25 October 2026

Twenty-Second Sunday After Pentecost

Sentence

You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: you shall love your neighbour as yourself. On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets. Matthew 22.37–40

Collect

O God,
whose Son has taught us that love is the fulfilment of your law:
stir up within us the fire of your Holy Spirit,
and pour into our hearts your greatest gift of love,
so that we may love you with our whole being,
and our neighbours as ourselves;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. Amen.

1st Reading

Deuteronomy 34.1-12

1 Then Moses went up from the plains of Moab to Mount Nebo, to
the top of Pisgah, which is opposite Jericho, and the Lord showed
him the whole land: Gilead as far as Dan, 2 all Naphtali, the land of
Ephraim and Manasseh, all the land of Judah as far as the Western
Sea, 3 the Negeb, and the Plain—that is, the valley of Jericho, the
city of palm trees—as far as Zoar. 4 The Lord said to him, 'This is
the land of which I swore to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob,
saying, "I will give it to your descendants"; I have let you see it
with your eyes, but you shall not cross over there.' 5 Then Moses,
the servant of the Lord , died there in the land of Moab, at the Lord

’s command. 6 He was buried in a valley in the land of Moab,
opposite Beth-peor, but no one knows his burial place to this day.
7 Moses was one hundred and twenty years old when he died; his
sight was unimpaired and his vigour had not abated. 8 The Israelites
wept for Moses in the plains of Moab for thirty days; then the
period of mourning for Moses was ended. 9 Joshua son of Nun was
full of the spirit of wisdom, because Moses had laid his hands on
him; and the Israelites obeyed him, doing as the Lord had
commanded Moses. 10 Never since has there arisen a prophet in
Israel like Moses, whom the Lord knew face to face. 11 He was
unequalled for all the signs and wonders that the Lord sent him to
perform in the land of Egypt, against Pharaoh and all his servants
and his entire land, 12 and for all the mighty deeds and all the
terrifying displays of power that Moses performed in the sight of all
Israel.

Psalm

Psalm 90.1-6; 90.13-17

1 Lord, you have been our refuge:
from one generation to another.
2 Before the mountains were born
or the earth and the world were brought to be:
from eternity to eternity you are God.
3 You turn us back into dust:
saying ‘Return to dust, O children of Adam.’
4 For a thousand years in your sight
are like yesterday passing:
or like one watch of the night.
5 You cut them short like a dream:
like the fresh grass of the morning;
6 In the morning it is green and flourishes:
at evening it is withered and dried up.
13 Relent, O Lord; how long will you be angry?:
take pity on your servants.

14 O satisfy us early with your mercy:
that all our days we may rejoice and sing.
15 Give us joy for all the days you have afflicted us:
for the years we have suffered adversity.
16 Show your servants your work:
and let their children see your glory.
17 May the gracious favour of the Lord our God be upon us:
prosper the work of our hands,
O prosper the work of our hands!

2nd Reading

1 Thessalonians 2.1-13

1 You yourselves know, brothers and sisters, that our coming to you
was not in vain, 2 but though we had already suffered and been
shamefully maltreated at Philippi, as you know, we had courage in
our God to declare to you the gospel of God in spite of great
opposition. 3 For our appeal does not spring from deceit or impure
motives or trickery, 4 but just as we have been approved by God to
be entrusted with the message of the gospel, even so we speak,
not to please mortals, but to please God who tests our hearts. 5 As
you know and as God is our witness, we never came with words of
flattery or with a pretext for greed; 6 nor did we seek praise from
mortals, whether from you or from others, 7 though we might have
made demands as apostles of Christ. But we were gentle among
you, like a nurse tenderly caring for her own children. 8 So deeply
do we care for you that we are determined to share with you not
only the gospel of God but also our own selves, because you have
become very dear to us. 9 You remember our labour and toil,
brothers and sisters; we worked night and day, so that we might
not burden any of you while we proclaimed to you the gospel of
God. 10 You are witnesses, and God also, how pure, upright, and
blameless our conduct was towards you believers. 11 As you know,
we dealt with each one of you like a father with his children,
12 urging and encouraging you and pleading that you should lead a
life worthy of God, who calls you into his own kingdom and glory.

13 We also constantly give thanks to God for this, that when you
received the word of God that you heard from us, you accepted it
not as a human word but as what it really is, God's word, which is
also at work in you believers.

Gospel Reading

Matthew 22.34-46

34 When the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees,
they gathered together,
35 and one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him.
36 'Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?'
37 He said to him, ' "You shall love the Lord your God with all your
heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind."
38 This is the greatest and first commandment.
39 And a second is like it: "You shall love your neighbour as
yourself."
40 On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.'
41 Now while the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked
them this question:
42 'What do you think of the Messiah? Whose son is he?' They said
to him, 'The son of David.'
43 He said to them, 'How is it then that David by the Spirit calls him
Lord, saying,
44 "The Lord said to my Lord,
'Sit at my right hand,
until I put your enemies under your feet' "?
45 If David thus calls him Lord, how can he be his son?'
46 No one was able to give him an answer, nor from that day did
anyone dare to ask him any more questions.