

SECOND SUNDAY IN CHURCH TIME

First Reading

ISAIAH 62:1-5

A Reading from the Scroll of Isaiah

I will speak out for Jerusalem. I will not be quiet until Jerusalem is saved and her victory shines like a torch in the night.

Jerusalem, the people will see you victorious! All their kings will see your glory. You will be called by a new name, a name the Lord himself will give.

You will be like a beautiful crown for the Lord. No more will you be ignored or your land will be called “The Forgotten Wife”.

Your new name will be “God is pleased with her.” Your land will be called “Happily married” because the Lord is satisfied with you and you will be like a husband to your land.

Like a young man taking a virgin as his bride, he that formed you will marry you. As a groom is happy with his bride so your God will be happy with you.

The Word of the Lord

REFRAIN: Proclaim his marvelous deeds to all the
people

Sing a new song to the Lord!
Sing and praise him!
Proclaim every day “The Lord has saved us!”

REFRAIN:

Sing to the Lord and praise him!
Proclaim his glory to the world.
The Lord is wonderful.

REFRAIN:

Praise the Lord.
Praise his glorious name.
Bring an offering into his temple.

REFRAIN:

Bow down before the Lord and worship him.
Everyone on earth tremble before him.
Announce to the world, “The Lord is king!”
He will judge the peoples with fairness.

REFRAIN:

A Reading from the First Letter of St. Paul to the
Corinthians

Paul said, “There are different kinds of spiritual gifts, but they all are from the same Spirit. There are different ways to serve the Lord and each of us can do different things. It is the same God that works in all of us and helps us in everything we do.

The Spirit gives each of us a special way of serving people. Some of us can speak with wisdom and others can speak with knowledge but these gifts are from the same Spirit. To some people the Spirit gives great faith or power to heal. To other people the Spirit gives the power of doing miracles and to another the gift of speaking the message of God. Some of us are prophets and some of us recognize the presence of the Spirit of God. Other people can speak different languages and still others can explain what these languages mean. But it is the Spirit that does all this and decides which gift to give to each of us.”

The Word of the Lord

Alleluia---Alleluia---Alleluia

God called us through the Gospel to share the
glory of our Lord Jesus Christ

Alleluia---Alleluia---Alleluia

A Reading from the Holy Gospel of John

One day there was a wedding in the town of Cana in Galilee. Mary, the mother of Jesus, was at the wedding. Jesus and his disciples were invited to the wedding. The wine ran out. Mary went to Jesus and told him that the wine had run out. Jesus said to her, “Mother, must you tell me what to do? My time is not now.”

Mary went to the servants and said to them, “Do whatever Jesus tells you.”

At the feast there were six stone water jars. Each jar holds about 20 to 30 gallons. They were used for ritual washing people must do according to the Jewish law. Jesus told the servants to fill the jars with water. The servants filled the jars with water up to the top. Then Jesus said to them, “Now take some water from the jar and give it to the man in charge of the wedding.

The servants took the water that already became wine and gave it to the man in charge. The man drank the wine. He did not know where the wine was from but the servants knew.

The man in charge called the bridegroom and said to him, “The best wine is always served first. And after the people had drunk plenty, the other regular wine is served. But you kept the best wine until now!”

This was the first miracle Jesus did in the town of Cana in Galilee. That town is where Jesus showed his glory and his disciples began to believe in him.

The Good News of the Lord

THIRD SUNDAY IN CHURCH TIME

First Reading

NEHEMIAH 8:2--6,8-10

A Reading from the Scroll of Nehemiah

Erza, the high priest, brought the book of Law before the assembly of men, women and children old enough to understand. All the people stood and listened to the book of the Law.

Erza was standing on a wooden platform that was set up for him so all people could see him. He opened the book and said, "Praise the Lord, the great God." All the people raised their arms up and said, "Amen, amen." Then they knelt with their faces on the ground.

Erza read from the book and explained so they can understand it. The people heard were so inspired and began to cry. So Nehemiah, the governor, Erza, the priest and scholar of the Law and Levites explaining the Law told the people, "This day is holy to the Lord your God. So you are not to mourn or cry. Now go home and have a feast. Share your food and wine with people that don't have enough. Today is holy to God so don't be sad. The joy the Lord gives you will make you strong."

The Word of the Lord

Third Sunday in Church Time

Psalm

PSALM 19:8,9,10,15

RESPONSE: Lord, your words are spirit and
life!

The law of the Lord is perfect.
His law gives strength to people of God.
His law can be trusted.
It helps foolish people become wise.

RESPONSE:

The laws of the Lord are right.
They make people happy.
The commands of the Lord are good.
They show people the right way to live.

RESPONSE:

Worshipping the Lord is like a light.
It will shine bright forever.
The judgments of the Lord are good and fair.
They are always right.

RESPONSE:

I hope my words and thoughts make you happy.
Lord, you are my rock.
You are my rock and my salvation.

RESPONSE:

A Reading from the First Letter of St. Paul to the Corinthians

Paul said, “The body of Christ is one but it has many different parts just like other bodies. Some of us are Jews and others are Gentiles. Some of us are slaves and others are free. But we are baptized in the Spirit of God making us part of the body of Christ. Now all of us drink from the same Spirit.

The body itself is not made up of only one part. It has many parts. If the foot were to say, “I am not a hand so I am not part of the body.” Would the foot still be part of the body? If the ear were to say, “Because I am not an eye, I am not part of the body.” Would the ear still be part of the body? If our bodies were only an eye, we could not hear a thing. And if our bodies were only an ear, we could not smell a thing. God put all parts of our bodies together in the way he decides is best.

A body is not a body if it does not have more than one part. A body needs more than one part. That is why the eyes cannot say they do not need the hands. Also, the head cannot say it does not need the feet. In fact, we cannot get along without the parts of the body seem to be the weakest. We take special care of these parts.

We are humble about our personal parts but we don't have to be humble about other parts.

God put our bodies together in such a way that even the parts that seem the least important are valuable. He did this to make all parts of the body to work smoothly with each part caring about the others. If one part of our body hurts, we hurt all over. If one part of our body is honored, the whole body will be happy.

Together you are the body of Christ. Each one of you is part of his body. First God chose some people to be apostles and prophets and teachers for the church. But he also chose some to work miracles or heal the sick or help others or be leaders or speak different languages. Not everyone is a prophet. Not everyone is a teacher. Not everyone can work miracles. Not everyone can heal the sick. Not everyone can speak different languages. Not everyone can tell what these languages mean.”

The Word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation

LUKE 4:18

Alleluia---Alleluia---Alleluia

The Lord sent me to proclaim the Good News to
the poor and freedom to the prisoners.

Alleluia---Alleluia---Alleluia

Gospel

LUKE 1:1-4, 4:14-21

A Reading from the Holy Gospel of Luke

This is the letter Luke wrote to Theophilis:

Dear Theophilis,

Many people tried to tell the story of what God did. The people in the beginning told us what they saw had happened. So I carefully studied everything and decided to write and tell you exactly what had happened. I did this to tell you what you heard is true.

Jesus went to Galilee. The power of the Holy Spirit was with him. The news about him began to spread all over. He went into the synagogue and began to teach. Many people began to praise him.

Jesus then went back to Nazareth, his home town. As usual on the Sabbath he went to the synagogue.

Third Sunday in Church Time

He stood up and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled it and began to read from it, “The Spirit of the Lord is with me because he chose me to tell the Good News to the poor. The Lord sent me to announce freedom for prisoners, to give sight to the people that are blind, to free the oppressed and to announce the time the Lord to save his people is now.”

Jesus rolled up the scroll, gave it to the man in charge and sat down. All the people in the synagogue looked straight at Jesus.

Then Jesus said to the people, “What you just heard me read is true.”

The Good News of the Lord

FOURTH SUNDAY IN CHURCH TIME

First Reading

JEREMIAH 1:4-5,17-19

A Reading from the Scroll of Jeremiah

The Lord said to me, “I chose you before I gave you life. Before you were born I chose you to be the prophet to the people.”

Then he said to Jeremiah, “Get ready. Go and tell the people everything I told you. Do not be afraid of them or I will make you even more afraid of them.

Listen, everyone in this land-the kings of Judah, the officials, the priests and the people-will be against you. But today I am going to give you strength to resist them. You will be like a fort, an iron pillar and a bronze wall. They will not defeat you because I will be with you and protect you. I, the Lord, have spoken.”

The Word of the Lord

Psalm

PSALM 71:1-2,3-4,5-6,15-17

RESPONSE: God saves us! Alleluia!

Lord, I trust you. Don't disappoint me.
You do what is right. Come and rescue me.
Hear my prayer and protect me.

RESPONSE:

Be my rock, the place I can safe.
You are my rock, a place for my safety.
My God, protect me from evil people.

RESOPNSE:

I depend on you. You are my hope.
You have protected me since I was born.
I depend on you all my life.
I will always praise you.

RESPONSE:

I will tell people how good you are.
You have done so much for me.
I will praise you for your mighty deed.
I will never stop telling how wonderful you are.

RESPONSE:

A Reading from the First Letter of St. Paul to the Corinthians

I want you to have the best gifts. So I will show you a much better way.

I may speak different languages but if I don't have love, I am like a noisy bell or a clanging cymbal.

If I could prophesy and understand all the secret things and know everything and even have faith to move the mountains but if I don't have love, I am nothing.

If I give everything I owned and let myself be burned alive, but I will be nothing if I don't have love.

Love is kind and is patient. Love is never jealous, does not boast and is not proud. Love is not rude and is not selfish.

Love doesn't get angry easily and doesn't remember all wrongs that people do. Love is not happy with evil but is happy with the truth.

Love patiently accepts all things. Love always trusts, hopes, remains strong. Love never fails.

There are inspired messages but they don't last long. There are gifts of speaking strange languages but they will no longer be spoken. All what we know will be forgotten. We don't know everything and our prophecies are not complete. What is perfect will appear and what is not perfect will disappear.

Before we were children, we thought like children. But now we grown up, we stopped doing children things. Now we see like we are looking at dark mirror. But later we will see clearly. We do not know everything but we will just as God understands us.

For now the three remain—faith, hope and love. The greatest of all the three is love.

THE WORD OF THE LORD

Gospel Acclamation

LUKE 4:18

Alleluia---Alleluia---Alleluia

The Lord sent me to bring the Good News to the poor and to proclaim freedom for the prisoners.

Alleluia---Alleluia---Alleluia

Gospel

LUKE 4:21-30

A Reading from the Holy Gospel of Luke

Jesus was speaking in the synagogue. He said, “What you just heard me read today has come true”.

All the people began to talk about Jesus. They were amazed at the wonderful things Jesus did. Then they asked each other, “Is Jesus the son of Joseph, the carpenter?”

Jesus answered, “You will want to tell me, ‘Doctor, first heal yourself.’ You will tell me to do the same things here in my hometown that you heard what I did at Capernaum. But you know that no prophets are welcome by the people of their hometown. Remember before during the time of Elijah there was no rain for three and half years and all the people were starving.

In Israel there were many widows but Elijah went to only one widow in the town of Zarephath near the city of Sidon. During the time of the prophet Elisha many men in Israel had leprosy and not one was healed. Only one man from Syria was healed.”

Many people heard what Jesus said and they became angry. So they got up to throw Jesus out of the town. They dragged him to the edge of the cliff to throw him down. But Jesus slipped through the crowd and got away.

The Good News of the Lord

FIFTH SUNDAY IN CHURCH TIME

First Reading

ISAIAH 6:1-8

A Reading from the Scroll of Isaiah

In the year King Uzziah died I saw the Lord sitting on a high throne with his long robe spread all over the temple. Angels were around him-each of them had six wings with two covering their faces, with two covering their feet and with two flying. They were shouting, “Holy, Holy, Holy is the Lord Almighty. The earth is full of his glory.” The sound of the cry was very loud. Their voices shook the foundation of the temple and the smoke began to fill the temple.

I said, “Oh no, I am condemned. Every word I said is full of sin and I live among people speaking evil. With my own eyes I have seen the king, the Lord Almighty.”

One of the angels flew to me with a hot coal in the tongs from the altar, touched my lips and said, “Look, the hot coal touched your lips all the wrong things you said are gone. Your sins are forgiven.”

Then I heard the Lord say, “Who can I send? Who will be my messenger?”

So I said, “Here I am. Send me!”

The Word of the Lord

Fifth Sunday in Church Time

RESPONSE: Lord, I will sing your praises.

Lord, I will praise you with all my heart.
I will sing your praise before all angels.
I will worship at your holy temple.
I will give thanks in your name.

RESPONSE:

You are true to your word.
You made yourself famous.
I asked for your help and you answered me.
You gave me courage.

RESPONSE:

You are very important.
You care for humble people.
I am in trouble and you protect me.

RESPONSE:

Save me from my enemies.
Give me the things you promised.
Your true love continues forever.
Don't give up on me!

RESPONSE:

A Reading from the First Letter of St. Paul to the Corinthians

Paul said, “Brothers and sisters, I want you to remind you of the Good News. If you hold on to the Good News, you will be saved. But if you don’t believe it, your faith is nothing.

I told you the most important part of the Good News and the part is that ‘Christ died for our sins as the scriptures say. He was buried and was raised to life on the third day. He appeared to Peter and then to the apostles. Then he appeared to more than five hundred of his followers. Most of them are still alive and some have died. He also appeared to James and then to all the apostles.

Finally he appeared to me as a person born at the wrong time. All the apostles are more important than me. In fact, I made so much trouble for the church. That is why I am not good enough to be called an apostle. But God was kind. He made me what I am and his kindness was not wasted. I worked harder than all the other apostles but it is not on my doing. It is the grace God working with me. It is not important if I preached to you or if the other apostles preached. We all preach the same thing and this is what you believed.”

The Word of the Lord

Fifth Sunday in Church Time

Gospel Acclamation

MATTHEW 4:19

Alleluia---Alleluia---Alleluia**Come and follow me. I will make you fishers of people.****Alleluia---Alleluia---Alleluia**

Gospel

LUKE 5:1-11

A Reading from the Holy Gospel of Luke

Jesus was standing by Lake Gennesarret teaching. A crowd came up to Jesus. The fishermen were out washing their nets. Jesus saw two boats on the beach so he got into one boat that belongs to Simon and told him to push the boat a little way from the shore. Then Jesus sat down and began to teach.

Then Jesus said to Simon, “Row the boat out into the deep water and throw out the nets to catch some fish.” Simon answered, “Master, we worked hard all night and caught nothing. But as you say we will throw out the nets.”

So they threw out the nets and the nets were so full of fish that they began to break. They called the men in other boat to come and help. The men came and filled the two boats full with fish that they began to sink.

Fifth Sunday in Church Time

Simon saw what had happened he kneeled down in front of Jesus and said, “Lord, Go away from me! I am a sinner.”

Peter and the men were amazed to see all the fish. His partners James and John, sons of Zebedee, were also amazed. Then Jesus said to Simon, “Don’t be afraid! From now on you will bring in people instead of fish.”

The men pulled their boats up on the beach and left everything and followed Jesus.

The Good News of the Lord

SIXTH SUNDAY IN CHURCH TIME

First Reading

JEREMIAH 17:5-8

A Reading from the Scroll of Jeremiah

The Lord says, “I will condemn people ignoring me and look to other people for faith and depend on them for strength.

They are like a bush in the desert. That bush grows in dry land on the ground with nothing to grow. Nothing good happens to them.

I will bless the person having faith in me. That person is like a tree growing near a river with the roots growing out to the water. It is not afraid during the hot days because its leaves will always be green. If there is no rain, it does not worry. It will always make fruit.

The Word of the Lord

RESPONSE: People depending on God are blessed.

God blesses people rejecting bad advice.
They find joy in obeying the law of the Lord.
They think about it day and night.

RESPONSE:

They are like trees growing beside a river.
They are like trees that give fruit at the right time.
They always have leaves.
They are successful in everything they do.

RESPONSE:

People doing evil are like straw blown by wind.
The Lord protects everyone following him.
People doing evil are on the way death.

RESPONSE:

A Reading from the First Letter of St. Paul to the Corinthians

Paul said, “We say Christ was raised from death. But why some of you say that the dead will not be raised to life?”

If the dead are not raised to life, then Christ was not raised to life. If Christ was not raised to life, your faith is means nothing and you are lost in your sins. It means that all the dead people having faith in Christ are lost.

If our hope in Christ is good only for this life, we are worse off than anyone else. But the truth is that Christ was raised to life and for that he makes sure that we will also be raised to life.”

The Word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation

LUKE 6:23

Alleluia---Alleluia---Alleluia

**Rejoice and be glad. You will have a great reward
in heaven.**

Alleluia---Alleluia---Alleluia

Gospel

LUKE 6:17, 20-26

A Reading from the Holy Gospel of Luke

Jesus with his apostles went down from the mountain and came to the level ground. Many other disciples were there waiting for Jesus. Also many other people from all over Judea, Jerusalem and many other cities, Tyre and Sidon were there.

Jesus saw all the people and said, “You poor people, God will bless you. The kingdom of God is yours.

You hungry people, God will bless you. You will have plenty to eat.

You people crying, God will bless you. You will laugh.

People hate you, reject you and insult you because you are follower of the Son of Man. Be glad and dance for joy.

Years ago your people were mean to the prophets the same way they are mean to you. So if the people are mean to you, be happy because a great reward is kept for you in heaven.”

You rich people will be in trouble because you had easy life.

You people laughing now will cry and be sad.

It will be awful for people to say nice things about you because the people before you said nice things about the prophets that told lies.”

The Good News of the Lord

SEVENTH SUNDAY IN CHURCH TIME

First Reading

1 SAMUEL 26:2,7-9,12-13,22-23

A Reading from the First Scroll of Samuel

Saul with three thousand soldiers went to the desert in Ziph to look for David. That night David and Abishai entered Saul's camp. Saul was sleeping in the center of the camp with his spear stuck in the ground near his head. Abner and the soldiers were sleeping around Saul.

Abishai said to David, "God gave you the power over your enemy. Now let me plunge Saul's spear through him and hold him to the ground with one plunge. I won't plunge twice."

David said, "Don't kill Saul! The Lord will punish anyone hurting the king that the Lord had chosen."

So David took the spear and a water jug and left the camp with Abashai. No one saw or knew what had happened. Saul and his soldiers were sound asleep because the Lord made them to sleep deeply.

Then David went up to the top of the hill on the other side of the valley far away from the camp. He shouted to Abner, "Abner can you hear me?"

Abner asked, "Who are you? Why are you waking up the king?"

David answered, “Here is the king’s spear. Let one of your men come and get it. The Lord rewards those that are faithful and good. Today he gave me power over your king but I did not harm him.”

The Word of the Lord

RESPONSE: The Lord is kind and full of mercy.

With all my heart I praise the Lord!
With all I am I praise his holy name!
With all my heart I praise the Lord!
I will never forget his kindness.

RESPONSE:

The Lord forgives our sins.
He heals us.
He protects us from death.
He gives us love and compassion.

RESPONSE:

The Lord is full of mercy.
He is kind and patient.
His love never fails.
He won't punish us as we deserve.

RESPONSE:

How far will the Lord go in forgiving our sins?
Farther than the distance from east to west.
The Lord is kind to all worshipping him.

RESPONSE:

A Reading from the First Letter of St. Paul to the Corinthians

Paul said, “Brothers and sisters, the first man was Adam and all the scriptures said that he was a living person. Jesus may be called as the last Adam and he is a life-giving spirit. We see that the one with a spiritual body did not come first. He came after the one with a physical body. The first man was made from the dust of the earth and the second man came from heaven. Everyone on earth has a body like the body of the one that was made from the dust of the earth. Everyone in heaven has a body like the body of the one that came from heaven. Just as we are like the one made out of earth we will be like the one from heaven.”

The Word of the Lord

Alleluia---Alleluia---Alleluia

The Lord says, "I give you a new commandment.
Love one another as I love you."

Alleluia---Alleluia---Alleluia

A Reading from the Holy Gospel of Luke

Jesus said to his disciples, "Pay attention. I am telling you to love your enemies. Be nice to everyone that hates you. Ask God to bless anyone insulting you. Pray for anyone hurting you.

If someone slaps you one cheek, let that person slap you on the other cheek. If someone takes your coat, let that person have your coat and also your shirt. If someone takes your things, don't tell that person to give them back to you.

If you want people to be nice to you, you should first be nice to them. If you love only the people loving you, will God bless you for that? Sinners love only the people that love them.

If you are kind only to the people that are kind to you, will God be happy with you? Sinners are kind only to the people that are kind to them.

If you lend money only to someone you think will pay back to you, will God bless you for that? Sinners will lend money only to the sinners because they know they will be paid back.

Love your enemies and be nice to them. Lend and don't expect to be paid back. You will get a great reward.

You will be called children of God in Heaven. God is good to anyone that does not show appreciation. Be compassionate as your Father is compassionate.

Don't judge and God will not judge you. Don't condemn and God will not condemn you. Forgive others and God will forgive you. If you give others, you will get a full amount in return. The full amount will be packed down, shaken together and spilling into your lap. The way you care for other people and you will be blessed for that.”

The Good News of the Lord

EIGHTH SUNDAY IN CHURCH TIME

First Reading

SIRACH 27:4-7

A Reading from the Scroll of Sirach

The way you think shows your character just as a kiln shows any flaws in the pottery that is fired. You can tell how well a tree has been cared for by the fruit it bears. Also you can tell a how a person feels by the way he expresses himself. Never praise anyone before you hear him talk. That is the real test.

The Word of the Lord

RESPONSE: It is good to give thanks to the Lord.

It is wonderful to tell about your love.
It is wonderful to proclaim your kindness.
I enjoy praising your name to the music of harp.

RESPONSE:

Good people are like trees planted in the house of God.
They will grow strong like the cedars.
They will be like good trees.

RESPONSE:

They will stay healthy.
They will give fruit even in old age.
The Lord always does right!
God is our mighty rock.

RESPONSE:

A Reading from the First Letter of St. Paul to the Corinthians

Paul said, “The bodies we have now are weak and can die. But the bodies will be changed into bodies that are eternal. Then the scriptures will come true, “Death has lost the battle! Where is its victory? Where is its sting?

The sting of death is sin and the Law is the power behind sin. But thank God for giving us victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

My dear friends, stand firm and don't be shaken. Always keep busy working for the Lord. You know that everything you do for him is worthwhile.”

The Word of the Lord

Alleluia---Alleluia---Alleluia

Shine like lights in the world and hold on to the word of life.

Alleluia---Alleluia---Alleluia

Gospel

LUKE 6:39-45

A Reading from the Holy Gospel of Luke

Jesus was telling a parable. He said, “One blind man cannot lead another blind man. If he does, both of them will fall into a ditch. No students are greater than their teacher. But all students completing their training will be like their teacher.

You can see the speck in the eye of your friend. But you don't see the log in your own eye. How can you say, ‘My friend, let me take the speck out of your eye’ and don't even see the log in your own eye? You hypocrite! First take the log out of your own eye. Then you will be able to see clearly to take the speck out of the eye of your friend.

A healthy tree does not give bad fruit and a bad tree cannot give good fruit. You can tell what a tree is like by the fruit it gives. You cannot pick figs or grapes from thorn bushes.

Good people do good things because of good things in their hearts. Bad people do bad things because of the evil in their hearts. Your words show what is in your hearts.”

The Good News of the Lord

NINTH SUNDAY IN CHURCH TIME

First Reading

1 KINGS 8:41-43

A Reading from the First Scroll of Kings

A foreigner living in a far away country hears of your fame and of wonderful things you have done for your people and to pray at this temple listen to his prayer. In heaven you hear him and do what he asks you to do so all the peoples of the world will know you and obey you as your people Israel do. Then they will know that this temple I have built is the place you are to worship.

The Word of the Lord

RESPONSE: Go out and proclaim the Good News.

Praise the Lord, all you nations.
Praise the Lord, all you people.
Let everyone praise the Lord.

RESPONSE:

His love for us is wonderful.
His promise endures forever.
Shout praises to the Lord!

RESPONSE:

A Reading from the Letter of St. Paul to the Galatians

Paul said, “Jesus Christ called me to be apostle. No human person called me to do this work.

I am surprised that you are giving up your faith. He chose you because he loves you. You are accepting another message. Truly there is only one true message. But some people are trying to make trouble for you and want to make you turn away from the Good News about Jesus Christ. I pray that God will punish anyone that preaches anything that is different from my message to you. It makes no difference if a person is one of us or an angel from heaven. I have told you and I will say it again. I hope that God will punish anyone preaching anything different from what you already believed.

I am not trying to make people happy. I want to make God happy. Do you think that I want to be popular with people? If I were doing that, I would not be a servant of Christ.

The Word of the Lord

Alleluia---Alleluia---Alleluia

God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son. Anyone believing in him will have eternal life.

Alleluia---Alleluia---Alleluia

Gospel

LUKE 7:1-10

A Reading from the Holy Gospel of Luke

Jesus finished with his teaching and he went to Capernaum. In that town an army officer had a servant that was dear to him and he was sick. He heard about Jesus so he sent some Jewish leaders to ask Jesus to come and heal his servant.

The leaders went to Jesus and begged him, “This man needs your help! He loves our people and built a synagogue for us.” So Jesus went with the Jewish leaders.

Jesus was not far away from the house and the officer sent some of his friends to tell him, “Lord, don’t go to any trouble for me! I am not good enough for you to come into my house. Also I am not worthy to come to you in person. Just say the word and my servant will get well.

Ninth Sunday in Church Time

I have officers giving me orders and I have soldiers under me obeying my orders. I can say to one of them, ‘Go!’ and he goes. I can say to another, ‘Come!’ and he comes. I can say to my servant, ‘Do this and he will do it.’”

Jesus heard that and he was surprised. He turned to the crowd following him and said, “In all of Israel I have never heard anyone with so much faith.” The friends of the officer went back home and found that the servant got well.

The Good News of the Lord

TENTH SUNDAY IN CHURCH TIME

First Reading

1 KINGS 17:17-24

A Reading from the First Scroll of Kings

The son of a widow got sick and he became worse and worse. Finally he died. The widow said to Elijah, “Man of God, why did you do this to me? Did you come here to remind God of my sins and to kill my son?”

Elijah said to her, “Give me your son.” He took her son from the arms of the widow, carried him upstairs to his room and laid him on the bed. Then he prayed aloud, “O Lord my God, why have you done a terrible thing to the widow? She was kind enough to take care of me and now you killed her son!” Then Elijah stretched himself out on the boy three times and prayed, “O Lord, my God, give this child his life!” The Lord answered Elijah’s prayer and the boy began to breathe again.

Elijah took the boy downstairs to his mother and said to her, “Look, your son is alive!” The mother answered, “Now I know that you are a man of God and the Lord did speak to you!”

The Word of the Lord

Tenth Sunday in Church Time

RESPONSE: Praise the Lord. He saved us.

Lord, you protected me from my enemies.
You did not let my enemies laugh at me.
You lifted me out of the grave.
You let me live.
I did not have to stay with dead people in the pit.

RESPONSE:

Sing praise to the Lord.
Praise his holy name!
God was angry so his decision was death.
But he showed his love and gave me life.
At night I lay crying.
The next morning I was happy and singing!

RESPONSE:

Lord, hear my prayer and be kind to me!
Lord, help me!
You changed my sadness into joy.
Lord, I will praise you forever.

RESPONSE;

A Reading from the Letter of St. Paul to the Galatians

Paul said, “My friends, let me tell you that the gospel I preach is not from human. Not even did anyone teach it to me. It was Jesus Christ himself told me.

You know that I was devoted to the Jewish religion and that I persecuted without mercy the church of God. I also did my best to destroy the church. I was ahead of most of other Jews of my age in my practice of the Jewish religion and was much more devoted to the traditions of our ancestors.

But God in his grace chose me even before I was born and called me to serve him. He decided to reveal his son to me so that I might preach the Good News about him to the Gentiles. I did not go to anyone for advice. I did not even go to Jerusalem to see the apostles before me. Instead I went to Arabia and then to Damascus. It was three years later that I went to Jerusalem to get information from Peter. I stayed with him for two weeks. I did not see any other apostle except James, the brother of the Lord.”

The Word of the Lord

Alleluia---Alleluia---Alleluia

A great prophet has risen among us. God has visited his people.

Alleluia---Alleluia---Alleluia

Gospel

LUKE 7:11-17

A Reading from the Holy Gospel of Luke

Jesus with his disciples went to a town called Nain. A big crowd of people was following Jesus and his disciples. They arrived near the gate of the town and saw the men carrying out the body of the only son of the widow. Many people from the town were with the widow.

Jesus saw the woman and he felt sorry for her. He said to the woman, "Don't cry." Then he went to touch the coffin with the body of the dead boy in it. The men carrying the coffin stopped. Jesus said, "Young man get up!" The dead boy woke up and began to speak. Jesus then gave the boy to his mother.

Many people became afraid and praised God saying, "A great prophet is here with us! God has come to help his people." News about Jesus began to spread all over the country of Judea and everywhere in the country.

The Good News of the Lord

ELEVENTH SUNDAY IN CHURCH TIME

First Reading

2 SAMUEL 12:7-10, 13

A Reading from the Second Scroll of Samuel

Nathan said to David, “The Lord God of Israel says ‘I made you king of Israel and saved you from Saul. I gave you his kingdom and his wives. I made you king over Israel and Judah. If that is not enough, I would have given you twice as much. Then why have you disobeyed my commands? Why did you do the evil thing? You planned for Uriah to be killed in battle. You let the Ammonites kill him so you can take his wife. Now in every generation some of your descendants will die a terrible death because you have disobeyed me and taken away the wife of Uriah to be your wife.’”

Nathan then said, “The Lord forgives you and you will not die.”

The Word of the Lord

RESPONSE: Forgive us for we have sinned.

Happy are the people whose sins are forgiven.
Happy are the people that they are pardoned.
Happy is the one the Lord forgives for doing wrong.

RESPONSE:

I confess my sins to you.
I did not hide my sins.
I decided to confess my sins to you.
And you forgave all my sins.

RESPONSE:

You are my hiding place.
You protect me from trouble.
I sing of your salvation.
You saved me.

RESPONSE:

Be glad and rejoice of what the Lord has done.
You should celebrate and shout for joy!

RESPONSE:

Second Reading

GALATIANS 2:16, 19-21

A Reading from the Letter of St. Paul to the Galatians

Paul said, “My dear friends, we know that God accepts only the people having faith in Jesus Christ. No one obeying only the Law can make God happy. So we put our faith in Jesus and God accepted us because of our faith.

It was the Law itself that killed me and freed me from its power so that I could live for God.

I was nailed to the cross with Christ. I died but Christ lives in me. Now I live by faith in the Son of God. He loved me and gave his life for me. I refuse to reject the grace of God. If we can be acceptable to God by obeying the Law, it means Christ died for nothing.”

The Word of the Lord

Eleventh Sunday in Church Time

Alleluia---Alleluia---Alleluia

God loves us so he sent his son to take away our sins.

Alleluia---Alleluia---Alleluia

A Reading from the Holy Gospel of Luke

A Pharisee invited Jesus to have a dinner with him. He went to the house of the Pharisee and sat down to eat. In that town a woman, a sinner, heard that Jesus was eating with the Pharisee. So she went into the house with a bottle of expensive perfume and to Jesus. She stood behind him crying and began to wash his feet with her tears and dried his feet with her hair. Then she kissed his feet and poured the perfume over his feet.

The Pharisee saw and said to himself, "If this man, Jesus, were really a prophet, he should know that a woman touching him is a sinner." Jesus said to the Pharisee, "Simon, I have something to tell you. Simon replied, "Teacher, "Tell me, what it is?"

Jesus said to him, “Two men were in debt to a man. One owed five hundred silver coins and the other fifty silver coins.

Both of them could not pay their debts. So the man cancelled their debts. Which one will love him more?”

Simon answered, “I suppose that the one owing more money.” Jesus said, “You are right.” Then he turned to the woman and said to Simon, “Do you see this woman? I came into your home and you did not give me water for my feet. But she washed my feet with her tears and dried them with her hair. You did not welcome me with a kiss and she is still kissing me feet. You did not even pour olive oil over my head and she poured expensive perfume over my feet. So I tell you that because of her great love for me all her sins are forgiven. Anyone that has been forgiven little will show only a little love.”

Then Jesus said to the woman, “Your sins are forgiven.” The guests sitting at the table began to say to one another, “Who is this that dares to forgive sins?” Jesus then said to the woman, “Your faith has saved you. Go in peace.”

The Good News of the Lord

TWELFTH SUNDAY IN CHURCH TIME

First Reading

ZECHARIAH 12:10-11;13:1

A Reading from the Scroll of Zechariah

The Lord says, “I will bless the descendants of David and the other people of Jerusalem with the spirit of mercy and the spirit of prayer. They will look at the one that they stabbed to death and will mourn for an only child. They will mourn bitterly like those losing their first-born son.

The time of mourning in Jerusalem will be great as the mourning for Hadadrimmon in the plain of Megiddo.

The Lord says, “On the day in the house of David a fountain will be opened to purify the people of David and the people of Jerusalem from their sin.

The Word of the Lord

RESPONSE: My Lord, My God. My soul is thirsting
for you.

You are my God.
I want to see you.
My soul thirsts for you like a dry land for water.

RESPONSE:

Your love is better than life.
I praise you as long as I live.
I will pray to you as long as I live.

RESPONSE:

I will sing joyful praises.
I will think about you before I go to sleep.
I will remember you all night.

RESPONSE:

I stay with you.
You protect me.
They will be afraid.
They will say, "Look what God has done."

RESPONSE:

Second Reading

GALATIANS 3:26-29

A Reading from the Letter of St. Paul to the Galatians

Paul said, "All of you are children of God. You were baptized into Christ. Your baptism was like you accepted Christ the same way you put on your clothes.

Faith in Christ makes each of you equal with each other no matter if you are a Jew or a Greek, a slave or a free person, a man or a woman.

If you belong to Christ, you are part of the family of Abraham. You will be given what God has promised.

The Word of the Lord

Twelfth Sunday in Church Time

Alleluia---Alleluia---Alleluia

The Lord says, “My sheep hear my voice.
I know them and they follow me.”

Alleluia---Alleluia---Alleluia

A Reading from the Holy Gospel of Luke

One day Jesus was praying. His disciples came to him and he asked them, “People were talking about me. What did they say about me?”

The disciples answered, “Oh, some people say that you are John the Baptist. Some said that you are Elijah. Others said that you are the prophet that died long time ago and came back to life.” Then Jesus asked them, “Oh, I see but what about you. Who do you think I am?”

Peter answered, “You are the Messiah sent from God.”

Jesus looked at him and warned him to keep quiet and not to say anything that will happen.

Jesus said that he will suffer. The chief priests and teachers of the Law will not accept me. They will make me suffer and kill me. But in three days I will rise to life.

Then Jesus said, “If you really want to be my follower, don’t think about yourselves. You must take up your cross each day and follow me. If you worry about your life, you will lose it. If you give up your life for me, you will save it.”

The Good News of the Lord

THIRTEENTH SUNDAY IN CHURCH TIME

First Reading

1 KINGS 19:16, 19-21

A Reading from the First Scroll of Kings

The Lord said to Elijah, “Anoint Elisha son of Shaphat from Abel Meholah. He will be the prophet and will take your place.”

Elijah went out and saw Elisha plowing the field. He went to Elisha, took off his coat and put it on Elisha. Elisha left his oxen and ran after Elijah. He said to him, “Let me kiss my father and mother goodbye. Then I’ll go with you.

Elijah answered, “Fine, you can go.”

Then Elisha killed his oxen and cooked the meat with the yoke as firewood. He gave the meat to the people and they ate it. Then he went out with Elijah as his helper.

The Word of the Lord

RESPONSE: You give me wonderful things!

Lord, protect me. I depend on you.
I say to you, "You are my Lord."
Every good thing I have is gift from you.

RESPONSE:

Lord, you are all I want!
You are my choice.
Protect me.

RESPONSE:

Lord, I praise you.
You have taught me.
I am always aware of your presence.
I will always look to you as you stand beside me.

RESPONSE:

You will show me the way to life.
Your presence fills me with joy.
I will always be joyful.

RESPONSE:

A Reading from the Letter of St. Paul to the Galatians

Paul said, “We are free. Christ freed us. So hold on to your freedom and don’t become slaves of the Law again.”

“My brothers and sisters, God freed you. So don’t use your freedom as your excuse to do anything you want. Use your freedom as your opportunity to serve each other with love. The whole law says to love others as much as you love yourself. If you hurt others like you tear up animals, you better watch out or you will destroy yourself.

I tell you to live with the Spirit. If you do, you will not do your selfish desires. The Spirit and selfish desires are different. They will be against each other. So don’t do things you really want to do. If you let the Spirit lead you, then you are not under the law.

The Word of the Lord

Gospel acclamation

1 SAMUEL 3:9; JOHN 6:68

Alleluia---Alleluia---Alleluia

**Lord, speak, your servant is listening.
You have the words of everlasting life.**

Alleluia---Alleluia---Alleluia

Gospel

LUKE 9:51-62

A Reading from the Holy Gospel of Luke

It was almost time for Jesus to go Heaven. He decided to go to Jerusalem. He sent some messengers to a small town in Samaria to get things ready for him. But the people in that town refused to welcome him because he was on his way to Jerusalem. The disciples, John and James, saw that the people won't let Jesus to go through so they asked him, "Lord, do you want us to call down fire from heaven to destroy those people?"

Jesus looked at them and bawled them out. Then they went on to another town. On their way a man came up to Jesus and said, "I'll follow you wherever you go."

Jesus said to the man, "Foxes have dens and birds have nests, but the Son of Man has no place to rest." Then Jesus said to another man, "Follow me!" But the man said, "Lord, first let me go and bury my father."

Thirteenth Sunday in Church Time

Jesus answered, “Let the dead bury their own dead. You go and proclaim the kingdom of God.”

Then another man came up and said to Jesus, “Lord, I want to go with you but first let me go home and say goodbye to my family.”

Jesus said to him, “Anyone starting to plow and keeps looking back is not ready for the kingdom of God!”

The Good News of the Lord

FOURTEENTH SUNDAY IN CHURCH TIME

First Reading

ISAIAH 66:10-14c

A Reading from the Scroll of Isaiah

The Lord says, “Rejoice with Jerusalem and be glad for her, all you love for this city!

Rejoice with her now, all you have mourned for her!

You will enjoy her comfort like a child sucking the breast of its mother.”

The Lord says, “I will give you peace. The peace will flow to you like a river. That river will never become dry. You will be like a child sucking her breast, carried in her arms and bounced on her knees. I will comfort you in Jerusalem like a mother comforts her child. You will see this happens and you will be glad. It will make you strong and healthy. Then you will know that I, the Lord, help those obeying me and I show my anger against my enemies.”

The Word of the Lord

RESPONSE: Let all the earth praise God

Everything on earth shout with joy to God!
Praise his glorious name!
Honor him with songs of praise!
Tell God how wonderful his works are!

RESPONSE:

Let the whole world worship God.
Let everyone sing praises to your name.
See everything God did!
Those things amaze us.

RESPONSE:

God has changed the sea into dry land.
Happy are people walking across the river.
God rules the world with his great power.

RESPONSE:

Hear now all of you fearing God.
Praise him!
I prayed and He listened.
He showed me his love.

RESPONSE:

Second Reading

GALATIANS 6:14-18

A Reading from the Letter of St. Paul to the Galatians

Paul said, “As for me I will boast only for about the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ. To me because of the cross the world is dead and I am dead to the world. It makes no difference if you are circumcised or not. What is important is that you are a new person. If you obey the rule, you will be true people of God. God will bless you with peace.

The scars I have on my body show that I belong to Christ. So don't bother me!

My friends, may the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.”

Amen.

The Word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation

COLASSIANS 3:15-16

Alleluia---Alleluia---Alleluia

**Let the peace of Christ control your heart.
Let the word of Christ live in you fully.**

Alleluia---Alleluia---Alleluia

Gospel

LUKE 10:1-12, 17-20

A Reading from the Holy Gospel of Luke
(Short Form---Read in Black)

Jesus called the seventy-two followers and sent them out two by two to every town that he will go. He said to them, “A large crop is in the fields but there are not enough workers. Ask the master in charge of the harvest to send out workers to gather in the crop. Go! I am sending you like lambs out to the wolves. Don’t take with you a purse or traveling bag or sandals. Don’t stop on the way to greet people on the road. As you enter a house, say ‘Peace be with this house.’ If the person living there loves peace, bless them with your prayer for peace. If not, take away from them your prayer for peace. Stay in the same house, eating and drinking whatever they give you because the workers are worth what they earn. Don’t move around from one house to another.

Fourteenth Sunday in Church Time

If the people of a town welcome you, eat whatever they offer you. Heal the people who are sick and say, ‘The kingdom of God will be here soon’.

But if the people of a town refuse to welcome you, leave and say, ‘We are shaking the dust from our feet as a warning to you.’ You can be sure that the kingdom of God will be here soon. I tell you that on the Day of Judgment the people of Sodom will be better off than the people of that town.”

The seventy-two followers came back and they were excited. They said, “Lord, we spoke in your name and the demons obeyed!” Jesus said to them, “I saw Satan fall from heaven like lightening. I have given you the power to trample on snakes and scorpions and to defeat the power of your enemy Satan. Nothing can harm you. Don’t be happy because evil spirits obey you. But be happy that your names are written in heaven.”

The Good News of the Lord

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN CHURCH TIME

First Reading

DEUTERONOMY 30:10-14

A Reading from the Scroll of Deuteronomy

Moses said to the people, “You must do what the Lord your God tells you what to do. You must obey the commands and follow the rules that are written in the Book of the Law. You must obey the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul. Then the good things will happen to you.

The command I will give you will not be hard or impossible for you to do. This command is not up in heaven. You don’t have to ask who will go up in heaven and bring it down to us so we can hear it and obey it.

The command is not on the other side of the ocean. You don’t have to ask who will go across the ocean and bring it so we can hear it and obey it.

The command is here. It is in your mouth and in your heart so you have to obey it.

The Word of the Lord

RESPONSE: Trust the Lord and you will live!

Lord, I beg you to accept me.
Please answer me with love.
I know I can trust that you will save me.
Answer me with all your love.

RESPONSE:

I am sad and hurting.
Lord, protect me. Save me!
I will praise the name of the Lord.
I will praise him with a song of thanks.

RESPONSE:

You, poor people, come and worship God.
You will be happy to know these things.
The Lord listens to poor, helpless people.
The Lord still loves people in prison.

RESPONSE:

The Lord will save Zion!
The Lord will build new the cities of Judah.
The descendants of his servants will get that land.
The people that love him will live in that land.

RESPONSE:

A Reading from the Letter of St. Paul to the Colossians

No one can see God. But Jesus is exactly like God. He is the first-born son. He is ruler over all things that were made. Everything was created by him. Through him everything on earth seen and not seen, all powers, all rulers and authorities was created. Everything was made for him.

Christ was there before anything was created. Because of him, all things continue. He is the head of his body and the body is the church.

He is the very beginning, the first to be raised from death so that he would be above all others.

God was pleased to live fully in his son. He was happy for him so he made peace through the blood of his son on the cross both on earth and in heaven.

The Word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation

JOHN 6:63,68

Alleluia---Alleluia---Alleluia

Lord, your words are spirit and life.
You have the words of everlasting life.

Alleluia---Alleluia---Alleluia

Gospel

LUKE 10:25-37

A Reading from the Holy Gospel of Luke

A Teacher of the Law came up to Jesus and asked him a question, “Teacher, what must I do to have eternal life?”

Jesus answered, “What did the scripture say?”

The man replied, “Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind and with all your strength and also love your neighbor as you love yourself.”

Jesus said, “You are right. Do this and you will have eternal life.”

But the Teacher of the Law was not satisfied so he asked him, “Who is my neighbor?”

So Jesus answered with a story. He said, “One time a man was on his way to Jericho from Jerusalem robbers came up to him, grabbed him, stripped him and beat him up, leaving him half dead.

A priest happened to come down the road and saw the man. He walked away on the other side of the road. Later a Levite came down and saw the man. He walked away on the other side. A Samaritan came down and saw the man. He felt sorry for him so he went to him, poured oil and wine over his wounds and bandaged them. Then he put the man on his mule, took him to an inn and took care of the man.

The next day he gave the innkeeper two silver coins and told him to take care of the man. I will come back and I will pay you whatever I owe you.”

Then Jesus asked, “Which one of the three do you think was a neighbor to the man that was beaten up?”

The Teacher of the Law answered, “The one who was kind to the man.”

Then Jesus said, “Go and do what the Samaritan did.”

The Good News of the Lord

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY IN CHURCH TIME

First Reading

GENESIS 18:1-10a

A Reading from the Scroll of Genesis

The Lord appeared to Abraham at the holy trees of Mamre. Abraham was sitting at the door of his tent. It was the hottest time of the day. He looked up and saw three men standing in front of him. He got up and ran to meet them. He bowed with his face on the ground and said, "Please stay with me. I am here to serve you. Let me bring you water to wash your feet. You can rest under the trees. I will bring you some food to give you strength before you go on your trip. You have honored me by coming here so let me serve you." The men answered, "That is fine. We will do as you said."

Abraham went into the tent and told his wife, Sarah, to get a sack of best flour and bake some bread. Then he went out and picked the best calf and gave it his servant. He said to him, "Hurry and kill it." Then he brought the meat, milk and cheese to the men and they ate under the tree.

The men asked Abraham, "Where is your wife?" Abraham answered, "She is in the tent." One of the men said to Abraham, "Nine months from now I will come back and your wife will have a son."

The Word of the Lord

Sixteenth Sunday in Church Time

RESPONSE: Good people live with God!

People obey God will do as they should.
They speak the truth and don't gossip.
They don't say bad things.

RESPONSE:

People do not hurt their friends.
They do not say bad things about their neighbors.
They honor all people that obey the Lord.

RESPONSE:

People do what they promise.
They lend money and do not charge interest.
They don't take bribes to hurt the innocent.

RESPONSE:

A Reading from the Letter of St. Paul to the Colossians

Paul said, "I am glad that I can suffer for you. I am also pleased that I can continue the suffering of Christ for his body is the church. God made me a servant of his church and he sent me to preach his message to you. For years and years this message was hidden from everyone but now it has been explained to you. God did this because he wanted you Gentiles to understand his wonderful mystery. The mystery is that Christ lives in you and he is your hope of sharing in the glory of God.

We announce the message about Christ and we use all our wisdom to warn and teach everyone so that all of the followers of Christ will grow and become mature."

The Word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation

LUKE 8:15

Alleluia---Alleluia---Alleluia

Blessed are the people that keep the word of the Lord with full heart. They will have a large harvest.

Alleluia---Alleluia---Alleluia

Gospel

LUKE 10:38-42

A Reading from the Holy Gospel of Luke

Jesus and his disciples were traveling and arrived at a village. A woman named Martha welcomed him into her house. Martha has a sister and her name is Mary. Mary sat down with Jesus talking with him.

Martha worked and was busy with all the work. Finally she went to Jesus and said to him, “Why you did you let my sister leave me to do all the work alone? Tell her to get busy and help me.”

Jesus answered, “Martha, Martha! You are so worried and upset over so many things to do. The only one thing is necessary. Mary decided what is best and what she already decided you cannot take it away from her.”

The Good News of the Lord

Sixteenth Sunday in Church Time

SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN CHURCH TIME

First Reading

GENESIS 18:20-32

A Reading from the Scroll of Genesis

The Lord said to Abraham, “The accusations against Sodom and Gomorrah are terrible. Their sins are awful. I must come down to find out if the accusations are true or not. The men left and went on to Sodom but the Lord stayed with Abraham. Then Abraham asked the Lord, “Are you really going to destroy the good people with the bad people? If there are fifty good people in the city, will you destroy the whole city? Or will you save the city to protect the fifty good people? Surely you will not kill the good people with the bad people. That is impossible! If you did, the good people will be punished with the bad people. You are the judge and I know you will do the right thing.”

The Lord answered, “If I find fifty good people in Sodom, I will save the city to protect the fifty good people.”

Then Abraham spoke again, “Excuse me and I am only a man. Let me ask you again if there are only forty five good people instead of fifty, will you destroy the city because there are five less people?”

The Lord said, “If I find forty five good people there, I will not destroy the city.”

Then Abraham asked again, “What if there are only forty good people in the city, will you destroy it?”

The Lord said, “If I find forty good people, I will not destroy the city.”

Abraham asked again, “Lord, please don’t be angry with me. Let me ask you if only thirty good people are in the city, will you destroy it?”

The Lord said, “No, I will not destroy the city if there are thirty good people.”

Then Abraham said, “May I bother you again and ask you what if there are twenty good people?”

The Lord said, “No, I will not destroy the city if there are twenty good people there.”

Once more Abraham said to the Lord, “Please don’t be angry with me but let me bother you this is the last time I ask you if there are ten good people there, what will you do?”

The Lord said, “If I find ten good people in the city, I will not destroy it.”

The Word of the Lord

Seventeenth Sunday in Church Time

RESPONSE: Lord, I asked for help and you answered me.

God, I will praise you with all my heart.
I will sing your praise before all angels.
I will worship at your holy temple.
I will give thanks in your name.

RESPONSE:

You are true to your word.
You made yourself famous.
I asked for your help and you answered me.
You gave me courage.

RESPONSE:

You are very important.
You care for humble people.
When I am in trouble, you protect me.

RESPONSE:

Save me from my enemies.
Give me the things you promised.
Your true love continues forever.
Don't give up on us!

RESPONSE:

A Reading from the Letter of St. Paul to the Colossians

Paul said, “Through your baptism you were buried with Christ. Also in your baptism you were raised with Christ.

You were dead because you did not belong to God. But God made you alive with Christ. He forgave all our sins.

God wiped out all the charges that were against us because we did not obey the Law of Moses. He took them away and nailed them to the cross.”

The Word of the Lord

Alleluia---Alleluia---Alleluia

The spirit makes you children of God and we cry out to him, “Father! my Father!”

Alleluia---Alleluia---Alleluia

A Reading from the Holy Gospel of Luke

Jesus finished praying. One of his disciples came to him and said to him, “Lord, teach us to pray just like John taught his followers to pray.”

So Jesus told them to pray this way:

“Father, may your holy name be honored.
Come and set up your kingdom.
Give us each day the food we need.
Forgive our sins as we forgive everyone that has done wrong against us.
And protect us from being tempted.”

Then Jesus went on to say, “Suppose one of you go to a friend’s house at midnight and asks, ‘Let me borrow three loaves of bread. A friend of mine just came to my house and I don’t have any food for him.’

Suppose your friend answers, ‘Don’t bother me! The door is locked. My children and I are in bed. I cannot get up to give you something to eat.’

If he will not get up and give you the bread just because he is your friend. But he will get up and give you everything you need because you are not ashamed to keep on asking. So I tell you to ask and you shall receive, seek and you will find, knock the door and it will be opened for you. Everyone asks will receive, everyone searches will find and the door will be opened for anyone knocking.

If your child is hungry and asks you good father for a fish, would you give him a snake? If your child asks for an egg, would you give him a scorpion? No, you know how to give good things to your children.

Your Heavenly Father is more ready to give the Holy Spirit to anyone asking.

The Good News of the Lord

EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN CHURCH TIME

First Reading

ECCLESIASTES 1:2; 2:21-23

A Reading from the Scroll of Ecclesiastes

The philosopher says, “Everything has no meaning. Life has no meaning. It is a waste of time.”

You work for something with all your wisdom, knowledge and skill. Then you leave it all to someone and he did not do any work for it. It is waste of time. It is not right. You work and worry your way through life. Then what do you have to show for it?

As long as you live and everything you do brings nothing but worry and heartache. Even at night your mind can't rest. It means nothing.

The Word of the Lord

RESPONSE: If today you hear his voice, don't let
your hearts become hard.

You tell us to go back to what we were.
You change us back to dust.
A thousand years are like one day to you.
They are like yesterday already gone.
We are like weeds that grow in the morning.
But they dry up and die in the evening.

RESPONSE:

Teach us to use all the time we have wisely.
Lord, help us! Don't wait.
Have pity on your servants.
Fill us with your love.
Then we can celebrate and be glad all our life.

RESPONSE:

Lord our God, may your blessings be with us.
Give us success in all we do.

RESPONSE:

A Reading from the Letter of St. Paul to the Colossians

Paul said, “You have been raised to life with Christ. Now set your hearts on things in heaven. That is where Christ is sitting at the right side of God. Think what is going to be up there. Don’t think what is here on earth. You died and your life is with Christ. Your life is Christ. He will appear and you will also appear with him in glory.

Stop lying to each other. Give up your old way of life with bad habits. Each of you is a new person. You are becoming more and more like your Creator and you will understand him better.

It makes no difference if you are a Greek or a Jew or if you are circumcised or not circumcised. You may be Barbarian or Scythian and be a slave or a free person but Christ lives in you.”

The Word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation

MATTHEW 5:3

Alleluia---Alleluia---Alleluia

Blessed are the people poor in spirit.
The kingdom of heaven will be theirs.

Alleluia---Alleluia---Alleluia

Gospel

LUKE 12:13-21

A Reading from the Holy Gospel of Luke

A man in a crowd said to Jesus, “Teacher, tell my brother to divide with me the property our father left us.”

Jesus answered, “Who gave me the right to settle arguments between you and your brother?” Then Jesus said to the people, “Don’t be greedy! Owning a lot of things won’t make your life safe.”

Then Jesus told a story. “A rich man had a farm and it gave a good crop. He thought what he can do. He does not have a place large enough to store everything. Then he thought now I know what I’ll do. I’ll tear down my barns and build bigger barns so I can store all my grains so I will have enough to last for years to come. Live it up! Eat, drink and enjoy yourself.

But God said to the man, ‘You fool! Tonight you’ll die. Then who will get what you have stored up?’ This is what happens to people that store up everything for themselves but are poor in the sight of God.”

The Good News of the Lord

NINETEENTH SUNDAY IN CHURCH TIME

First Reading

WISDOM 18:6-9

A Reading from the Scroll of Wisdom

Our ancestors were told what would happen that night so that they would be encouraged by trust in your promises to them. Your people knew that you would save the good people and destroy their enemies. In the same way you punished our enemies and honored us in calling us to yourself.

That time your good people were secretly offering sacrifices, encouraging each other with word in keeping the law of God and shared with each other blessings and dangers. They were already singing old songs of praise.

The Word of the Lord

Psalm

PSALM 33:1,12,18-22

RESPONSE: Blessed the people God had chosen.

Rejoice in the Lord!
You are the people of the Lord.
Obey him and celebrate!
He is worthy of your praise.

RESPONSE:

The Lord blesses the people that worship him.
He blesses his chosen people.

RESPONSE:

The Lord watches over the people honoring him.
He protects them from death and hunger.
We depend on the Lord.
We trust in his holy name.
Be kind and bless us!

RESPONSE:

A Reading from the Letter to the Hebrews

(Short Form---Read in Black)

Faith makes us sure of what we hope for. It gives us proof that we cannot see. Our ancestors had faith and because of their faith, they made God happy.

Abraham had faith and he obeyed God. God told Abraham to go to the land that God will give him. Abraham left his home and went to a country he never saw. He lived as a stranger in a promised land. He lived in a tent. Isaac and Jacob also lived in a tent and they later got the same promise that God gave to Abraham. Abraham did what God told him because he was waiting for the eternal city that God had planned and built.

Sarah was already too old to have children. But she had faith that God would do what he had promised. She had a son. Abraham was almost dead but he became the ancestor of many people as many stars in the sky or as grains of sand on the beach.

Every one of those people died. But they still had faith even though they did not get what God promised them. They were glad just to see things from far away and they agreed that they were only strangers and foreigners on this earth.

People talk this way and it is clear that they are looking for a place of their own. If they were talking about the land where they lived before, they could go back any time. But they looked forward to a better home in heaven. That is why God was not ashamed for them to call him God. He even built a city for them.

God had promised Abraham that Isaac, his only son, will have a family. God tested Abraham for his faith. He was willing to sacrifice his son, Isaac. Abraham was so sure that God could raise people to life. This was just like getting Isaac back from death.

The Word of the Lord

Alleluia---Alleluia---Alleluia

Stay awake and be ready!

You do not know the day the Lord will come.

Alleluia---Alleluia---Alleluia

Gospel

LUKE 12:32-48

A Reading from the Holy Gospel of Luke

(Short Form---Read in Black)

Jesus said, “Don’t be afraid! Your Father wants to give you the kingdom. Sell everything you have and give the money to the poor. Make for yourself a moneybag that won’t wear out. Make your treasure safe in heaven so thieves cannot steal and moths cannot eat it. Your heart will always be where your treasure is.

Be ready and keep your lamp burning. Be like the servants. They wait up for their master to come home from a wedding. The master comes home and knocks the door and you open it for him. If the servants are awake, they are lucky because they are ready for him. I promise you that he will be ready for the servants to sit down so he can serve them. Those servants are really lucky if their master finds them awake even though he comes in late at night or early in the morning.

Nineteenth Sunday in Church Time

You would not want a thief break into your home, if you knew that he is coming. So always be ready! You do not know the time the Son of Man will come.

Peter asked Jesus, “Do you mean that for us only or for everybody?”

Jesus answered, “Who are the faithful and wise servants? They are ones that the master will put in charge of giving other servants food at the right time. Servants are lucky if the master comes in and see them doing their job. A servant is always faithful and he will be given duty to take care of everything the master owns.

Suppose one of the servants thinks that the master will not return until late. And suppose that servant starts beating all other servants and eats and gets drunk. If that happens, the master will come on a day and at a time the servant does not expect. That servant will be punished and be thrown out with the servants that cannot be trusted.

If the servants are not ready or willing to do what their master wants them to do, they will be beaten hard. But the servants not knowing what their master wants them to do will not be beaten so hard for doing wrong. If God is generous with you, he will expect you to serve him well. But if he is more than generous, he will expect you to serve him better

The Good News of the Lord

Nineteenth Sunday in Church Time

TWENTIETH SUNDAY IN CHURCH TIME

First Reading

JEREMIAH 38:4-6, 8-10

A Reading from the Scroll of Jeremiah

The officials went to the king and said to him, “Jeremiah must be killed. His talking to the soldiers is making them lose their courage and also to all the people in the city. He is not helping the people. He only wants to hurt them.”

King Zedekiah answered, “Ok. Then do what you want to do with him. I am not going to stop you.” So the officials took Jeremiah and put him down by ropes into a well that belong to Prince Malchiah. That well was in a courtyard of the palace. There was no water in the well and he sank down in the mud.

Ebedmelech went to the king and said to him, “Your Majesty, what the men did is wrong. They put Jeremiah in the well and he will sure die of starvation because there is no more food in the city.” So the king told Ebedmelech to get three men and pull Jeremiah out of the well before he died.

The Word of the Lord

RESPONSE: Lord, come and help me

I waited for the Lord to hear my prayer.
He heard my prayer and he saved me.

RESPONSE:

The Lord heard my cry.
He pulled me out of the swamp.
He put me on the rock.
He protected me.

RESPONSE:

The Lord taught me how to sing.
People will look in awe.
And they will trust the Lord

RESPONSE:

I am weak and poor.
But you do not forget me.
You are my savior.
Please hurry and help me.

RESPONSE:

A Reading from the Letter to the Hebrews

A large crowd is watching us. So we must get rid of everything that slows us down especially the sin that we won't let go. We must be determined to get to the goal that is ahead of us. We must keep our eyes on Jesus. He is the one that leads us and makes our faith complete. Jesus endured the shame of being nailed to a cross. But he knew that later on he would be glad that he did. Now he is seated at the right side of God. So keep your mind on Jesus. He accepted many insults from sinners. Don't be discouraged and give up. None of you have been hurt in your battle against sin.

The Word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation

JOHN 10:27

Alleluia---Alleluia---Alleluia

The Lord says, “My sheep hear my voice.
I know them and they follow me.”

Alleluia---Alleluia---Alleluia

Gospel

LUKE 12:49-53

A Reading from the Holy Gospel of Luke

Jesus said, “I came here on earth to start a fire. I wish the earth is on fire. The people will test me and I will suffer until it is over.

Do you think I came here on earth to bring peace? No! I came here to bring division, not peace. A family of five will be divided; two will be against three. Fathers and sons will be against each other. Mothers will be against their daughters and daughters against their mothers. Mothers-in-law and daughters-in-law will also be against each other.”

The Good News of the Lord

TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN CHURCH TIME

First Reading

ISAIAH 66:18-21

A Reading from the Scroll of Isaiah

I know what the people are thinking and how they did. I will come and gather all the people from different countries. I get all the people together and they will see my power. They will know what my power will do. They will know that I am the one that punishes them.

But I will spare some of the people and send them far away that do not know my fame or have seen my power: to Spain, Libya and Lydia with its skilled archers and to Tubal and Greece. In those countries they will proclaim my power. They will bring all the people from those countries as a gift to me. They will bring the people to my sacred hill in Jerusalem on horses, mules and camels, in chariots and wagons just like the Israelites bring grains for offerings to the temple in containers that are specially cleaned. I will make some of them priests and Levites.

The Word of the Lord

**RESPONSE: Go out to the world and proclaim the
Good News.**

You people come and praise the Lord.
Let everyone praise him.

RESPONSE:

His love for us is wonderful.
His faithfulness never ends.

RESPONSE:

A Reading from the Letter to the Hebrews

You have forgotten what the scriptures said. It said, “When God punishes you, pay attention. When he corrects you, don’t be discouraged. The Lord corrects the people he loves. He disciplines the people that are his.”

Be patient when God corrects you. That is how God corrects his people. Just like all parents correcting their children.

It is never fun to be corrected. Surely it can be painful. But if we learn to obey being corrected, we will do right and live at peace.

Now stand up straight! Make your legs stop shaking. Walk a straight path. The lame people will be healed. They will not get worse.

The Word of the Lord

Alleluia---Alleluia---Alleluia

The Lord says, "I am the way, the truth and the life. No one can go to the Father without me."

Alleluia---Alleluia---Alleluia

A Reading from the Holy Gospel of Luke

Jesus on his way to Jerusalem went through towns and villages teaching the people. One person came up to Jesus and asked him, "Lord, will only few people be saved?"

Jesus answered, "Do your best to go through a narrow door! Many people will try to go through but will not be able to go through. The master of the house will get up and lock the door and you will be left standing outside. You will knock on the door and say, 'Open the door for us!' But the master will answer, 'I do not know where you are from!'

Then you will say, 'We ate and drank with you. You taught us in our streets.' But the master will say, 'I don't know where you are from. Go away all you evil people!'

When you are thrown out and when you see Abraham, Isaac and Jacob and all the prophets in the Kingdom of God, you will cry and grind your teeth.

People will come from all directions and sit down at the feast in the Kingdom of God. Those now are last will be first and those now are first will be last.”

The Good News of the Lord

TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN CHURCH TIME

First Reading

SIRACH 3:17-18,20,28-29

A Reading from the Scroll of Sirach

My child, be humble in everything you do. People will appreciate it more than gifts. The greater you become you should be more humble.

The power of God is great and he is honored by the people that are humble.

There is no cure for the troubles that stubborn people have. Evil has taken control of them. Intelligent people will learn from proverbs and parables. They pay attention because they want to learn.

The Word of the Lord

RESPONSE: Lord, you have made home for the poor.

Sing to God. Sing praises to his name.
Prepare a way for him through the desert.
His name is the Lord.

RESPONSE:

God in his holy home takes care of orphans.
He takes protect widows.
He gives home to the poor.
He freed the prisoners.

RESPONSE:

Your people settled down.
You are generous to everyone in need.
You gave the command.
Many women brought the news.

RESPONSE:

A Reading from the Letter to the Hebrews

You cannot go to a place like Mount Sinai that you can see or feel. There is no fire, no darkness, no storm and no noise of a trumpet. The people of Israel heard the voice. But they begged not to hear another word.

Instead you go to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, Jerusalem, with its thousands of angels. You already came to the joyful place with all the names of children of God written in heaven. You have come to God judging everyone. Also the spirits of good people were made perfect.

You have come to Jesus. He has already prepared the new covenant and sprinkled blood that promises much better things than the blood of Abel.

The Word of the Lord

Alleluia---Alleluia---Alleluia

The Lord says, “Take the yoke I gave you.
Put it on your shoulders and learn from me for
I am gentle and humble.”

Alleluia---Alleluia---Alleluia

A Reading from the Holy Gospel of Luke

One Sabbath day Jesus went into a house of important Pharisee for dinner. Everybody was watching Jesus. Jesus saw some people tried to grab in the best seat. So he told them a parable.

“If you are invited to a wedding feast, don’t sit in the best place. Someone more important may come in and the man invited you will come and say to you ‘Give your seat to other person!’ You will be embarrassed and will go and sit in the worst place. So if you are invited, go and sit in the worst place. Then the man invited you may go to you and say ‘My friend, you go and take better seat.’ Then all the people at the dinner will respect you. If you put yourself above others, you will be put down. But if you humble yourself, you will be honored”.

Then Jesus said to the man that invited him to dinner, “When you give a dinner, don’t invite your friends, family, relatives or rich neighbors. If you do, they will invite you in return and you will be paid back. Invite the poor, the lame and the blind to a feast. They cannot pay you back. But God will bless you and reward you.

The Good News of the Lord

TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN CHURCH TIME

First Reading

WISDOM 9:13-18

A Reading from the Scroll of Wisdom

Who can understand the will of God? Reasoning is not enough. Our thinking can lead us the wrong way. Our bodies are mortal and for that reason they push down our souls. The body is a temporary structure made of earth. It is a burden to the active mind. All we can do is make guesses about things on earth. We must struggle to learn about things that are close to us.

Who can understand things far away? No one can understand your will if you don't first give him wisdom. In this way people on earth shown the right way will learn what makes you happy and they will be protected by wisdom.

The Word of the Lord

RESPONSE: Lord, in the past you have protected us.

You commanded us to die and we became dust.
A thousand years means nothing to you!
They are gone in one day and a few hours at night.

RESPONSE:

Like a dream you end our lives.
We are like grass that grows in the morning.
But in the evening the grass dries up.

RESPONSE:

Teach us to use the time wisely.
Help us. Lord! Don't wait.
Have pity on your servants.

RESPONSE:

Fill us with your love.
So we may sing and be glad all our life.
Let us your servants see your powerful deeds.
Lord our God, may your blessings be with us.

RESPONSE:

A Reading from the Letter of St. Paul to the Philemon

Paul said, “I am Paul. I am messenger for Christ. Also I am prisoner for Christ. So I beg you to help Onesimus. He is like my son.

I am with sadness sending Onesimus to you. I would like to keep him here with me so he could help me in your place. But I do not want to force you to help me. I would like for you to do it on your own free will. So I would not do anything if you do not agree.

Perhaps Onesimus was away from you for short time so that you can have him back for good but not as a slave. He is much more than a slave. He is a dear brother in Christ.

If you consider me a friend because of Christ, then welcome Onesimus as you welcome me.”

The Word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation

PSALM 119:135

Alleluia---Alleluia---Alleluia**Let your face shine on your servant and teach me your laws.****Alleluia---Alleluia---Alleluia**

Gospel

LUKE 14:25-33

A Reading from the Holy Gospel of Luke

One day a large crowd was following Jesus. He stopped and turned and said, “If you love your mother and father, your wife and your children, your brothers and sisters more than you love me, you cannot be my disciple.

If you love your life more than you love me, you cannot come with me. If you won’t carry your own cross, you cannot be my follower.

Suppose you want to build a tower, you will have sit down first and figure out how much it will cost to build the tower and see if you will have enough money to pay for it. If you start building the tower and do not have enough money to finish the job, people will see and laugh at you and will say to you ‘You started building the tower but could not finish’.

What will a king do if he has only 10,000 men to fight against a king who has 20,000 men? Before he goes out to fight, he will sit down and figure out if he will be strong enough to win the war. If not strong enough, he will send his messengers to the other king before he comes to fight and asks for peace.

So you cannot be my disciple if you won't give away everything you own.

The Good News of the Lord

TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN CHURCH TIME

First Reading

EXODUS 32:7-11,13-14

A Reading from the Scroll of Exodus

The Lord said to Moses, “Hurry and go back to your people that you led out of Egypt. They have rejected me. They are not doing the way that I have commanded them. They melted gold and made a calf out of it. Then they worshipped and offered sacrifices to the calf. They are saying that it is their god that led them out of Egypt. I know these people are stubborn. Now don’t try to stop me. I am angry with them and I am going to destroy them. Then I will make you and your descendants into a great nation.”

Moses pleaded with the Lord his God, “Why should you be angry with your people. You saved them from Egypt with great might and power? Remember your servants Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. Remember the promise you made to them to give as many descendants as the stars in the sky and to give them the land you promised will be their own forever.”

So, the Lord changed his mind and did not destroy the people as he planned.

The Word of the Lord

Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Church Time

RESPONSE: I will rise and go to my father.

I know my faults.
I am always aware of my sins.
I have sinned against you.
You are right in judging me.
You are right in condemning me.

RESPONSE:

Give me the joy that is from your salvation.
Make me willing to obey you.
I will teach sinners to obey you.
They will go back to you.

RESPONSE:

My sacrifice is a humble spirit.
You will not reject a humble and repentant heart.
You will be pleased with proper sacrifices and with
our burned offerings.

RESPONSE:

A Reading from the First Letter of St. Paul to Timothy

Paul said, “I give thanks to Jesus Christ our Lord for giving me strength to do my work. I thank him for considering me worthy and appointing me to serve him. Before I spoke against him and persecuted him but God was merciful to me. I did not have faith and I did not know what I was doing. The Lord gave me grace so I can have faith and love that are ours in union with Jesus Christ.

It is true! Jesus Christ came into the world to save sinners and I am the worst one. But God was merciful to me. Jesus Christ was patient with me as the worst sinner. It is an example for all that would later believe in him and will receive eternal life.

To the King, immortal and invisible, the only God. To him be honor and glory forever and ever!”

Amen.

Gospel Acclamation

2 CORINTHIANS 5:19

Alleluia---Alleluia---Alleluia**God came to give us peace through Christ.****Alleluia---Alleluia---Alleluia**

Gospel

LUKE 15:1-32

A Reading from the Holy Gospel of Luke**(Short Form---Read in Black)**

One day the tax collectors and sinners gathered around Jesus to hear him speaking. The Pharisees and teachers of the Law began to grumble. They said, “Look, Jesus welcomes the sinners. He even eats and drinks with them.”

Jesus looked at them and began to tell a parable:

“If anyone of you has a hundred sheep and one of them got lost, what will you do? You would leave the ninety-nine sheep in the field and go out to look for the lost sheep until you find it. If you find it, you will be so happy that you will carry it on your shoulder. Then you will call your friends and neighbors together and say to them, ‘Let us celebrate! I have found my lost sheep.’”

Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Church Time

Jesus said, ‘In the same way I tell you that there is more joy in heaven over one sinner that repents than over ninety-nine good people that do not need to repent.’”

Jesus told another parable:

“What will a woman do if she has ten silver coins and loses one of them? She will light a lamp, sweep the floor and look around until she finds one. Then she will call in her friends and neighbors saying, ‘Let us celebrate! I found the coin I lost.’

Jesus said, ‘In the same way I tell you that the angels of God will rejoice over one sinner that repents.’”

Jesus told another parable:

“A man had two sons, the younger and the older. The younger son went to his father and said, ‘Give me the share of all things that is mine.’ So the father divided his property and gave the younger son his share.

Few days later the son sold his share and with the money he left home for a country far away. There he spent all his money on booze, gambling and women. Soon his money ran out.

A famine happened in that country and he had nothing to eat. So he went to work for a farmer he sent him out to feed pigs. The son was so hungry that he wanted to eat what the pigs were eating. No one would give him anything to eat. Then he began to realize that he was foolish and thought about his father and his servants back home. ‘All the servants that work for my father back home have plenty to eat and here I am starving. I’ll leave here and go back to my father. I’ll tell him that I have sinned against God and against you. I am not good enough to be called your son. Let me be like one of your servants.’

So the son left and went back home to his father. The father was out in the field working and he saw his son still far away coming. He felt sorry for him. So he ran to him, hugged him and kissed him. The son said to his father, ‘I am not good enough to be called your son. I have sinned against God and you.’

But his father called his servants and said to them, ‘Hurry and bring new clothes, new shoes for his feet and a ring for his finger. Go and kill the best calf and have a big feast.’ The father was so happy because before the son was dead and now he is alive. Before he was lost and now he is found.

The older son was out in the field working and on his way home, he heard music and dancing. He wondered what was going on. So he asked one of the servants, ‘What is up?’ The servant answered, ‘Your brother came home safely and your father is very happy so he had the best calf killed for the party.’

The older son became so angry that he refused to go into the house. His father came out and begged the older son to come to the party. But the older son spoke back ‘Why should I come in and celebrate? I have always worked for you like a slave and obeyed you for many years. What have you given me? Nothing! No party for me and for my friends. You did not even kill a goat for me. For your son, he wasted all your money on prostitutes and you killed the best calf for him.’

The father said to him, ‘Son, you are always with me. Everything I have now is yours. But we should celebrate and be glad because before your brother was dead and now he is alive. Before he was lost and now he is found.’”

The Good News of the Lord

TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN CHURCH TIME

First Reading

AMOS 8:4-7

A Reading from the Scroll of Amos

Listen, you trample on the poor people. You try to destroy them. You say to yourselves, “We can’t wait for the holy days to be over so we can sell our grain. Sabbath will be over soon so we can start selling our grain again. Then we can overcharge, use false measures and fix the scales to cheat our customers. We can sell wheat that is not good at a high price. We will find someone poor and if he can’t pay his debts, we will buy him as a slave.”

The Lord, the God of Israel, has remembered, “I will never forget their evil deeds.”

The Word of the Lord

RESPONSE: Praise the Lord. He helps the poor.

Praise the Lord!

Praise his name!

Let the name of the Lord be praised.

RESPONSE:

The Lord rules over all nations.

His glory is above the heavens.

There is no one like the Lord our God.

He lives above us.

RESPONSE:

He raises the poor from the dust.

He lifts the poor from their despair.

He makes them equal with princes.

RESPONSE:

A Reading from the First Letter of St. Paul to Timothy

Paul said, “First of all, I urge you to pray for all people. Be thankful. Pray for the kings and all people that have authority so we can have quiet and peaceful life with reverence toward God and with proper attitude. This is good and it pleases God our Savior. He wants everyone to be saved and to know the truth.

There is only one God and the one that brings together God and human being is Jesus Christ. Jesus is the one that gave himself up to redeem the whole human race. That is the proof at the right time that God wants everyone to be saved. That is why God sent me as an apostle and teacher of the Gentiles to proclaim the message of faith and truth. I am not lying. I am telling the truth!

I want all of you to pray. So lift up your hands.”

The Word of the Lord

Alleluia---Alleluia---Alleluia

Christ was rich but he became poor for us so we can become rich.

Alleluia---Alleluia---Alleluia

Gospel

LUKE 16:1-13

A Reading from the Holy Gospel of Luke
(Short Form---Read in Black)

Jesus was telling a story to his disciples. He said, “A rich man had a manager to take care of his business. A rumor went around that the manager was taking advantage of the rich man. So the rich man called the manager and said to him, “I heard what you have done is not honest. Tell me what you have done. You are not my manager anymore.”

The manager thought to himself, “What should I do? My master will fire me. I am not strong enough to dig ditches. I am too ashamed to beg. I know what I’ll do. If I lose my job, I’ll call my friends to welcome me into their homes.”

So the manager called each person that owed the master some money.

He called the first person and asked him, “How much do you owe my master?” The man answered, “100 barrels of olive oil.” The manager said to him, “Here is your bill and put down 50 barrels.”

The manager asked the second man, “How much do you owe my master?” The man answered, “1,000 bushels of wheat.” The manager said, “Here is your bill. Put down 800 bushels.”

Later the master praised the manager for what he did was clever because people that deal with the world things are smarter than spiritual people. I tell you to use things you have to make friends for yourselves. Then when things are all gone, you will be welcomed into heaven. If anyone is trusted with small things, he can be trusted with big things. If anyone that is not honest with small things, he will not be honest with big things.

If you cannot be trusted with wealth in the world, then you cannot be trusted with wealth in heaven. If you cannot be trusted with things that belong to someone else, then you cannot be given things that belong to you.

No servant can serve two masters at the same time. The servant will hate one master and love the other master. Or he will trust one master and don't care about the other master. You cannot serve God and money at the same time.

The Good News of the Lord

TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN CHURCH TIME

First Reading

AMOS 6:1,4-7

A Reading from the Scroll of Amos

How terrible it will be for you to have easy life in Zion and for you to feel comfortable in Samaria.

How terrible it will be for you to lie on your fancy couches, feasting on veal and lamb! You like to write songs like David did and play them on harps. You drink wine and use the best perfumes. You do not care about the ruin of Israel.

You will be the first one to go into exile. Your good times will be over.

The Word of the Lord

RESPONSE: Praise the Lord, my soul.

Blessed are the people having faith in God.
The Lord protects oppressed people.
God gives food to hungry people.
The Lord frees the people from prison.

RESPONSE:

The Lord gives sight to blind people.
He helps people in trouble.
He loves good people.
He protects strangers in our country.

RESPONSE:

The Lord protects widows and orphans.
He destroys bad people.
The Lord is king forever!
Zion, your God will reign forever and ever.
Praise the Lord!

RESPONSE:

A Reading from the First Letter of St. Paul to Timothy

Paul said, “You are the man of God. Try to be good. Serve God, have faith, love, and patience. Be kind. Keeping faith is like running a race. Try hard so you can win that race.

Be sure you get life that continues forever. You are called to have that life. Tell the great truth about Christ so people can hear you.

I tell you that Christ is the one that said the same great truth before Pontius Pilate. God is the one that gives life to everything. Now I tell you do what you are told. Do those things faithfully until the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

God will make that happen the right time. God is the only ruler. He is the king of all kings and the Lord of all rulers. God is the only one and he never dies. God lives in light too bright for the people to go near it.

No person has ever seen God. No person is able to see God. Honor and praise him forever. Amen”

The Word of the Lord

Twenty-Sixth Sunday in Church Time

Alleluia---Alleluia---Alleluia

Jesus was rich but he became poor for us so we can become rich.

Alleluia---Alleluia---Alleluia

Gospel

LUKE 16:19-31

A Reading from the Holy Gospel of Luke

There was a rich man and he lived very comfortable. Every day he wore fancy clothes and ate the best food. Also there was a poor man named Lazarus. Every day Lazarus was brought to the gate of the rich man's house hoping to get some food that fell from the rich man's table. Lazarus had sores all over his body. The dogs came to lick his sores. The poor man died and the angels brought him to a place of honor next to Abraham.

The rich man also died and was buried. He went to hell and he was suffering so much.

He looked up and saw Abraham far away with Lazarus at his side. He cried out, "Have pity on me! Send Lazarus to dip his finger in water and touch my tongue. I am here in great pain in this fire."

Abraham answered, “My friend, remember before you were alive, you had everything good and Lazarus had everything bad. Now he is happy and you are in pain. The ditch between us is deep and there is no way we can go to you and also no way for you to come to us.”

The rich man then said, “Abraham, please send Lazarus to my father’s house and warn my five brothers so they won’t come to this horrible place.”

Abraham said, “Your brothers have Moses and prophets to warn them. Your brothers should pay attention to them.”

The rich man said, “But that is not enough. If only a person were to rise from death would go to them. They would listen and stop sinning.”

Abraham said, “If they won’t pay attention to Moses and the prophets, they still won’t listen to anyone even to those rising from the dead.”

The Good News of the Lord

TWENTY-SEVENTH SUNDAY IN CHURCH TIME

First Reading

HABAKKUK 1:2-3,2:2-4

A Reading from the Scroll of Habakkuk

Lord, how long must I cry for help before you pay attention to me? How long must I suffer before you save us from violence? Why do you make me go through trouble? Destruction and violence are everywhere. How can you ignore the quarreling that is everywhere?

The Lord answered, “Write down what I tell you. Write down clearly so people can read it easily. The message I give you is about a special time in the future. It is about the end and it will happen. The message may be slow but wait for it. The message is ‘It will not help people if they refuse to listen to it. But the people that are good will live because they have faith in God’”.

The Word of the Lord

RESPONSE: Listen to God.

Come and let us praise the Lord!
Let us sing for joy to God!
Let us come before him and give him thanks.
Praise with joyful songs.

RESPONSE:

Come and let us bow down and worship him!
Let us praise him!
He is our God and we are his people.
We are his sheep.

RESPONSE:

Listen to what the Lord says.
Don't be stubborn like the people in the desert.
They tested God and saw his works.

RESPONSE:

A Reading from the Second Letter of St. Paul to Timothy

Paul said, “I want you to remember the gift God gave you. God gave you that gift when I put my hands on you. Use it. The spirit gives us power, love and self-control. Don’t be ashamed to speak for our Lord. Don’t be ashamed of me because I am in jail for serving the Lord. Use the power that God gave you and join with me in suffering the Good News.

Now follow the example of the true teachings you heard and let the faith and love of Jesus Christ be your model. You were given a wonderful treasure. Protect it with the help of the Holy Spirit that is in you.”

The Word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation

1 PETER 1:25

Alleluia---Alleluia---Alleluia

**The word of the Lord is proclaimed to you and
it remains in you.**

Alleluia---Alleluia---Alleluia

Gospel

LUKE 17:5-10

A Reading from the Holy Gospel of Luke

The disciples said to Jesus, “Make our faith stronger!” Jesus replied, “If your faith is small like a mustard seed, you can tell the mulberry tree to jump into the ocean and it will obey you.”

“If your servant comes in from plowing or taking care of the sheep, would you say to the servant, ‘Welcome! Come in and have something to eat.’ No, you would not say that. You would say, ‘Give me something to eat. Get busy and serve me now. Then you will eat and drink later.’”

Servants don’t deserve special thanks for doing what they are supposed to do. That is how it should be with you. When you have done all you should do, then say, ‘We are ordinary servants and we have only done our duty.’”

The Good News of the Lord

TWENTY-EIGHT SUNDAY IN CHURCH TIME

First Reading

2 KINGS 5:14-17

A Reading from the Second Scroll of Kings

Elisha told Naaman to go to the Jordan River. So Naaman went to the river and dipped in it seven times. He came out clean and was cured. His skin became healthy like the skin of a baby. He went back to Elisha and said, “Look, I now know there no god but the God of Israel. So please accept a gift from me.”

Elisha answered, “I serve the Lord. I swear that I will not accept a gift.” Naaman tried hard to make Elisha accept the gift but he refused.

So Naaman said, “If you still refuse to accept my gift, then let me have enough dirt from Israel to fill the baskets on my two mules to take home with me because from now on I will not offer burnt offerings to other gods. I will offer sacrifices only to the Lord.

The Word of the Lord

REFRAIN: All people have seen the saving power of
the Lord.

Sing to the Lord!
He has done wonderful things.
God saved all people with his power.
He kept his promise to the people of Israel.

REFRAIN:

God remembered his love for us.
All people have seen the saving power of God.
Sing with joy to the Lord.
Praise the Lord!

REFRAIN:

A Reading from the Second Letter of St. Paul to Timothy

Paul said, “Remember Jesus Christ! He was from the family of David. He was raised from death and this is the Good News. I am now in jail but The Good News from God is not in jail. So I am willing to go through trouble. People of God will be saved. They will be given eternal glory because they belong to Christ. Here is the message:

“If we died with Christ, we will live with him.

If we don’t give up, we will rule with him.

If we refuse to accept him, he will refuse to accept us.

If we are not faithful, he will still be faithful.

Christ cannot lie.”

The Word of the Lord

Alleluia---Alleluia---Alleluia

Give thanks to God for all he has done for you.

Alleluia---Alleluia---Alleluia

Gospel

LUKE 17:11-19

A Reading from the Holy Gospel of Luke

Jesus was on his way to Jerusalem. He went through Samaria and Galilee and was entering into a village. Ten lepers came up and stood at a distance from Jesus. They shouted, “Jesus, Master! Have pity on us!”

Jesus saw the Lepers and said to them, “Go and let the priests look over you. On their way to the priests they were cleaned. One of them realized that he was healed and he came back praising God in a loud voice. He fell down at the feet of Jesus and thanked him. That man was a Samaritan.

Jesus said to the man, “There were ten that became well. Where are the other nine? Why is this foreigner the only one that came back to give thanks to God?”

So Jesus said to the man, “Get up and go. Your faith made you well.”

The Good News of the Lord

Twenty-Eighth Sunday in Church Time

TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY IN CHURCH TIME

First Reading

EXODUS 17:8-13

A Reading from the Scroll of Exodus

The Amalekites went out and fought against the people of Israel. Moses said to Joshua, "Choose some men and go and fight against Amalekites tomorrow. I will stand on the top of hill and watch you. I will be holding the stick that God gave me."

Joshua did what Moses told him and went out to fight the Amalekites. Moses, Aaron and Hur went up to the top of the hill. Moses was holding up his arms and the Israelites won. Then he put down his arms the Israelites began to lose. Moses' arm was becoming tired so Aaron and Hur brought a large rock for Moses to sit on. Then the men stood beside Moses and held up his arms until the sun went down. Joshua finally beat the Amalekites.

The Word of the Lord

RESPONSE: Our help is from the Lord.

I look up to the hills!
Will I find help there?
The help will be from the Lord.
He made heaven and the earth.

RESPONSE:

He will not let you fall.
He is always awake.
He never goes to sleep.
He is always with you.

RESPONSE:

The Lord is your protector.
He is always on your side.
The sun will not burn you during the day.
Nor the moon during the night.

RESPONSE:

The Lord will protect you from all danger.
The Lord will keep you safe.
He will protect you now and forever.

RESPONSE:

A Reading from the Second Letter of St. Paul to Timothy

Paul said, “Keep on being faithful to what you learned and to what you believed. You know who taught you these things. Since you were a child, you know the Holy Scriptures that made you wise enough to have faith in Jesus Christ and be saved. Everything in the scriptures is the word from God. It is useful for teaching and helping people and showing them how to live right. The scriptures teach the servants of God to do all kinds of good deeds.

Christ will come as king and he will judge everyone dead or alive. So with God and Christ I tell you to preach God’s message. Do it with full heart. Even if it is not popular thing to do, you must correct people and point out their sins. But cheer them up and as you teach them be patient.”

The Word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation

Hebrews 4:12

Alleluia---Alleluia---Alleluia**The Word of God is alive and active.****Alleluia---Alleluia---Alleluia**

Gospel

LUKE 18:1-8

A Reading from the Holy Gospel of Luke

One day Jesus told a parable to his disciples about how they should keep on praying and never give up. He said, "In a town there was a judge. He did not care about God. He even did not care about people. A widow in that town kept going to the judge and pestering him to give her rights.

For a long time the judge did nothing for the widow. But she kept on pestering him. Finally the judge gave up. He thought, 'I don't care about God and I don't care about people. But the widow has been pestering me for so long. So I'll let her have her rights. If I don't give her rights, she will keep on pestering me.'"

Then Jesus said, "Think about that judge that is not honest. Do you think God will protect his chosen people praying to him day and night? Do you think he will be concerned for them?"

Twenty-Ninth Sunday in Church Time

He will surely help them. The son of man will come and will he find on this earth anyone on earth having faith?"

The Good News of the Lord

THIRTIETH SUNDAY IN CHURCH TIME

First Reading

SIRACH 35:12-14,16-18

A Reading from the Scroll of Sirach

Don't try to bribe God. Don't depend on offerings that you stole. He will not accept them.

The Lord is fair and he will look at all people as equal. He does not ignore poor people. People that have been hurt pray. He will listen to them. The orphans and widows pray and he will listen to them.

Serve the Lord with full heart and he will accept you. Your prayers will go through the clouds and it will continue going until it reaches the Lord. It will stay until God answers and gives justice. The guilty will be punished.

The Word of the Lord

RESPONSE: The Lord hears the cry of the poor.

With all my heart I will praise the Lord.
Let the poor listen and be glad.
Honor the Lord!
Let us praise his great name.

RESPONSE:

People pray for help and he listens to them.
He protects all people from all their troubles.
The Lord is there to help people.
He will protect them from danger.

RESPONSE:

A Reading from the Second Letter of St. Paul to Timothy

Paul said, “Now is the time for me to die. My life is like a drink offering being poured out on the altar. I have fought. I have finished the race and I have been faithful. So I will get a reward for pleasing the Lord. He judges fairly and on the Day of Judgment he will give me reward and to everyone that wants the Lord to appear with power.

I was put on trial and no one helped me. Everybody left me. I pray that God will forgive them. The Lord stood by me. He gave me strength to tell the Good News so that all Gentiles would hear it. I was protected from my enemies. The Lord will always keep me from being harmed by evil and he will bring me safely into his heavenly kingdom. Praise him forever and ever! Amen”

The Word of the Lord

Alleluia---Alleluia---Alleluia

God unites the world to himself in Christ.
He offers us the message of forgiveness.

Alleluia---Alleluia---Alleluia

Gospel

LUKE 18:9-14

A Reading from the Holy Gospel of Luke

Jesus was telling a parable to some people thinking that they were better than anyone, “Two men went into the temple to pray. One was a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee stood by himself away from the tax collector and prayed, ‘Lord, I thank you that I am not greedy. I am honest. I do not do any sexual sin like other people. I am glad that I am not like the tax collector over there. I fast two days a week and I give one tenth of all I earned’.

In the distance the tax collector stood alone with his head bowed in shame. He beat his chest and prayed: ‘God, have pity on me! I am a sinner.’”

Then Jesus said, ‘The two men went home. God would be more pleased with the tax collector than with the Pharisee. If you put yourself above others, you will be put down and if you humble yourself, you will be blessed.’”

The Good News of the Lord

THIRTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN CHURCH TIME

First Reading

WISDOM 11:22-12:2

A Reading from the Scroll of Wisdom

The world is like a grain of sand too small to show its weight or it is like a drop of water on the ground in the morning. You are powerful enough to do anything but you are merciful to everyone. You overlook our sins and give us chance to repent. You love everything that is with us but you do not hate anything that you made. If you do not like it, you would not have made it in the first place. How can anything last if you did not want it to? How could it endure if you did not create it? You allowed it to stay alive because it is yours and you love all the living things.

Your everlasting spirit is in every one of them. So you correct those that is against you. You remind them of what they are doing and warn them about it so they will stop doing their evil ways and believe in you, Lord.

The Word of the Lord

RESPONSE: I will praise your name forever.

I will praise you, my God and my King.
I will always honor your name.
I will praise you each day.

RESPONSE:

Lord, you are merciful and kind.
You are patient and full of love.
You are good to everyone.
You take care of all things you made.

RESPONSE:

All things you made will thank you.
Your people will praise you.
They will tell about your marvelous kingdom.
They will tell about your great power.

RESPONSE:

Everyone will know about great things you do.
Everyone will know about your wonderful kingdom.
Lord, your kingdom will continue forever.
You will rule forever.

RESPONSE:

A Reading from the Second Letter of St. Paul to the Thessalonians

Paul said, “God chose you and we keep praying for you that God will make you worthy to be his people. We pray for the power of God to help you do all the good things that you hope to do and that your faith makes you want to do. God and our Lord Jesus Christ are so kind. You will praise the name of our Lord Jesus and he will give you honor.

Our Lord Jesus will return and he will gather us to meet him. So I ask you, my friends, not to be upset or worry about the people saying that the Lord has already come. They may say that they heard this from the Holy Spirit or from someone else or even read it in one of our letters.

The Word of the Lord

Alleluia---Alleluia---Alleluia

God loved the world so he gave his only son and everyone believing in him will have eternal life.

Alleluia---Alleluia---Alleluia

A Reading from the Holy Gospel of Luke

Jesus went through the town of Jericho. A tax collector was living in that town and his name was Zacchaeus. He was very rich. He heard Jesus was going through the town so he went to see who Jesus was. But Zacchaeus was a very short man and he could not see Jesus because people were in front of him. So he ran ahead of the crowd and climbed a sycamore tree so he could see Jesus. Jesus came to the tree and he looked up and saw Zacchaeus. Jesus said to him, "Come down because I am going to stay at your house today."

Zacchaeus went down from the tree and welcomed Jesus with great joy. All the people saw that and began to grumble saying that that man Jesus is staying at the home of a sinner!

Zacchaeus stood up in front of Jesus and said to him, “I will give half of my things to the poor. If I have robbed anything from them, I will pay back four times as much.”

Jesus said to him, “This man is a descendant of Abraham and he is saved. The Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost.”

The Good News of the Lord

THIRTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN CHURCH TIME

First Reading

2 MACCABEES 7:1-2,9-14

A Reading from the Second Scroll of Maccabees

A Jewish mother and her seven sons were arrested. They were beaten with a whip by the king trying to force them to eat pork. One of the sons said, “What would you expect from us eating the pork? We would rather die than to give up the tradition of our ancestors.

The second son was dying and he cried out to the king, “You butcher! You may kill us but the king of universe will raise us from the dead and give us eternal life because we obeyed his laws.”

The soldiers tortured the third brother. They told him to stick out his tongue and he did. Then he held out his hands and said with courage, “God gave me my hands. But his laws are more important to me than my hands. I know God will give them back to me.” The king and soldiers were surprised at his willingness to suffer.

The third son died. Then the soldiers tortured the fourth son. He said, “I am glad to die at your hands because we are sure that God will raise us from death. But for you, you will not be raise from death!

The Word of the Lord

Thirty-Second Sunday in Church Time

RESPONSE: The Glory of the Lord makes us happy.

Lord, listen to my prayer.
Hear my cry for help.
Please hear my prayer.

RESPONSE:

I have always obeyed you.
I follow your way.
Listen and answer my prayer.

RESPONSE:

Keep your eyes on me.
Hide me under your wings.
Protect me from evil.

RESPONSE:

Lord, I am innocent.
Let me see your face.
In your presence fill me with joy.

RESPONSE:

A Reading from the Second Letter of St. Paul to the Thessalonians

Paul said, “God, our Father, loves us. He is kind and has given us eternal comfort and wonderful hope. We pray that our Lord Jesus Christ and God our Father will encourage you and help you always to do and say the right thing.

Brothers and sisters, pray for us so the word of the Lord will spread quickly and for others to respect it. Also pray that God will protect us from evil people. Not everyone has faith but you can trust the Lord to make you strong and protect you from harm. He has made us sure that you are obeying what we taught you and you will keep on obeying. I pray that the Lord will guide you to be as loving as God and patient as Christ.

The Word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation

REVELATION 1:5,6

Alleluia---Alleluia---Alleluia

Jesus was the first conquer death.
Praise him forever and ever.

Alleluia---Alleluia---Alleluia

Gospel

LUKE 20:27-38

A Reading from the Holy Gospel of Luke
(Short Form---Read in Black)

The Sadducees, a group of Jewish that do not believe in life after death, went to Jesus. They said to him, “Teacher, Moses said that if a married man dies and has no children, his brother must marry the widow so their first born child would then be called as the child of the dead brother. Suppose there are seven brothers and the first one married but died without having children. The second brother married the widow of his brother and he also died without having children. The same thing happened to the third brother. Finally, all seven brothers married that woman and all died without having children. At last the woman died. If God raise people from death, whose wife will this woman be? All the seven brothers had married that woman?”

Thirty-Second Sunday in Church Time

Jesus said to them, “People in this world get married. But in the future world no one worthy to rise from death will either marry or die. They will be like angels and will be children of God because they rise to life.

Moses clearly shows that people will live again. He said, “The Lord is the God of Abraham, God of Isaac and God of Jacob. So the Lord is the God of the living, not of the dead. For God all are alive.

The Good News of the Lord

THIRTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN CHURCH TIME

First Reading

MALACHI 3:19-20

A Reading from the Scroll of Malachi

The Day of Judgment will happen soon. It will be like a hot furnace. All the proud and evil people will be punished. They will burn like straw. They will burn up and there will be nothing left.

The Lord said, “For my followers, they will shine like a rising sun with its healing rays.”

The Word of the Lord

RESPONSE: The Lord rules people with justice.

Sing praise to the Lord with the harp.
Make a beautiful music for him.
Blow the trumpets and horns.
Shout for joy to the Lord, our King.

RESPONSE:

Let the sea with all its creatures wave.
Let the earth with all its people shout.
Let the rivers clap their hands.
All the mountains shout for joy.

RESPONSE:

The Lord will come to judge.
He will rule the world with justice.
He will judge with fairness.

RESPONSE:

A Reading from the Second Letter of St. Paul to the Thessalonians

Paul said, “You know that you should follow our example. We did not waste our time loafing and we did not accept food from anyone without paying for it. We did not want to be a burden to any one of you. Day and night we worked as hard as we could”.

“We had the right not to work but we wanted to give you an example. We also gave you the rule that if you don’t work, you don’t eat. Now we learn some of you just loaf around and won’t do any work. So for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ, we ask and beg these people to settle down and start working for a living”.

The Word of the Lord

Alleluia---Alleluia---Alleluia

Stand up and be brave. You will be free soon.

Alleluia---Alleluia---Alleluia

A Reading from the Holy Gospel of Luke

Some of the disciples were talking about the beautiful temple with fine stones and the gifts offered to God. Jesus said, “Do you see the stones? The time will happen that the stones will not be there. The temple will be destroyed.

The disciples asked Jesus, “Teacher, when will this happen. How can we know when it will happen?”

Jesus answered, “Watch our. Many men will come saying I am ‘Christ’ and the time is now! Don’t be fooled. Do not follow them. You hear about wars and riots. Don’t be afraid. They will happen first but they do not mean the end is near.

Countries will go into war with each other. Kingdoms will fight against each other. There will be terrible earthquakes and in many places people will starve to death and suffer terrible sickness. All these scary things will be seen in the sky.

Before all these happen, you will be arrested and persecuted. You will be brought up before Jewish leaders and be put in prison. Because of me you will be put on trial before kings and rulers. This will be your chance to tell the Good News.

Don't worry about what you will say to defend yourselves. I will give you the wisdom to know what to say. None of your enemies will be able to oppose you or say you are wrong. You will be betrayed by your parents, brothers, family and friends. Some of you will be killed. People will hate you because of me. Don't worry! You will be saved because you are faithful to me."

The Good News of the Lord

THE FEAST OF CHRIST THE KING

First Reading

2 SAMUEL 5:1-3

A Reading from the Second Scroll of Samuel

The tribes of Israel went to David in Hebron and said to him, “We are your own flesh and blood. In the past, even with Saul as our king, you led the people of Israel in battle. The Lord promised you that you will lead his people and be their ruler.”

All the leaders of Israel went to David and he made a sacred agreement with them before the Lord. They anointed David and he became king of Israel.

The Word of the Lord

RESPONSE: Let us go to the temple of God.

I was very happy because people said to me,
“We will go to the temple of the Lord”.
Now we are standing inside the city of Jerusalem.

RESPONSE:

Jerusalem built as a strong and beautiful city.
The city for the family to go.
The city for the family to praise the Lord.

RESPONSE:

The city people of Israel go to thank the Lord.
There the throne of David is set up.
There the kings of Israel judge their people.

RESPONSE:

A Reading from the Letter of St. Paul to the Colossians

Paul said, "I pray to God that you will be grateful for the part you have that he already promised his people in the kingdom of light. God rescued us from the dark power of Satan and brought us into the kingdom of his beloved son in his forgiveness of our sins.

No one can see God. But Jesus is exactly like God. He is the first-born son. He is ruler over all things that were made. He created everything. Through him everything on earth seen and not seen, all powers, all rulers and authorities was created. Everything was made for him.

Christ was there before anything was created. Through him all things continue. He is the head of his body and the body is the church.

He is the very beginning, the first to be raised from death so that he would be above all others. God was pleased to live fully in his son. He was happy for him to make peace by giving up his blood on the cross. Through him all things on earth and in heaven would be brought to God.

The Word of the Lord

Alleluia---Alleluia---Alleluia

Blessed is he that comes in the name of the Lord.
Blessed is the coming of the kingdom of David.

Alleluia---Alleluia---Alleluia

A Reading from the Holy Gospel of Luke

People stood watching Jesus on the cross. The Jewish leaders mocked Jesus saying, “He saved other people but he can’t save himself. If he is really the Messiah, he can save himself.”

The soldiers also mocked him. They gave him cheap wine and said, “If you are really the king of the Jews, save yourself!”

One thief hanging on the cross beside Jesus insulted him saying, “Are you the Messiah? Save yourself and save us!”

The other thief rebuked the first thief saying, “Don’t you fear God? We are guilty so we have to be punished for what we did. But for Jesus he did not do anything wrong.” Then he turned to Jesus and said, “Remember me in your coming as king!”

Jesus said to him, “I tell you today you will be with me in the paradise.”

The Good News of the Lord

ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

First Reading

REVELATION 11:19;12:1-6,10

A Reading from the Scroll of Revelation

The door to the temple of God opened and the ark of covenant could be seen inside the temple. Then a great and wonderful sign appeared in the sky. A woman appeared clothed in the sun standing on the moon. A crown with twelve stars was on her head. She was giving birth and was in great pain.

Another sign appeared in the sky. It was a huge red dragon with seven heads and ten horns. A crown was on each of his heads. The dragon pulled one third of the stars from the sky with his tail and threw them down to the earth. Then the dragon stood in front of the woman waiting to eat the baby as soon as it was born.

The woman gave birth to a son that would rule the world with the iron rod. God snatched the baby away and put him on his throne. The woman escaped into the desert, a place that God prepared for her.

Then I heard a voice from heaven saying, "God has won! He has shown his power. The chosen one of God has shown his authority."

The Word of the Lord

Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

RESPONSE: The queen stands at the right side of
the throne.

Bride of the king, listen to me carefully.
Forget your people and your relatives.

RESPONSE:

The king is your husband.
He is your master so obey him.

RESPONSE:

The people of Tyre will bring you gifts.
Rich people will try to win your favor.

RESPONSE:

Your sons and grandsons will be kings.
You will make them the rulers over the whole earth.

RESPONSE:

A Reading from the First Letter of St. Paul to the Corinthians

Paul said, “Christ has been raised from death as the guarantee that the people will be raised from death. Death happened because of one man, Adam. In the same way the resurrection from the dead will happen to people because of one man, Christ.

In Adam all of us die. In Christ all of us will be raised to life. First Christ was raised from the dead. Then Christ will come and all the believers will be raised from death. At the end Christ will destroy all rulers, authorities and powers. Then he will give the kingdom to God the Father. Christ must rule as king and he will put down all his enemies. The last enemy to be destroyed is death. God will put all things under control of Christ. All things will be under control of Christ. He, the Son, will put himself under the control of God. Then God will rule over all.”

The Word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia---Alleluia---Alleluia

Mary went up into heaven. All the angels rejoiced.

Alleluia---Alleluia---Alleluia

Gospel

LUKE 1:39-56

A Reading from the Holy Gospel of Luke

Mary left Nazareth and went into a town in the hill country of Judea to visit Elizabeth. She went into the house of Zechariah. Elizabeth heard Mary coming in and the baby in her womb jumped. Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and shouted with joy, “Of all women you are the most blessed. He has blessed the baby you will have. Why you, mother of my Lord, come to visit me? I heard your voice and the baby in my womb jumped with joy. You are blessed because you believed what God said to you. That is why he has given you his special blessing.”

Mary sang, “With all my heart I praise the Lord. I am glad because God is my savior. He remembered me, his humble servant. From now on all people will call me happy because of the wonderful things God has done for me. His name is holy.

Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

He shows mercy to everyone that worships him. The Lord used his powerful arm to condemn the proud people. He threw the rulers out from their thrones and gave humble people power. He gave hungry people good things to eat and sent the rich people away with nothing in their hands. He helps his servant Israel and is always merciful to his people. He kept the promise to our ancestors, to Abraham and his family forever!”

Mary stayed about three months with Elizabeth. Then she went back home.

The Good News of the Lord

FEAST OF ALL SAINTS

First Reading

REVELATION 7:2-4,9-14

A Reading from the Scroll of Revelation

John said, “I saw another angel coming up from the east with the seal of the living God. God had given four angels power to destroy the earth and the sea. The angel shouted in a loud voice to the four angels, ‘Do not damage the earth, the sea or the trees until we mark the servants of God with a seal on their foreheads.’ Then I heard the number of those sealed 144,000. They were from the twelve tribes of Israel.

Then I looked and saw many people, too many to be counted. They were from different countries. They stood in front of the throne in front of the Lamb wearing white robes and holding palm branches in their hands. The people shouted, ‘Victory to our God sitting on the throne and to the Lamb.’ All the angels stood around the throne kneeling with their faces on the ground. The elders and the four living creatures kneeled with the angels and worshipped God.

All Saints

They said, ‘Amen! Praise, glory, wisdom, thanksgiving, honor, power and wonders belong to our God forever and ever! Amen!’

One of the elders asked me, ‘Who are these people in the white robes? Where do they come from?’ I answered, ‘I do not know. You tell me.’ These are the people that suffered terribly, they endured the persecution. They have washed their robes and made them white with the blood of the Lamb.”

The Word of the Lord

RESPONSE: Lord, this people wants to see your face.

Everything in the world belongs to the Lord.
The world and people in the world belong to him.
The Lord placed the world on the oceans and rivers.

RESPONSE:

Who can climb the mountain of the Lord?
Who can stand in his Holy Temple?
Only the people doing right and obey God.

RESPONSE:

The Lord will bless them and save them.
They are the people that worship God of Jacob.

RESPONSE:

Second Reading

1 JOHN 3:1-3

A Reading from the First Letter of John

God, the Father, loves us so much so he made us his children. We are really children of God! The world refused to believe God because they do not understand that we are children of God.

Dear friends, now we are children of God. But we do not know yet what will happen to us in the future.

But we know that Christ will come again and we will be like him because we will see him as he really is. Any person that really believes in Christ will try to stay holy because Christ is holy.

The Word of the Lord

All Saints

Alleluia---Alleluia---Alleluia

The Lord says, “Come all of you tired. I will give you rest.

Alleluia---Alleluia---Alleluia

Gospel

MATTHEW 5:1-12

A Reading from the Holy Gospel of Matthew

Jesus saw the crowds so he went up the mountain and sat down. His disciples gathered around him and Jesus began to teach. He said, “People that are poor in spirit will be blessed. The kingdom of God will be theirs.”

“People that are grieved will be blessed. God will comfort them.”

“People that are humble will be blessed. The earth will be theirs.”

“People wanting obey God more than they want to eat or drink will be blessed. Why? Because they will be given what they want.”

“People showing mercy will be blessed. God will show them his mercy.”

All Saints

“People with pure hearts will be blessed. They will see God.”

“People making peace will be blessed. They will be called children of God.”

“People that are hurt for doing right will be blessed. The kingdom of heaven will be theirs.”

“People hurt you or tell all kinds of lies about you because you are my follower. Be happy and be glad! You will have a great reward in heaven.”

“People did the same thing to the prophets years ago.”

The Good News of the Lord

