

SECOND SUNDAY IN CHURCH TIME

First Reading

ISAIAH 49:3,5-6

A Reading from the Scroll of Isaiah

The Lord said to me, “Israel, you are my servant and because of you, people will praise me.”

Before I was born, the Lord chose me. He made me his servant to bring back the scattered people of Israel. The Lord gives me the honor. He is the source of my strength.

The Lord said to me, “I have more important job for you, my servant. You will bring back the people of Israel. I will make you the light for all people so that the world will be saved.”

The Word of the Lord

Second Sunday in Church Time

RESPONSE: Lord, here I am. I will do your will.

I waited and waited for the Lord.
He heard my cry and came to help me.
He put me safely on a rock.

RESPONSE:

Lord, you do not want false sacrifice.
You only want me to listen to you.
So, I said, "Here I am, Lord."

RESPONSE:

I love to do your will.
I keep your law in my heart.
I told the people that you are kind.

RESPONSE:

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

Paul said, "I am Paul. God chose me to be an apostle of Jesus Christ and from Sosthenes, our brother in Christ, to give best wishes to the church of God in Corinth. Jesus Christ chose you to be his people. So you worship in his name and others do call him Lord.

May God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ be kind to you and bless you with peace."

The Word of the Lord

Alleluia---Alleluia---Alleluia

The Word became a human and lived among us.
People accepting him became children of God.

Alleluia---Alleluia---Alleluia

Gospel

JOHN 1:29-34

A Reading from the Holy Gospel of John

John the Baptist saw Jesus coming to him and said, “Look, this is the Lamb of God. He is the one that takes away the sins of the world! He is the one I told you before; a man will come and he is greater than I am because he was alive before I was born. I did not know him. I am here baptizing with water so you will know that Jesus is the Christ.

I was there and I saw the Spirit came down on Jesus like a dove from heaven and stayed on him. Before it happened I did not know who he was. God sent me to baptize with water and he told me to look for the Spirit coming down and stay on someone. Then you will know that he is the one that will baptize with the Holy Spirit. I saw that happened and I tell you that he is the Son of God.”

The Good News of the Lord

Second Sunday in Church Time

THIRD SUNDAY IN CHURCH TIME

First Reading

ISAIAH 8:23-9:3

A Reading from the Scroll of Isaiah

In the past the people in the land of Zebulun and Naphtali were shamed. But in the future the Lord will give glory to the people living in the area between the sea and the river Jordan.

The people walked in darkness saw a great light. They lived in the land of darkness but now light is shining on them. You, Lord, made them happy. They are happy because they harvest grain. They are happy because they receive good things. God had lifted the yoke from their back.

The Word of the Lord

Third Sunday in Church Time

RESPONSE: The Lord is my light and my salvation.

The Lord is my light and my salvation.
I shall fear no one.
The Lord protects me from all danger.
I will never be afraid.

RESPONSE:

Lord, I ask you for only one thing.
Let me live in your house all my life.
Let me see how wonderful you are.
Let me pray in your temple.

RESPONSE:

I know I will live to see the goodness of my Lord.
Trust in the Lord.
Have faith and do not despair.
Trust in the Lord

RESPONSE:

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

Paul said, “My dear friends, I beg you to get along with each other. Don’t argue and don’t separate yourself from other people. I want you to stay with other people and share your faith with them. Some people from the group of Chloe told me that you have been arguing with each other. Some of you say, ‘I follow Paul.’ Some of you say, ‘I follow Apollos.’ Some of you say, ‘I follow Peter.’ Some of you say, ‘I follow Christ.’ But Christ cannot be divided into different groups. Did I die on the cross for you? No! Were you baptized in my name? No!

Christ did not send me to baptize. He sent me to preach the Good News. He does not want me to use big words that would make the cross of Christ not important.”

The Word of the Lord

Alleluia---Alleluia---Alleluia

Jesus proclaimed the Good News and healed
many sick people.

Alleluia---Alleluia---Alleluia

Gospel

MATTHEW 4:12-23

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

Jesus heard that John the Baptist was arrested and put into prison. He left Nazareth and went to live in Capernaum, a town near Lake Galilee. That happened as what the prophet Isaiah said years ago was true:

“In the land of Zebulum and Naphtali, on the way to the sea and west of Jordan river! The people living in the dark will see a bright light. The light will shine.”

Jesus began to preach, “Stop sinning! The kingdom of heaven will be here soon.”

Jesus walked down by Lake Galilee. He saw two brothers, Simon, named Peter, and Andrew. They were fishermen and were casting the nets into the lake. Jesus said to them, “Come with me! I will teach you how to bring in people instead of fish.” At once the two brothers dropped their nets and went with Jesus.

Jesus continued walking and saw two other brothers, James and John, sons of Zebedee. They were in a boat with their father fixing their nets. Jesus said to them, “Come and follow me.” At once they got out off the boat and left their father and went with Jesus.

Jesus went all over Galilee, teaching in the Jewish synagogues and preaching the Good News about the Kingdom of God. He also healed many people sick.

The Good News of the Lord

Third Sunday in Church Time

FOURTH SUNDAY IN CHURCH TIME

First Reading

ZEPHANIAH 2:3;3:12-13

A Reading from the Scroll of Zephaniah

All of you, humble people, turn to the Lord. Obey his laws. Do what is right. Be humble. Maybe you will be protected on the day the Lord shows his anger.

I will let humble people stay. They will trust the name of the Lord. They will not do anything wrong, will not tell lies, will not try to cheat. They will be prosperous and secure. They will not be afraid.

The Word of the Lord

Fourth Sunday in Church Time

RESPONSE: Blessed are the people poor in Spirit.
The Kingdom of God is theirs!

People asking God for help are happy.
The Lord protects people that are hurt.
He gives food to the hungry people.
The Lord frees the prisoners.

RESPONSE:

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

RESPONSE:

The Lord protects widows and orphans.
He punishes 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 the Corinthians

Paul said, “My dear friends, remember God chose you to be what you are. Were you wise or powerful or important? No! God chose someone that is foolish to shame the people. God chose someone that is weak to shame strong people. God chose someone that the people think is not important. But what God chose is really more important than anything in the world. God did all these to keep the people from bragging before God. You are children of God. God sent Jesus Christ to save us and to make us wise and holy. So if you want to brag, do what the scriptures say. Then brag about the Lord.”

The Word of the Lord

Alleluia---Alleluia---Alleluia

Rejoice and be glad. Your reward in heaven will be great.

Alleluia---Alleluia---Alleluia

Gospel

MATTHEW 5:1-12

A Reading from the Holy Gospel of Matthew

Jesus saw many people coming up to him so he went up the mountain and sat down. His disciples gathered around him. Jesus began to teach. He said,

“People that are poor in spirit will be blessed. The kingdom of heaven 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 that obey God more than they want to eat or drink will be blessed. They will get what they want.

People that show mercy will be blessed. God will show them his mercy.

People that are pure in their heart will be blessed. They will see God.

People that make peace will be blessed. They will be called children of God.

People that are persecuted for doing good will be blessed. The kingdom of heaven will be theirs.

God will bless you when people hurt you or tell all kind of lies against you because you are my follower, Rejoice and be glad! You will have a great reward in heaven.

That is how the prophets were persecuted years ago”.

The Good News of the Lord

Fourth Sunday in Church Time

FIFTH SUNDAY IN CHURCH TIME

First Reading

ISAIAH 58:7-10

A Reading from the Scroll of Isaiah

The Lord says, “Share your food with hungry people. Find a home for poor people that have no home. Give clothes to people that have no clothes. Do not refuse to help your family. If you try to help, the light in you will shine like the morning sun and your wounds will heal quickly.

I will always be with you. My presence will protect you from all sides. Pray and I will answer you. Call on me and I will answer.

If you stop oppressing people, if you stop fighting, if you stop using bad words, if you give food to hungry people, if you help people that are suffering, the light will shine in you. There will be no more darkness and your light will be bright like the middle of day.

The Word of the Lord

Fifth Sunday in Church Time

RESPONSE: A good person is the light for the
people to see.

Light shines in the dark for good people.
Happy is the person that is generous.
Happy is the person that is honest in business.

RESPONSE:

A good person will never fail.
He will be remembered.
He will not be afraid of the bad news.
His faith is strong and he trusts in the Lord.

RESPONSE:

He is never worried or afraid.
He is sure that his enemies will be destroyed.
He will be remembered and be praised.

RESPONSE:

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

My friends, when I came to you to tell you the mystery that God had shared with you, I did not use big words or try to show you my brilliancy. I only wanted to tell you about the truth of God. I wanted to share with you my knowledge of Jesus Christ who himself was crucified.

At first, I was weak and trembling with fear. I talked with you or preached I did not try to prove anything that sounds like philosophy. I only let the spirit of God show his power. That way you would have faith from the power of God and not of human wisdom.

The Word of the Lord

Alleluia---Alleluia---Alleluia

The Lord says, “I am light of the world. Any one following me will have the light of life.

Alleluia---Alleluia---Alleluia

Gospel

MATTHEW 5:13-16

A Reading from the Holy Gospel of Matthew

Jesus said to his disciples, “You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt loses its taste, it cannot be made salty again. It has to be thrown out and the people will walk on it.

You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hidden. No one would light a lamp and put it under a basket. The lamp is to be put on a stand so it can give light to all people in the house. Make your light shine for the people so they will see your good works and they will praise your Father in heaven.”

The Good News of the Lord

Fifth Sunday in Church time

SIXTH SUNDAY IN CHURCH TIME

First Reading

SIRACH 15:15-20

A Reading from the Scroll of Sirach

If you want to, you can keep the commandments of the Lord. You are free to follow the laws or not.

The Lord has given you fire and water. You have choice which one you want-fire or water.

The Lord has given same way you have choice between life and death. The Lord is wise and he has great power. He sees everything.

The Lord is aware of everything people do. He takes care of people that honor him. He does not want people to be bad. He wants them to be good.

The Word of the Lord

Sixth Sunday in Church Time

RESPONSE: Happy are the people following the law
of the Lord.

Happy are the people following the law of the Lord.
Happy are the people keeping the law of the Lord in their
hearts.

RESPONSE:

Lord, you gave us the law.
Teach us to understand your law.
Help us how to obey the law.

RESPONSE:

Lord, be good to us, your servants.
So we can live and obey your teachings.
Open our eyes so we can see the wonderful truths in your
law.

RESPONSE:

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

We teach wisdom to people that are mature (wise) in their faith. But wisdom is not from the world or from the rulers that will soon be gone. We speak that wisdom is from God that was hidden in the beginning before the world was created (made). God decided to use wisdom for our glory. None of the rulers of this world knew this wisdom. If they knew about it, they would not have crucified our Lord of glory to the cross.

It is said in the scriptures, “What God has planned for people that love him is more than eyes have seen or ears have heard. No one has thought it would happen!”

It is the Spirit that God had shown. The Spirit can find out everything even in the mystery of God.

The Word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia---Alleluia---Alleluia

Lord, speak to us. We are listening. You have the message of eternal life.

Alleluia---Alleluia---Alleluia

Gospel

MATTHEW 5:17-37

A Reading from the Holy Gospel of Matthew
(Short form—Read in black)

Jesus said to his disciples, “Do not think that I came to take out the Law of Moses and the teachings of the prophets. I came here to show you the full meaning of the law. Heaven and earth may disappear but I tell you that a period or a comma will not be taken out from the law. Everything that is written in the law must be kept.

If you break one law that seems not important or tell the people not to pay attention to that law, you will be the least important person in the kingdom of heaven. But if you obey that law and tell the people to obey it, you will have an important place in the kingdom of heaven.

Sixth Sunday in Church Time

I tell you if you are more faithful in obeying the law of God than the Pharisees and the teachers of the law, you will get into the kingdom of heaven. If you don't, then you will not be able to get into the kingdom of heaven.

You know that it was said in the past not to murder. If a person kills, that person must be brought to the court. Now I tell you that if you are angry with someone, you will have to go to the court.

If you insult someone, you will be brought up before the court. And if you say to someone 'You are no good', you will be thrown into the fire of hell.

If you want to bring gift to the altar and you remember that someone is angry with you, leave your gift in front of the altar and go to make peace with that person. Then come back and offer the gift to God.

Don't forget to make friend with your enemy before you go to court. If you don't, your enemy will bring you before a judge and the judge will turn you over to the police. The police will then put you in jail and you will stay in jail until you pay your fine.

Sixth Sunday in Church Time

You know that you should not commit adultery. If you look at a woman with lust, you have already committed adultery with that woman in your heart.

If your right eye makes you sin, take it out and throw it out. It is better for you to lose one part of your body than to have your whole body thrown into hell. If your right hand makes you sin, chop it off and throw it away. It is better to lose one part of your body than for the whole body thrown into hell.

If a man wants to divorce his wife, he must give her a written notice of divorce. But I tell you not to divorce your wife as long as she is faithful to you. If a man divorces his wife and if she marries again, the man that divorced her is guilty of making her doing adultery. The man that marries a woman that is divorced is also guilty of adultery.

If you know that you cannot keep a vow, you should not use the name of the Lord to make a promise. If you want to make a promise, say 'yes' if you mean 'yes' or 'no' if you mean 'no'. Anything you say is from the devil.

The Good News of the Lord

Sixth Sunday in Church Time

SEVENTH SUNDAY IN CHURCH TIME

First Reading

LEVITICUS 19:1-2,17-18

A Reading from the Scroll of Leviticus

The Lord told Moses to tell the people of Israel, “I am the Lord your God. I am holy so you must be holy.

Do not hold grudge (bitterness) against your brothers or sisters in your heart. Make peace with them so you will not sin. You must not look for revenge or continue to be angry with them.

Love your neighbor as you love yourself. I am the Lord.”

The Word of the Lord

Seventh Sunday in Church Time

RESPONSE: The Lord is kind and full of mercy.

With all my heart I praise the Lord.
With all that I am I praise his holy name!
I will never forget how kind he is to me.

RESPONSE:

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

RESPONSE:

The Lord is full of mercy.
He is kind and patient.
His love never fails.
He takes away our sins.

RESPONSE:

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

All of you know that you are the temple of God and his Spirit lives in you. If anyone destroys the temple of God, he will destroy that person because the temple of God is holy. You yourselves are the temple of God.

You should not fool yourself. If you think that you are wise in this world, you must learn to be a fool before you can be wise. This is because the wisdom of this world is really foolishness to God. The scriptures (bible) says, "God knows the thoughts of people and their thoughts are foolish. The scriptures (bible) also say that the arguments of wise people cannot fool God. So stop bragging about what anyone has done. Everything belongs to you: Paul, Apollos and Peter all belong to you. In fact, everything is yours including the world, life, death, the present and the future. All these things are yours. You belong to Christ and Christ belongs to God

The Word of the Lord

Seventh Sunday in Church Time

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia---Alleluia---Alleluia

If you love me and obey my word, my Father will love you. My Father and I will be in you.

Alleluia---Alleluia---Alleluia

Gospel

MATTHEW 5:38-48

A Reading from the Holy Gospel of Matthew

Jesus said to his disciples, “You have heard that in the past it was said, ‘An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth.’ But I tell you not to look for revenge with one hurting you. If one slaps your right cheek, let that person slap your other cheek. If a person wants to sue you for shirt, let that person take your coat. If one forces you to walk one mile, go for two miles. If one asks you for something, give! If one wants to borrow, lend!

You have heard people say, ‘Love your neighbors and hate your enemies’. But I tell you to love your enemies and pray for the people that hurt you. Do this and you will be children of God.

Seventh Sunday in Church Time

Your Father in heaven lets the sun shine on both the good and bad people. He gives rain to both the good and bad. If you love only the people that love you, why should God reward you for that? Even the tax collectors love their friends. If you are friendly only with the people you like, what is wonderful about that? Even the unbelievers do that. So you must be perfect as the Father in heaven is perfect.

The Good News of the Lord

Seventh Sunday in Church Time

EIGHTH SUNDAY IN CHURCH TIME

First Reading

ISAIAH 49:14-15

A Reading from the Scroll of Isaiah

The people of Jerusalem said, “The Lord had given up on us! He has forgotten us.”

The Lord answered, “Can a woman forget her own baby and not love the child from her womb? Even if the mother forgets her child, I will never forget you.”

The Word of the Lord

Eighth Sunday in Church Time

RESPONSE: Lord, my soul rests in you.

The Lord is my rock and my salvation.
He is my protector and I will never be weak.
He gives me hope.

RESPONSE:

The Lord is my rock and my salvation.
He gives me strength and glory.
I will always trust him.

RESPONSE:

My salvation and honor depend on God.
He is my strong protector.
His strong arm protects me.

RESPONSE:

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

Think of us as servants of Christ. We have been given the work of explaining the mysterious ways of God. Our first duty is to be faithful to the master. I am not worried if you or the court of law judges me. In fact, I will not even judge myself. I do not know of anything that I have done wrong but that does not prove that I am right. The Lord is my judge. So don't judge anyone until the Lord comes. He will show what is hidden in the dark and what is in the heart of people. God will be the one praising people that are good.

The Word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia---Alleluia---Alleluia

Lord, your word is true. Make us holy in the truth.

Alleluia---Alleluia---Alleluia

Gospel

MATTHEW 6:24-34

A Reading from the Holy Gospel of Matthew

Jesus said, “No person can be slave of two masters! You will love one and hate the other or be loyal (faithful) to one and despise (don’t like) the other. You cannot serve both God and money.

I am telling you not to worry about your life or what to eat. Do not worry about your body or clothes. Life is more important than food or clothing.

Look at the birds. They do not plant or harvest. They do not even store grain in barns. Father in heaven takes care of the birds. Are you more important than birds?

Will worrying help you live longer? Why worry about clothes? Look at the flowers. They don’t work hard to make clothes.

Eighth Sunday in Church Time

I tell you that Salomon with all his wealth did not have clothes as beautiful as the flowers. God gives beauty to everything that grows in the fields today. Tomorrow it will be thrown into a fire. He will do more for you! Why do you have so little faith?

Don't worry and ask yourselves, "Will we have anything to eat? Will we have anything to drink? Will we have any clothes to wear?" Only people that do not know God are always worrying about those things. Your Father in heaven knows you need all of them. But more important do the work of God first and do what he wants. Then all other things will be yours.

Don't worry about tomorrow. It will be taken care of. You have enough to worry about today.

The Good News of the Lord

Eighth Sunday in Church Time

A Reading from the Holy Gospel of Matthew

Jesus said, “People will call me, ‘Lord, Lord’. But they will not enter the Kingdom of Heaven. The people that obey God will enter into the Kingdom of Heaven.

On the day of judgment people will come to me and say, ‘Lord, we proclaimed the message of God in your name. We forced out the demons in your name and did many wonderful works.’ But I will tell them, ‘I do not know who you are. Get out, you evil people.’

Anyone paying attention to my message will be like a wise man that built a house on a rock. Rain came down hard, rivers flooded and the wind blew hard against the house. But the house did not fall because it was built on the rock.

Anyone not paying attention to my message and did not do what I told them is like a foolish man that built a house on the sand. The rain came down very hard, rivers flooded and the wind blew hard on the house. The house fell. It will be destroyed.”

The crowd hearing him was amazed because he was different. He was not like the teachers of the law. He taught with power.

The Good News of the Lord