my flesh
also longeth after thee, * in a barren
and dry land where no water is.

Thus have I looked for thee in the
sanctuary, * that I might behold thy
power and glory.

For thy loving-kindness is better than
the life itself: * my lips shall praise
thee.

As long as I live will I magnify thee
in this manner, * and lift up my
hands in thy Name.

My soul shall be satisfied, even as it
were with marrow and fatness, *
when my mouth praiseth thee with
joyful lips.

Have I not remembered thee in my
bed, * and thought upon thee when I
was waking?

Because thou hast been my helper; *
therefore under the shadow of thy
wings will I rejoice.

My soul hangeth upon thee; * thy
right hand hath upholden me.

These also that seek the hurt of my
soul, * they shall go under the earth.

Let them fall upon the edge of the
sword, * that they may be a portion
for foxes.

But the King shall rejoice in God; all
they also that swear by him shall be
commended; * for the mouth of them
that speak lies shall be stopped.

The Fifth Sunday after Trinity

A reading from the First Epistle to St. Peter, chapter 3, beginning at the 8th verse.
This passage may be found in the Book of Common Prayer on page 195.

(Pause to allow parishioners to find the page.)

BE ye all of one mind, having compassion one of another, love as brethren, be pitiful, be courteous; not rendering evil for evil, or railing for railing: but contrariwise blessing; knowing that ye are thereunto called, that ye should inherit a blessing. For he that will love life, and see good days, let him refrain his tongue from evil, and his lips that they speak no guile: let him eschew evil, and do good; let him seek peace, and ensue

it. For the eyes of the Lord are over the righteous, and his ears are open unto their prayers: but the face of the Lord is against them that do evil. And who is he that will harm you, if ye be followers of that which is good? But and if ye suffer for righteousness' sake, happy are ye: and be not afraid of their terror, neither be troubled; but sanctify the Lord God in your hearts.

(Pause for a count of 5)

This is the word of the Lord.