

Pentecost 5A

July 9, 2017

Other Readings

Zechariah 9:9-12

Psalm 145:8-14

Readings for study

Romans 7:15-25a

Before: Sin works in us, through what is good, to bring about death

- Understand
 - I do not know (if action is intended does it make it worse?)
 - Intentions can even dictate right or wrong
 - Knowledge is not cause (just knowing what will happen doesn't lead to something happening, the action and outside forces)
 - Our observation of the external world is limited, and our judgment can lead to action that does not lead to wholeness
- Actions
 - I do not "practice" what I want, but I "do" what I hate – they are different words
 - We are pulled both by God and Devil
 - The good things are the practices we want to enact
 - This passage is reassuring for those who beat themselves up
- Sin
 - Missing the mark again
- Want
 - Intentions, to have in mind
- Hate
 - "mis" where we get words like misanthropic
 - What does it mean to do something we hate? Is it something we don't intend?
 - Lying to save yourself would be a value we hate
 - We have to stop being nice and start being good – Kelly Frye
- Law
 - We are not against the law, but not justified by it
- Dwells within
 - Literally "makes its home"
- *I can will what is right, but I cannot do it. For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I do.*
- Evil
 - Opposite of Good
 - Confession (especially in worship) helps us as individuals as well as a church
 - Saying it out loud has power
- Inmost self
 - Literally "the inner man", what makes someone human
 - Our identity is at all times both saint and sinner
- Wretched man
 - One who has endured trials or is afflicted
- Rescue
 - To deliver
 - We are lifted up by the body of Christ

After: How the Spirit alive in us helps us live, and how the flesh leads us to death

Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30 <note that the text skips over a condemnation for a few cities who aren't repenting>

Before: Affirming John the Baptist and his ministry and place in the faith

- Compare
- Generation
 - Those living around at the time
- Children
 - Sometimes used for disciples
- Flute
- Eating and drinking
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- Demon
- Glutton and Drunkard
 - One of the few times Jesus is physically described
- Vindicated
 - Justified, righteous
- Hidden
- Wise
- Intelligent
- Infants
- Gracious will
- Weary
- Heavy Burdens
- Rest (for your souls)
- Yoke
 - Living under the law is difficult, Jesus' grace offers freedom
- Gentle
- Humble in heart

After: Jesus challenging the interpretation of what can occur on the Sabbath