

THE ELEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

August 27, 2017

*Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts;
O come let us worship!*

8:30 a.m. – Morning Prayer:

✠ Psalm 65 | Hosea 6:1-6 | Romans 1:1-25

9:00 a.m. – The Holy Eucharist

Introit: Psalm 111:	page 477
The Gloria:	page 86
The Collect:	page 234
The Old Testament Reading:	1 Kings 3.5-15
Psalm 67:	page 409
The Epistle:	page 234
Gradual Psalm: 51:15-17:	page 395
The Holy Gospel:	page 235
The Creed:	page 71
The Homily	
The Prayers of the People:	L: Lord, in thy mercy; C: Hear our prayer
The Consecration:	page 82
Post-Communion Prayer:	page 85

9:45 a.m. – Time with Fr. Stockall

10:30 a.m. – The Holy Eucharist

♪♪ Processional Hymn:	384 (Richmond)
The Gloria:	page 86
The Collect:	page 234
The Old Testament Reading:	1 Kings 3.5-15
Psalm 51:15-17:	page 395
The Epistle:	page 234
♪♪ Gradual Hymn:	515 (Duke Street)
The Holy Gospel:	page 235
♪♪ Gospel Acclamation:	Alleluia
The Creed:	page 71
The Homily	
♪♪ Offertory Hymn:	246 (Song 1)
The Prayers of the People:	L: Lord, in your mercy; C: Hear our prayer
The Consecration:	page 82
♪♪ Hymn during Communion:	247 (Eisenach)
Post-Communion Prayer:	page 85
♪♪ Recessional Hymn:	499 (St. Denio)

*Please join us in the Parish Hall
following the 10:30 Celebration for
Coffee & Conversation.*

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From the Rector _____

This morning's Gospel is one of those stories that is not recorded in any other Gospel; so it is, we might safely conclude, one of those many sayings that might have been lost forever had Luke not carefully recorded what other witnesses had told him. We are richer for his efforts, because our understanding of the Gospel would be a great deal different were we not to have, for example, the Parables of the Good Samaritan or the Prodigal Son, or the wonderful time-honoured, much loved stories of Christ's birth and childhood.

But you may not feel nearly as enriched by this morning's parable. Certainly, on one level at least, it seems to go against much that we've been taught about

character and virtue and honesty. Asa much as we hear the story a lot, it still seems to go against our social and theological grain.

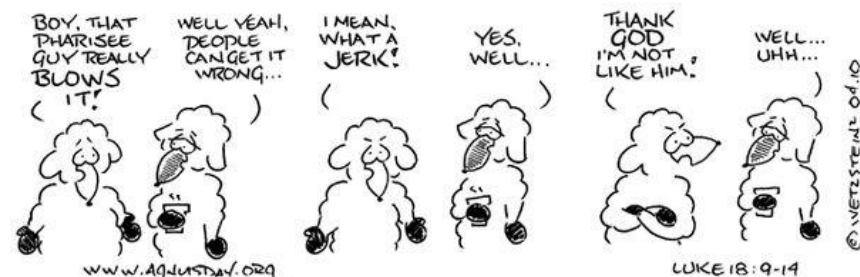
The fact is, while we may not like the Pharisee's attitude, we would probably warmly embrace him were he to walk in here this morning. Assuming that what he says is true, and there's nothing in the details given by Christ that would cause us to think otherwise, he would seem to stand as a model of an ideal citizen. If we can set aside the ingrained prejudice that we may have against Pharisees, given all that we've heard and read about them in the Gospels, we have to give this man some credit. It would seem that he is a good man. He's not a crook, not a timeserver; he doesn't run around; he takes nothing that he hasn't honestly earned; he gives everyone he knows fair and full measure. Now, he may be a bit of a bore, talking so much about how wonderful he is, but if it's all true, what's not to like about his example?

Then, on the other hand, we have the tax collector. We might not feel so welcoming were one such as he walk through our doors this morning. And how many 'tax collectors' have turned away from churches because of the judgemental looks of a few Pharisees? We have to admit that he most likely was a crook, and maybe even worse. While it is likely that he was Jewish, he worked for the Roman government. He had a franchise, in effect, an area in which he was entitled to collect taxes. He was told by the Romans what he owed them, and anything else that he was able to collect over and above that was his to pocket, no matter what methods he used to collect it. Even if, in the unlikely case, they tried to be as conscientious as possible, tax collectors were still despised by their own people as turncoats and traitors.

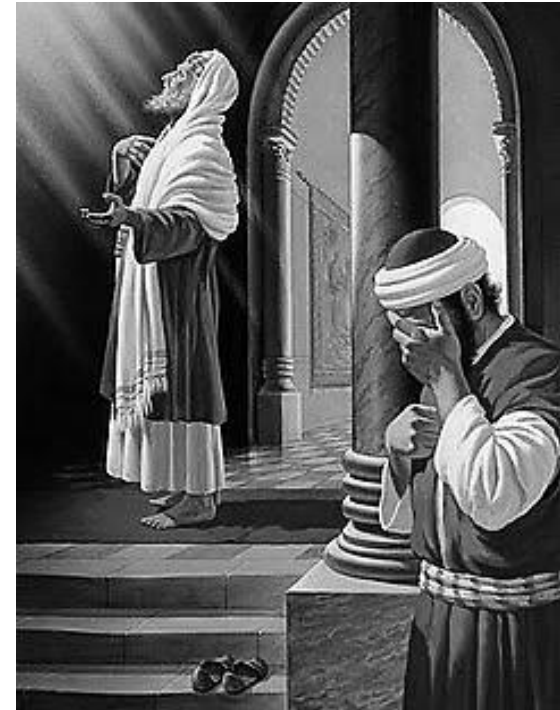
So, in a way, Jesus has set us up. He brings in this Pharisee, who was one of the most respectable people in Judaism of his time, and sends him into the temple with this tax collector who, as one commentator calls him, was a kind of mafia-style enforcer, a thoroughly bad character from top to bottom. But in setting us up, Jesus turns the tables in a way that His original audience could never have imagined possible.

So perhaps one of the many questions that we are left with from this morning's Gospel goes something like this: how does the Gospel challenge the unconscious assumptions of our own time and culture?

What tables might Jesus be overturning in our hearts?



The Anglican Church of Canada
The Diocese of Fredericton
THE PARISH OF ST. MARY, YORK



In a world ruled by law, grace stands as a sign of contradiction. We want fairness; the gospel gives us an innocent man nailed to a cross who cries out, "Father, forgive them." We want respectability; the gospel elevates tax collectors, prodigals, and Samaritans. We want success; the gospel revises the terms, moving the poor and downtrodden to the head of the line and the wealthy and famous to the rear.

Philip Yancey, *Soul Survivor*, 2001

Priest and Rector

The Revd. Canon Kevin M. Stockall, B.A. (Hons), M.Div.

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Parish Notices and Updates _____

PLEASE NOTE THAT OUR NEXT MONTHLY SHARED MEAL, which normally falls on the first Sunday of each month, is being moved to avoid falling on the Labour Day weekend. So please plan to join us on *Sunday, September 10th* for our next Shared Meal.

A RECENT DONATION IN MEMORY OF SHEILA WILLS has provided a supply of seat cushions which are available in a basket at the entrance to the Church for anyone who is interested in using one during the service. Feel free to pick one up on the way to your seat and return it to the basket following the service.

A GIFT OF PRAYER: copies of a list of the patronal names of all the Anglican churches here in the Diocese of Fredericton are available at the back of the Church. Using this as a guide, with the help of a Church Calendar, you are invited to pray throughout the year for the people and parishes of the Diocese. If you'd like to help with this brief but important ministry, please pick up a copy today. Please speak to the Rector if you have any questions.

STARTING ON SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 10TH,we invite all young people and their families to join us each Sunday morning, from approximately 9:45 and continuing until about 10:20, for an exciting, fun, and informative programme of Christian Education. Janice offers an interesting mix of crafts and instruction to help our young people to grow in their faith and to engage the Scriptures. Plan to join us as often as you can; and please invite your friends to come along as well. Everyone is welcome! *And anyone who would like to share in this wonderful and rewarding ministry is encouraged to speak to the Rector.*

ST. MARY'S BRANCH OF ANGLICAN CHURCH WOMEN will be meeting on *Monday, September 11th*, beginning with lunch at the north side Pizza Delight at 12:00 noon followed by a business meeting at the Parish Hall. The women of St. Mary's are warmly invited to join them. For more information please speak to Joan Keswick at 472-2193 or the Rector.



SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

AUGUST 30: ST. AIDAN, Missionary: Bishop of Lindisfarne

6:30 p.m. – Evening Prayer

7:00 p.m. – Holy Eucharist

SEPTEMBER 2: THE TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

5:00 p.m. – Holy Eucharist

SEPTEMBER 3: THE TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

9:00 a.m. – Holy Eucharist

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