

The Twentieth Sunday of Ordinary Time

August 18, 2019

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Jeremiah

(pause for the count of three)

In those days, the **princes** said to the **king**:

"**Jeremiah** ought to be put to **death**;

he is demoralizing the **soldiers** who are **left** in this **city**,

and all the **people**, by **speaking** such things to them;

he is **not interested** in the **welfare** of our **people**,

but in their **ruin**." (Pause)

King **Zedekiah** answered: "**He** is in **your** power";

for the **king** could do **nothing** with them. (Pause)

And so, they **took Jeremiah**

and **threw** him into the **cistern** of Prince **Malchiah**,

which was in the **quarters** of the **guard**,

letting him down with ropes.

There was no **water** in the **cistern**, only **mud**,

and **Jeremiah** sank into the **mud**.

(Pause)

Ebed-melech, a court official,

went there from the **palace** and said to him:

"**My lord king**,

these **men** have been at **fault**

in all they have **done** to the **prophet Jeremiah**,

casting him into the cistern.

He will **die** of **famine** on the **spot**,

for there is **no more food** in the **city**."

Then the **king** ordered **Ebed-melech** the **Cushite**

to take three men along with him,

and **draw** the **prophet Jeremiah** out of the **cistern** before he should **die**.

(pause for the count of three)

The word of the Lord

Reading 1

Jer 38: 4-6, 8-10

The Twentieth Sunday of Ordinary Time

August 18, 2019

A reading from the Letter to the Hebrews

(pause for the count of three)

Brothers and sisters: (Pause)

Since we are **surrounded** by so great a **cloud** of **witnesses**,
let us **rid** ourselves of **every burden** and sin that **clings** to us
and **persevere** in running the **race** that lies **before** us
while keeping our **eyes fixed** on Jesus,
the **leader** and **perfecter** of **faith**.

For the **sake** of the **joy** that lay **before** him
he **endured** the **cross**, **despising** its **shame**,
and has taken his **seat** at the **right** of the **throne** of **God**.

Consider how he **endured** such **opposition** from **sinners**,
in order that you may not **grow weary** and **lose heart**.

(Pause – read slowly)

In **your struggle** against **sin**
you have not yet **resisted** to the **point** of **shedding blood**.

(pause for the count of three)

The word of the Lord

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah

(pause for the count of three)

Thus says the LORD:

I know their **works** and their **thoughts**,
and I **come** to gather **nations** of every **language**;
they shall **come** and **see** my **glory**.

I will set a **sign** among **them**;

from them I will send **fugitives** to the **nations**:
to **Tarshish, Put and Lud, Mosoch, Tubal and Javan**,
to the **distant coastlands**
that have never **heard** of my **fame**, or **seen** my **glory**;
and they shall **proclaim** my **glory** among the **nations**.

They shall bring all your brothers and sisters from all the nations
as an **offering** to the **LORD**,

on **horses** and in **chariots**, in **carts**, upon **mules** and **dromedaries**,
to **Jerusalem**, my **holy mountain**, says the **LORD**,
just as the **Israelites** bring **their offering**
to the **house** of the LORD in **clean vessels**.

with joy!

Some of these I will take as **priests** and **Levites**, says the **LORD**.

(pause for the count of three)

The word of the Lord

The Twenty-First Sunday of Ordinary Time

August 25, 2019

A reading from the Letter to the Hebrews

(pause for the count of three)

Brothers and sisters,

You have **forgotten** the **exhortation** addressed to you as **children**:

"My **son**, do not **disdain** the **discipline** of the **Lord**

or lose **heart** when **reproved** by him;

for whom the **Lord loves**, he **disciplines**;

he **scourges** every **son** he **acknowledges**."

Endure your **trials** as "**discipline**";

God treats you as **sons**.

For what "**son**" is there whom his **father** does **not discipline**?

At the time, (slow pace)

all discipline seems a **cause** not for **joy** but for **pain**,

yet **later** it brings the **peaceful fruit** of **righteousness**

to those who are **trained** by it.

(make eye contact)

So **strengthen** your **drooping hands** and your **weak knees**.

Make **straight paths** for your **feet**,

that what is **lame** may **not** be **disjointed** but **healed**.

(pause for the count of three)

The word of the Lord

The Twenty-Second Sunday of Ordinary Time

September 1, 2019

A reading from the Book of Sirach

(pause for the count of three)

My **child**, conduct your affairs with **humility**,
 and you will be **loved more** than a **giver of gifts**. *Pause & breathe*
Humble yourself the **more**, the **greater** you **are**,
 and you will find **favor** with **God**. *Pause & breathe*
 What is **too sublime** for you, **seek not**,
 into **things** beyond your **strength** **search not**. *Pause & breathe*
 The **mind** of a **sage** appreciates **proverbs**,
 and an **attentive ear** is the **joy** of the **wise**. *Pause & breathe*
Water quenches a **flaming fire**,
 and **alms atone** for **sins**.

(pause for the count of three)

The word of the Lord

Reading 1

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

The Twenty-Second Sunday of Ordinary Time

September 1, 2019

A reading from the Letter to the Hebrews

(pause for the count of three)

Brothers and sisters: (pause)

You have **not** approached that which could be **touched**
and a **blazing fire** and **gloomy darkness**
and **storm** and a **trumpet** blast
and a **voice speaking words** such that **those** who **heard**
begged that **no message** be further **addressed** to them.

No, you have **approached Mount Zion**
and the **city** of the **living God**, the **heavenly Jerusalem**,
and countless **angels** in festal **gathering**,
and the **assembly** of the **firstborn enrolled** in **heaven**,
and **God** the **judge** of **all**,
and the **spirits** of the **just** made **perfect**,
and **Jesus**, the **mediator** of a new **covenant**,
and the **sprinkled blood** that speaks more **eloquently** than that of **Abel**.

(pause for the count of three)

The word of the Lord

The Twenty-Third Sunday of Ordinary Time

September 8, 2019

A reading from the Book of Wisdom

(pause for the count of three)

Who can know God's counsel,
 or who can **conceive** what the LORD **intends**?
 For the **deliberations** of **mortals** are **timid**,
 and **unsure** are our **plans**.
 For the **corruptible body** burdens the **soul**
 and the **earthen shelter** weighs down the **mind** that has many concerns.
 And **scarce** do we **guess** the things on **earth**,
 and what is within our **grasp** we find with **difficulty**;
 but when **things** are in **heaven**, **who** can **search** them out?
 Or **who** ever **knew** your **counsel**, except **you** had given **wisdom**
 and **sent** your **holy spirit** from on **high**?
(humble with gratitude)
 And **thus** were the **paths** of those on **earth** made **straight**.

(pause for the count of three)

The word of the Lord

The Twenty-Third Sunday of Ordinary Time

September 8, 2019

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to Philemon

(pause for the count of three)

I, Paul, an old man,
 and now also a **prisoner** for **Christ Jesus,**
urge you on behalf of my **child Onesimus,**
 whose **father** I have **become** in my **imprisonment;**
 I am **sending him,** that is, my own **heart, back** to you.
 I should have **liked** to **retain** him for **myself,**
 so that he might **serve** me on your **behalf**
 in my **imprisonment** for the **gospel,**
 but I did not want to do **anything** without your **consent,**
 so that the **good** you **do** might not be **forced** but **voluntary.**
 Perhaps **this** is why he was **away** from you for a while,
 that you might have him **back forever,**
no longer as a **slave**
 but **more** than a **slave, a brother,**
beloved especially to **me,** but even **more** so to **you,**
 as a **man** and in the **Lord.**
 So **if you** regard **me** as a **partner, welcome him** as you would **me.**

(pause for the count of three)

The word of the Lord

A reading from the Book of Exodus

(pause for the count of three)

The LORD said to **Moses**,

"Go down at **once** to your **people**,
whom you brought **out** of the land of **Egypt**,
for they have become **depraved**.

They have soon turned **aside** from the way I pointed **out** to them,
making for themselves a **molten calf** and **worshiping** it,
sacrificing to it and crying out,

"**This** is your God, O **Israel**,
who brought you **out** of the land of **Egypt**!"

"I see how **stiff-necked** this people is, " continued the LORD to Moses.

Let me **alone**, then,
that my **wrath** may blaze up **against** them to **consume** them.
Then I will make of you a **great nation**."

But Moses **implored** the LORD, his God, saying,

"**Why**, O LORD, should your **wrath** blaze up against your **own people**,
whom **you** brought out of the land of Egypt
with such **great power** and with so **strong a hand**?

Remember your **servants Abraham, Isaac, and Israel**,
and how you **swore** to them by your **own self**, saying,

'I will make your **descendants** as **numerous** as the **stars** in the **sky**;
and **all this land** that I **promised**,

I will **give** your **descendants** as their **perpetual heritage**.'" (LONG pause)

So the LORD **relented** in the **punishment**
he had **threatened** to **inflict** on his **people**.

(pause for the count of three)

The word of the Lord

The Twenty-Fourth Sunday of Ordinary Time

September 15, 2019

A reading from the first Letter of Saint Paul to Timothy

(pause for the count of three)

Beloved:

I am **grateful** to him who has **strengthened** me, **Christ Jesus** our **Lord**,

because he **considered** me **trustworthy**
in **appointing** me to the **ministry**.

I was once a **blasphemer** and a **persecutor** and **arrogant**,
but I have been **mercifully treated**

because I **acted** out of **ignorance** in my **unbelief**.

Indeed, the **grace** of our **Lord** has been **abundant**,
along with the **faith** and **love** that are in **Christ Jesus**.

This saying is **trustworthy** and deserves **full acceptance**:

Christ Jesus came into the **world** to **save sinners**.

Of these **I** am the **foremost**.

But for **that reason**, I was **mercifully treated**,
so that in **me**, as the **foremost**,

Christ Jesus might **display** all his **patience** as an **example**
for those who would come to **believe** in him for **everlasting life**.

To the **king** of **ages**, **incorruptible**, **invisible**, the **only God**,
honor and **glory forever and ever**. **Amen**.

(pause for the count of three)

The word of the Lord

Reading 2

1 Tim 1:12-17

The Twenty-Fifth Sunday of Ordinary Time

September 22, 2019

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Amos

(pause for the count of three)

Make eye contact

Hear this, you who **trample** upon the **needy**
and **destroy** the **poor** of the **land!**

"**When** will the **new moon** be **over**," you ask,

"that we may **sell** our **grain**,

and the **sabbath**, that we may **display** the **wheat?**

We will **diminish** the **ephah**,

add to the **shekel**,

and **fix** our **scales** for **cheating!**

We will **buy** the **lowly** for **silver**,

and the **poor** for a **pair** of **sandals**;

even the **refuse** of the **wheat** we will **sell!**"

The LORD has **sworn** by the **pride** of **Jacob**:

pause

Never will I **forget** a **thing** they have **done!**

(pause for the count of three)

The word of the Lord

Reading 1

Amos 8:4-7

The Twenty-Fifth Sunday of Ordinary Time

September 22, 2019

A reading from the first Letter of Saint Paul to Timothy

(pause for the count of three)

Beloved:

First of all, I ask that **supplications, prayers, petitions, and thanksgivings** be offered for **everyone**, for **kings** and for **all** in **authority**, that we may lead a **quiet and tranquil** life in all **devotion** and **dignity**.

This is **good** and **pleasing** to **God** our **savior**, who wills **everyone** to be **saved** and to come to **knowledge** of the **truth**.

For there is **one God**.

There is also **one mediator** between **God** and **men**,
the **man Christ Jesus**,
who **gave** himself as **ransom** for **all**.

This was the **testimony** at the **proper time**.

For **this** I was **appointed preacher** and **apostle** — I am **speaking the truth**, I am **not lying** —, **teacher** of the **Gentiles** in **faith** and **truth**.

It is my **wish**, then, that in **every place** the men should **pray**,
lifting up holy hands, without **anger** or **argument**.

(pause for the count of three)

The word of the Lord

*Reading 2**1 Tim 2:1-8**The Twenty-Sixth Sunday of Ordinary Time**September 29, 2019***A reading from the Book of the Prophet Amos***(pause for the count of three)***Thus** says the **LORD** the **God** of **hosts**:**Woe** to the **complacent** in **Zion**!**Lying** upon **beds** of **ivory**, stretched **comfortably** on their **couches**,they eat **lambs** taken from the **flock**, and **calves** from the **stall**!**Improvising** to the **music** of the **harp**, like **David**, they **devise** their own **accompaniment**.They **drink wine** from **bowls** and **anoint** themselves with the **best oils**; yet they are **not** made **ill** by the **collapse** of **Joseph**!*(Pause)***Therefore, now** they shall be the **first** to go into **exile**, and their **wanton revelry** shall be **done away** with.*(pause for the count of three)***The word of the Lord***Reading 1**Amos 6a, 4-7*

The Twenty Sixth Sunday of Ordinary Time

September 29, 2019

A reading from the first Letter of Saint Paul to Timothy

(pause for the count of three)

But **you, man of God**, pursue **righteousness**,
devotion, faith, love, patience, and gentleness.

Compete **well** for the **faith**.

Lay hold of **eternal life**, to which you were **called**

when you made the **noble confession** in the presence of **many witnesses**.

I charge you before **God**, who gives **life** to **all** things,

and before **Christ Jesus**,

who gave **testimony** under **Pontius Pilate** for the **noble confession**,

to **keep** the **commandment** without **stain** or **reproach**

until the **appearance** of our **Lord Jesus Christ**

that the **blessed** and **only** ruler

will make **manifest** at the **proper** time,

the **King** of **kings** and **Lord** of **lords**,

who **alone** has **immortality**, who dwells in **unapproachable light**,

and whom **no** human being has **seen** or **can see**.

To **him** be **honor** and **eternal power**. **Amen**.

(pause for the count of three)

The word of the Lord