TWENTIETH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST - PROPER 22

October 6, 2024

Year B, Revised Common Lectionary

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Sunday Morning (detail) Thomas Waterman Wood, ca. 1877, Smithsonian American Art Museum, Washington, DC.

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Psalm 26

- ▼ Vindicate me, O LORD, for I have walked in my integrity, and I have trusted in the LORD without wavering.
- ♣ Prove me, O LORD, and try me; test my heart and mind.
- ♣ For your steadfast love is before my eyes, and I walk in faithfulness to you.
- ♣ I do not sit with the worthless, nor do I consort with hypocrites; I hate the company of evildoers and will not sit with the wicked.
- I wash my hands in innocence and go around your altar, O LORD,
- ★ singing aloud a song of thanksgiving and telling all your wondrous deeds.
- ◆ O LORD, I love the house in which you dwell and the place where your glory abides.
- ♣ Do not sweep me away with sinners nor my life with the bloodthirstv.
- ★ those in whose hands are evil devices and whose right hands are full of bribes.
- But as for me, I walk in my integrity; redeem me and be gracious to me.
- My foot stands on level ground; in the great congregation I will bless the LORD.

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Mark 10:2-16 Some, testing him, asked, "Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife?" He answered them. "What did Moses command you?" They said, "Moses allowed a man to write a certificate of dismissal and to divorce her." But Jesus said to them, "Because of your hardness of heart he wrote this commandment for you. But from the beginning of creation, 'God made them male and female.' 'For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh.' So they are no longer two but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate." Then in the house the disciples asked him again about this matter. He said to them, "Whoever divorces his wife and marries another commits adultery against her, and if she divorces her husband and marries another, she commits adultery." People were bringing children to him in order that he might touch them, and the disciples spoke sternly to them. But when Jesus saw this, he was indignant and said to them, "Let the children come to me; do not stop them, for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will never enter it." And he took them up in his arms, laid his hands on them. and blessed them.

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Then the LORD God said, "It is not Genesis 2:18-24 good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper as his partner." So out of the ground the LORD God formed every animal of the field and every bird of the air and brought them to the man to see what he would call them, and whatever the man called every living creature, that was its name. The man gave names to all cattle and to the birds of the air and to every animal of the field, but for the man there was not found a helper as his partner. So the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and he slept; then he took one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh. And the rib that the LORD God had taken from the man he made into a woman and brought her to the man. Then the man said, "This at last is bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; this one shall be called Woman. for out of Man this one was taken." Therefore a man leaves his father and his mother and clings to his wife, and they become one flesh.

Psalm 8

- ◆ O LORD, our Sovereign, how majestic is your name in all the earth!
- You have set your glory above the heavens.

- Out of the mouths of babes and infants you have founded a bulwark because of your foes, to silence the enemy and the avenger.
- When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars that you have established:
- ★ what are humans that you are mindful of them, mortals that you care for them?
- Yet you have made them a little lower than God and crowned them with glory and honor.
- You have given them dominion over the works of your hands;
- you have put all things under their feet, all sheep and oxen, and also the beasts of the field, the birds of the air, and the fish of the sea, whatever passes along the paths of the seas.
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Texts in gray: Alternate first reading and Psalm

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outside their control. As it is, we do not yet see everything in subjection to them, but we do see Jesus, who for a little while was made lower than the angels, now crowned with glory and honor because of the suffering of death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone. It was fitting that God, for whom and through whom all things exist, in bringing many children to glory, should make the pioneer of their salvation perfect through sufferings. For the one who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one Father. For this reason Jesus is not ashamed to call them brothers and sisters, saying, "I will proclaim your name to my brothers and sisters; in the midst of the congregation I will praise you."

Mark 10:2-16 Some, testing him, asked, "Is it lawful for a man to divorce his wife?" He answered them, "What did Moses command you?" They said, "Moses allowed a man to write a certificate of dismissal and to divorce her." But Jesus said to them, "Because of your hardness of heart he wrote this commandment for you. But from the beginning of creation, 'God made them male and female.' 'For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh.' So they are no longer two but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let no one separate." Then in the house the disciples asked him again about this matter. He said to them, "Whoever divorces his wife and marries another commits adultery against her, and if she divorces her husband and marries another, she commits adultery." People were bringing children to him in order that he might touch them, and the disciples spoke sternly to them. But when Jesus saw this, he was indignant and said to them, "Let the children come to me; do not stop them, for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will never enter it." And he took them up in his arms, laid his hands on them, and blessed them.