

SUNDAY READINGS

Seventh Sunday after Trinity, 19 July 2026

COLLECT

Generous God,
you give us gifts and make them grow:
though our faith is small as mustard seed,
make it grow to your glory
and the flourishing of your kingdom;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Or this

Lord of all power and might,
the author and giver of all good things:
graft in our hearts the love of your name,
increase in us true religion,
nourish us with all goodness,
and of your great mercy keep us in the same;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

FIRST READING *Isaiah 44:6-8*

A reading from the prophet Isaiah:

I am the Lord All-Powerful, the first and the last,
the one and only God. Israel, I have rescued you!
I am your King. Can anyone compare with me?
If so, let them speak up and tell me now. Let
them say what has happened since I made my
nation long ago, and let them tell what is going
to happen. Don't tremble with fear! Didn't I tell
you long ago? Didn't you hear me? I alone am
God – no one else is a mighty rock.

This is the word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING *Romans 8:18-25**

A reading from the Letter of St Paul to the Romans

I am sure that what we are suffering now cannot
compare with the glory that will be shown to us.
In fact, all creation is eagerly waiting for God to
show who his children are.

Meanwhile, creation is confused, but not
because it wants to be confused. God made it
this way in the hope that creation would be set
free from decay and would share in the glorious
freedom of his children. We know that all
creation is still groaning and is in pain, like a
woman about to give birth.

The Spirit makes us sure about what we will be
in the future. But now we groan silently, while
we wait for God to show that we are his
children. This means that our bodies will also be
set free.

And this hope is what saves us. But if we
already have what we hope for, there is no need
to keep on hoping. However, we hope for
something we have not yet seen, and we
patiently wait for it.

This is the word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL *Matthew 13:24-30**

*Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to
Matthew. Glory to you, O Lord.*

Jesus told them this story:

The kingdom of heaven is like what happened
when a farmer scattered good seed in a field. But
while everyone was sleeping, an enemy came
and scattered weeds in the field and then left.

When the plants came up and began to ripen,
the farmer's servants could see the weeds. The
servants came and asked, 'Sir, didn't you scatter
good seed in your field? Where did these weeds
come from?'

'An enemy did this,' he replied.

His servants then asked, 'Do you want us to go
out and pull up the weeds?'

'No!' he answered. 'You might also pull up the
wheat. Leave the weeds alone until harvest time.
Then I'll tell my workers to gather the weeds
and tie them up and burn them. But I'll order
them to store the wheat in my barn.'

At the end we say: Praise be to you O Christ

CLOSING PRAYER

Lord God, whose Son
is the true vine and the source of life,
ever giving himself that the world may live:
may we so receive within ourselves
the power of his death and passion
that, in his saving cup,
we may share his glory
and be made perfect in his love;
for he is alive and reigns, now and for ever.

* Indicates that these appointed readings have been shortened today.

Scripture readings: from the Anglicized edition of the Contemporary
English Version ©1991, 1992, 1995, published by the American Bible
Society/British and Foreign Bible Society All rights reserved. Prayers:
©The Archbishops' Council of the Church of England & others.