

## Nineteenth Sunday After Trinity

### COLLECT

O God, forasmuch as without you  
we are not able to please you;  
mercifully grant that your Holy Spirit  
may in all things direct and rule our hearts;  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

### FIRST READING – ISAIAH 45.1-7

#### *A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.*

Thus says the Lord to his anointed, to Cyrus,  
whose right hand I have grasped  
to subdue nations before him  
and strip kings of their robes,  
to open doors before him—  
and the gates shall not be closed:  
I will go before you  
and level the mountains,  
I will break in pieces the doors of bronze  
and cut through the bars of iron,  
I will give you the treasures of darkness  
and riches hidden in secret places,  
so that you may know that it is I, the Lord,  
the God of Israel, who call you by your name.  
For the sake of my servant Jacob,  
and Israel my chosen,  
I call you by your name,  
I surname you, though you do not know me.  
I am the Lord, and there is no other;  
besides me there is no god.  
I arm you, though you do not know me,  
so that they may know, from the rising of the sun  
and from the west, that there is no one besides me;  
I am the Lord, and there is no other.  
I form light and create darkness,  
I make weal and create woe;  
I the Lord do all these things.

### SECOND READING – 1 THESSALONIANS 1.1-10

#### *A reading from the first letter of Paul to the Thessalonians.*

From 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 labour 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 people 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 where 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.

### GOSPEL – MATTHEW 22.15-22

#### *Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.*

When the chief priests and Pharisees had heard the  
parables, they realized that Jesus was speaking  
about them.

Then the Pharisees went and plotted to entrap him  
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; 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.

### POST COMMUNION

Holy and blessed God,  
you have fed us with the body and blood of your Son  
and filled us with your Holy Spirit:  
may we honour you,  
not only with our lips  
but in lives dedicated to the service  
of Jesus Christ our Lord.