

***The First Lesson – Isaiah 61: 1-4, 8-11***

**A Reading from the book of Isaiah**

The spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me,  
because the LORD has anointed me;

he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed,  
to bind up the brokenhearted,

to proclaim liberty to the captives,  
and release to the prisoners;

to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor,  
and the day of vengeance of our God;  
to comfort all who mourn;

to provide for those who mourn in Zion—  
to give them a garland instead of ashes,

the oil of gladness instead of mourning,  
the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit.

They will be called oaks of righteousness,  
the planting of the LORD, to display his glory.

They shall build up the ancient ruins,  
they shall raise up the former devastations;

they shall repair the ruined cities,  
the devastations of many generations.

Pentecost, Year A, December 17<sup>th</sup>, 2017  
10:30 am Service

For I the LORD love justice,  
I hate robbery and wrongdoing;

I will faithfully give them their recompense,  
and I will make an everlasting covenant with them.

Their descendants shall be known among the nations,  
and their offspring among the peoples;

all who see them shall acknowledge  
that they are a people whom the LORD has blessed.

I will greatly rejoice in the LORD,  
my whole being shall exult in my God;

for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation,  
he has covered me with the robe of righteousness,

as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland,  
and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.

For as the earth brings forth its shoots,  
and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up,

so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise  
to spring up before all the nations.

*Lector:* **Hear what the Spirit is saying to the people.**

*People:* *Thanks be to God*

Pentecost I, Year A, December 17<sup>th</sup> 2017

10:30 am Service

Pentecost, Year A, November 19<sup>th</sup>, 2017  
10:30 am Service

*The Second Lesson* – 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

**A Reading from the First Letter of Paul to the Thessalonians**

Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. Do not quench the Spirit. Do not despise the words of prophets, but test everything; hold fast to what is good; abstain from every form of evil.

May the God of peace himself sanctify you entirely; and may your spirit and soul and body be kept sound and blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. The one who calls you is faithful, and he will do this.

*Lector:* **Hear what the Spirit is saying to the people.**

*People:* Thanks be to God.