

## Readings for 9:30am Worship

### Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> September

#### Collect for the Fourteenth Sunday after Trinity

Almighty God,  
whose only Son has opened for us  
a new and living way into your presence:  
give us pure hearts and steadfast wills  
to worship you in spirit and in truth;  
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.

**Amen**

#### Hymns:

357 All people that on earth do dwell

669 I heard the voice of Jesus say

742 O for a thousand tongues

#### James 2: 1-13 (p.1213)

**2** My brothers and sisters, believers in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ must not show favouritism. **2** Suppose a man comes into your meeting wearing a gold ring and fine clothes, and a poor man in filthy old clothes also comes in. **3** If you show special attention to the man wearing fine clothes and say, 'Here's a good seat for you,' but say to the poor man, 'You stand there' or 'Sit on the floor by my feet,' **4** have you not discriminated among yourselves and become judges with evil thoughts?

**5** Listen, my dear brothers and sisters: has not God chosen those who are poor in the eyes of the world to be rich in faith and to inherit the kingdom he promised those who love him? **6** But you have dishonoured the poor. Is it not the rich who are exploiting you? Are they not the ones who are dragging you into court? **7** Are they not the ones who are blaspheming the noble name of him to whom you belong?

**8** If you really keep the royal law found in Scripture, 'Love your neighbour as yourself,'<sup>[a]</sup> you are doing right. **9** But if you show favouritism, you sin and are convicted by the law as law-breakers. **10** For whoever keeps the whole law and yet stumbles at just one point is guilty of breaking all of

it. <sup>11</sup> For he who said, 'You shall not commit adultery,'<sup>[b]</sup> also said, 'You shall not murder.'<sup>[c]</sup> If you do not commit adultery but do commit murder, you have become a law-breaker.

<sup>12</sup> Speak and act as those who are going to be judged by the law that gives freedom, <sup>13</sup> because judgment without mercy will be shown to anyone who has not been merciful. Mercy triumphs over judgment.

### **Mark 7:24-end (p.1010)**

<sup>24</sup> Jesus left that place and went to the vicinity of Tyre. He entered a house and did not want anyone to know it; yet he could not keep his presence secret. <sup>25</sup> In fact, as soon as she heard about him, a woman whose little daughter was possessed by an impure spirit came and fell at his feet. <sup>26</sup> The woman was a Greek, born in Syrian Phoenicia. She begged Jesus to drive the demon out of her daughter.

<sup>27</sup> 'First let the children eat all they want,' he told her, 'for it is not right to take the children's bread and toss it to the dogs.'

<sup>28</sup> 'Lord,' she replied, 'even the dogs under the table eat the children's crumbs.'

<sup>29</sup> Then he told her, 'For such a reply, you may go; the demon has left your daughter.'

<sup>30</sup> She went home and found her child lying on the bed, and the demon gone.

<sup>31</sup> Then Jesus left the vicinity of Tyre and went through Sidon, down to the Sea of Galilee and into the region of the Decapolis.<sup>[d]</sup> <sup>32</sup> There some people brought to him a man who was deaf and could hardly talk, and they begged Jesus to place his hand on him.

<sup>33</sup> After he took him aside, away from the crowd, Jesus put his fingers into the man's ears. Then he spat and touched the man's tongue. <sup>34</sup> He looked up to heaven and with a deep sigh said to him, '*Ephphatha!*' (which means 'Be opened!'). <sup>35</sup> At this, the man's ears were opened, his tongue was loosed and he began to speak plainly.

<sup>36</sup> Jesus commanded them not to tell anyone. But the more he did so, the more they kept talking about it. <sup>37</sup> People were overwhelmed with amazement. 'He has done everything well,' they said. 'He even makes the deaf hear and the mute speak.'