

## First reading

### Isaiah 5.1–7

Let me sing for my beloved  
my love-song concerning his  
vineyard:  
My beloved had a vineyard  
on a very fertile hill.  
He dug it and cleared it of stones,  
and planted it with choice vines;  
he built a watch-tower in the midst  
of it,  
and hewed out a wine vat in it;  
he expected it to yield grapes,  
but it yielded wild grapes.  
And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem  
and people of Judah,  
judge between me  
and my vineyard.  
What more was there to do for my  
vineyard  
that I have not done in it?  
When I expected it to yield grapes,  
why did it yield wild grapes?  
And now I will tell you  
what I will do to my vineyard.  
I will remove its hedge,  
and it shall be devoured;  
I will break down its wall,  
and it shall be trampled down.  
I will make it a waste;  
it shall not be pruned or hoed,  
and it shall be overgrown with  
briers and thorns;  
I will also command the clouds  
that they rain no rain upon it.  
For the vineyard of the Lord  
of hosts  
is the house of Israel,  
and the people of Judah  
are his pleasant planting;  
he expected justice,  
but saw bloodshed;  
righteousness,  
but heard a cry!

## Second Reading

### Hebrews 11.29 – 12.2

By faith the people passed through  
the Red Sea as if it were dry land,  
but when the Egyptians attempted  
to do so they were drowned. By  
faith the walls of Jericho fell after  
they had been encircled for seven  
days. By faith Rahab the prostitute  
did not perish with those who were  
disobedient, because she had  
received the spies in peace.  
And what more should I say? For  
time would fail me to tell of Gideon,  
Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David  
and Samuel and the prophets—  
who through faith conquered  
kingdoms, administered justice,  
obtained promises, shut the  
mouths of lions, quenched raging  
fire, escaped the edge of the  
sword, won strength out of  
weakness, became mighty in war,  
put foreign armies to flight. Women  
received their dead by resurrection.  
Others were tortured, refusing to  
accept release, in order to obtain a  
better resurrection. Others suffered  
mocking and flogging, and even  
chains and imprisonment. They  
were stoned to death, they were  
sawn in two, they were killed by  
the sword; they went about in  
skins of sheep and goats, destitute,  
persecuted, tormented— of whom  
the world was not worthy. They  
wandered in deserts and  
mountains, and in caves and holes  
in the ground.  
Yet all these, though they were  
commended for their faith, did not  
receive what was promised, since  
God had provided something better

# Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> August 2025

## Trinity 9

so that they would not, without us, be made perfect.

Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the sake of the joy that was set before him endured the cross, disregarding its shame, and has taken his seat at the right hand of the throne of God.

### Gospel

#### Luke 12.49–56

‘I came to bring fire to the earth, and how I wish it were already kindled! I have a baptism with which to be baptised, and what stress I am under until it is completed! Do you think that I have come to bring peace to the earth? No, I tell you, but rather division! From now on, five in one household will be divided, three against two and two against three; they will be divided:

father against son

and son against father,

mother against daughter

and daughter against mother,

mother-in-law against her

daughter-in-law

and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law.’

He also said to the crowds, ‘When you see a cloud rising in the west, you immediately say, “It is going to rain”; and so it happens. And when you see the south wind blowing, you say, “There will be scorching heat”; and it happens. You hypocrites! You know how to interpret the appearance of earth and sky, but why do you not know how to interpret the present time?