

# Readings September 7, 2025 – 13<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

*Sit*

## Psalm 1

<sup>1</sup> **Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel of the wicked,  
nor lingered in the way of sinners, nor sat in the seats of the scornful!**

<sup>2</sup> Their delight is in the law of the LORD,  
and they meditate on God's teaching day and night.

<sup>3</sup> **They are like trees planted by streams of water, bearing fruit in due season,  
with leaves that do not wither; everything they do shall prosper.**

<sup>4</sup> It is not so with the wicked; they are like chaff which the wind blows away.

<sup>5</sup> **Therefore the wicked shall not stand upright when judgment comes,  
nor the sinner in the council of the righteous.**

<sup>6</sup> For the LORD knows the way of the righteous,  
but the way of the wicked shall be destroyed.

## Reading: Philemon 1-21

<sup>1</sup> Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother,  
To our beloved coworker Philemon, <sup>2</sup>to our sister Apphia, to our fellow soldier Archippus,  
and to the church in your house:

<sup>3</sup> Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

<sup>4</sup> I thank my God always when I mention you in my prayers, <sup>5</sup>because I hear of your love  
for all the saints and your faith toward the Lord Jesus. <sup>6</sup>I pray that the partnership of your  
faith may become effective as you comprehend all the good that we share in Christ. <sup>7</sup>I have  
indeed received much joy and encouragement from your love, because the hearts of the  
saints have been refreshed through you, my brother.

<sup>8</sup> For this reason, though I am more than bold enough in Christ to command you to do the  
right thing, <sup>9</sup>yet I would rather appeal to you on the basis of love—and I, Paul, do this as an  
old man and now also as a prisoner of Christ Jesus. <sup>10</sup>I am appealing to you for my child,  
Onesimus, whose father I have become during my imprisonment. <sup>11</sup>Formerly he was  
useless to you, but now he is indeed useful to you and to me. <sup>12</sup>I am sending him, that is,  
my own heart, back to you. <sup>13</sup>I wanted to keep him with me so that he might minister to me  
in your place during my imprisonment for the gospel, <sup>14</sup>but I preferred to do nothing without  
your consent in order that your good deed might be voluntary and not something forced.

<sup>15</sup> Perhaps this is the reason he was separated from you for a while, so that you might have  
him back for the long term, <sup>16</sup>no longer as a slave but more than a slave, a beloved  
brother—especially to me but how much more to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord.

<sup>17</sup> So if you consider me your partner, welcome him as you would welcome me. <sup>18</sup> If he  
has wronged you in any way or owes you anything, charge that to me. <sup>19</sup> I, Paul, am writing  
this with my own hand: I will repay it. I say nothing about your owing me even your own self.

<sup>20</sup> Yes, brother, let me have this benefit from you in the Lord! Refresh my heart in Christ.

<sup>21</sup> Confident of your obedience, I am writing to you, knowing that you will do even more than  
I ask.

Reader: This is the word of the Lord

People: **Thanks be to God**

