FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST – PROPER 18
September 10, 2017
Year A, Revised Common Lectionary

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WITHOUT STOPPING TO INQUIRE WHETHER OR NOT THEY ARE WORTHY.

- Thomas Merton -

Symphony of Love Merton Quotation, detail, original color photo by Jinterwas, Flickr from Facebook, 2013.

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Psalm 149

- Let them praise his name with dancing, making melody to him with tambourine and lyre.
- For the LORD takes pleasure in his people; he adorns the humble with victory.
- Let the faithful exult in glory; let them sing for joy on their couches.
- Let the high praises of God be in their throats and two-edged swords in their hands,
- to execute vengeance on the nations and punishment on the peoples,
- to bind their kings with fetters and their nobles with chains of iron,
- to execute on them the judgment decreed. This is glory for all his faithful ones. Praise the LORD!

Romans 13:8-14  Owe no one anything, except to love one another; for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. The commandments, “You shall not commit adultery; You shall not murder; You shall not steal; You shall not covet”; and any other commandment, are summed up in this word, “Love your neighbor as yourself.” Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law. Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

Matthew 18:15-20  “If another member of the church sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If the member listens to you, you have regained that one. But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. If the member refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a Gentile and a tax collector. Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.”
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Psalm 119:33-40

❖ Teach me, O LORD, the way of your statutes, and I will observe it to the end.
❖ Give me understanding, that I may keep your law and observe it with my whole heart.
❖ Lead me in the path of your commandments, for I delight in it.
❖ Turn my heart to your decrees, and not to selfish gain.
❖ Turn my eyes from looking at vanities; give me life in your ways.
❖ Confirm to your servant your promise, which is for those who fear you.
❖ Turn away the disgrace that I dread, for your ordinances are good.
❖ See, I have longed for your precepts; in your righteousness give me life.

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