

Sunday, July 31, 2022 – Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

First Reading: Ecclesiastes 1:2, 12-14; 2:18-23

1:2 - Vanity of vanities, says the Teacher. All is vanity.

1:12 - I, the Teacher, when king over Israel in Jerusalem.

2:18-19 - I hated all my toil in which I had toiled under the sun, seeing that I must leave it to those who come after me — and who knows whether they will be wise or foolish? Yet they will be master of all for which I toiled and used my wisdom under the sun. This also is vanity.

2:20-21 - So I turned and gave my heart up to despair concerning all the toil of my labors under the sun, because sometimes one who has toiled with wisdom and knowledge and skill must leave all to be enjoyed by another who did not toil for it. This also is vanity and a great evil.

2:22-23 - What do mortals get from all the toil and strain with which they toil under the sun? For all their days are full of pain, and their work is a vexation; even at night their minds do not rest. This also is vanity.

1 Kings 12: 12-16 – So Jeroboam and all the people came to Rehoboam the third day, as the king had said. The king answered the people harshly. He disregarded the advice that the older men had given him and spoke to them according to the advice of the young men. "My father made your yoke heavy, but I will add to your yoke; my father disciplined you with whips but I will discipline you with scorpions." So the king did not listen to the people. When all Israel saw that the king would not listen to them, the people answered the king, "What share do we have in David? We have no inheritance in the son of Jesse."

Psalm: Psalm 49:1-12

10 - The wise die also; like the dull and stupid they perish and leave their wealth to those who come after them.

Second Reading: Colossians 3:1-11

July 17 - 1:15-28 – Who Jesus is

July 24 – 2:6-19 – What Jesus did

July 31 – 3:1-11 – Therefore how should I respond – how should I live

"You have been raised" so "seek the things that are above"

"You have died" so "put to death"

"You once, but now"

"You have stripped off the old self and have clothed yourselves with the new self"

1 - So if you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God.

2 - Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth.

3 - You have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God.

5-6 - Put to death, therefore, whatever in you is earthly: fornication, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed (which is idolatry). On account of these the wrath of God is coming on those who are disobedient.

7-8 - These are the ways you also once followed, when you were living that life. But now you must get rid of all such things—anger, wrath, malice, slander, and abusive language from your mouth.

9-10 - Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have stripped off the old self with its practices and have clothed yourselves with the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge according to the image of its creator.

Gospel: Luke 12:13-21

13-16 - Someone in the crowd said to (Jesus), "Teacher, tell my brother to divide the family inheritance with me." But he said to him, "Friend, who set me to be a judge or arbitrator over you? Take care! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; for one's life does not consist in the abundance of possessions." Then he told them a parable.

*We all make mistakes. Sometimes we make big mistakes.
The man in the parable made the biggest mistakes of all.*

1. In planning for himself, he forgot his neighbor

16-17 - The land of a rich man produced abundantly. And he thought to himself, "What should I do, for I have no place to store my crops?"

Proverbs 11: 24 – Some give freely yet grow all the richer; others withhold what is due, and only suffer want.

Philippians 2: 4-5 – Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus.

2. In considering his goods, he forgot the giver

18 - Then he said, "I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods."

1 Corinthians 4: 7 – What do you have that you did not receive? And if you received it, why do you boast as if it were not a gift?

Count your blessings, but also consider the source.

Psalms 103: 2 – Bless the Lord, O my soul, and do not forget all his benefits.

3. In providing for his body, he forgot his soul

19 - And I will say to my soul, "Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry."

20 - But God said to him, "You fool! This very night your life is being demanded of you. And the things you have prepared, whose will they be?"

21 - So it is with those who store up treasures for themselves but are not rich toward God.

James 4: 13-14 – Come now, you who say, "Today or tomorrow we will go to such and such a town and spend a year there, doing business and making money." Yet you do not even know what tomorrow will bring. What is your life? For you are like a mist that appears for a little while and then vanishes.

The one who dies with the most toys still dies