

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Within your will, O Lord, all things are established,
and there is none that can resist your will.
For you have made all things, the heaven and the earth,
and all that is held within the circle of heaven;
you are the Lord of all.

GLORIA

Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace to people of good will.

We praise you,
we bless you,
we adore you,
we glorify you,
we give you thanks for your great glory,
Lord God, heavenly King,
O God, almighty Father.

Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son,
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
you take away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us;
you take away the sins of the world,
receive our prayer;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father,
have mercy on us.

For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father.
Amen.

COLLECT

Almighty ever-living God,
who in the abundance of your kindness
surpass the merits and the desires of those
who entreat you,
pour out your mercy upon us
to pardon what conscience dreads
and to give what prayer does not dare to ask.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the
Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever.
Amen.

FIRST READING Habakkuk 1:2-3; 2:2-4

A reading from the prophet Habakkuk.
How long, Lord, am I to cry for help
while you will not listen;
to cry "Oppression!" in your ear
and you will not save?
Why do you set injustice before me,
why do you look on where there is tyranny?
Outrage and violence, this is all I see,
all is contention, and discord flourishes.
Then the Lord answered and said,
"Write the vision down,
inscribe it on tablets
to be easily read,
since this vision is for its own time only:
eager for its own fulfilment, it does not deceive;
if it comes slowly, wait,
for come it will, without fail.
See how he flags, he whose soul is not at rights,
but the upright man will live by his faithfulness."
The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Ps 94

Response:

**O that today you would listen to his voice!
Harden not your hearts.**

1. Come, ring out our joy to the Lord;
hail the rock who saves us.
Let us come before him, giving thanks,
with songs let us hail the Lord (R.)
2. Come in; let us bow and bend low;
let us kneel before the God who made us
for he is our God and we
the people who belong to his pasture,
the flock that is led by his hand. (R.)
3. O that today you would listen to his voice!
"Harden not your hearts as at Meribah,
as on that day at Massah in the desert
when your fathers put me to the test;
when they tried me, though they saw my
work." (R.)

SECOND READING 2 Timothy 1:6-8, 13-14

A reading from the second letter of St Paul to Timothy.

I am reminding you to fan into a flame the gift that God gave you when I laid my hands on you. God's gift was not a spirit of timidity, but the Spirit of power, and love, and self-control. So you are never to be ashamed of witnessing to the Lord, or ashamed of me for being his prisoner; but with me, bear the hardships for the sake of the Good News, relying on the power of God.

Keep as your pattern the sound teaching you have heard from me, in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. You have been trusted to look after something precious; guard it with the help of the Holy Spirit who lives in us.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

**Alleluia, alleluia! Speak, Lord, your servant is listening;
you have the message of eternal life. Alleluia!**

GOSPEL

Luke 17:5-10

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

The apostles said to the Lord, "Increase our faith." The Lord replied, "Were your faith the size of a mustard seed you could say to this mulberry tree, 'Be uprooted and planted in the sea,' and it would obey you.

"Which of you, with a servant ploughing or minding sheep, would say to him when he returned from the fields, 'Come and have your meal immediately?' Would he not be more likely to say, 'Get my supper laid; make yourself tidy and wait on me while I eat and drink. You can eat and drink yourself afterwards?' Must he be grateful to the servant for doing what he was told? So with you: when you have done all you have been told to do, say, 'We are merely servants: we have done no more than our duty.'"

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

PROFESSION OF FAITH

I believe in one God,
the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all things visible and invisible.

I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the Only Begotten Son of God,
born of the Father before all ages.
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made, consubstantial with
the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us men and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,

(all bow during the next three lines)

and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the
Virgin Mary,
and became man.

For our sake he was crucified under
Pontius Pilate,
he suffered death and was buried,
and rose again on the third day
in accordance with the Scriptures.
He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory
to judge the living and the dead
and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord,
the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is adored
and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.

I believe in one, holy, catholic and
apostolic Church.

I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness
of sins
and I look forward to the resurrection of the
dead
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

Accept, O Lord, we pray,
the sacrifices instituted by your commands
and, through the sacred mysteries,
which we celebrate with dutiful service,
graciously complete the sanctifying work
by which you are pleased to redeem us.
Through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

**The Lord is good to those who hope in him,
to the soul that seeks him.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Grant us, almighty God,
that we may be refreshed and nourished
by the Sacrament which we have received,
so as to be transformed into what we consume.
Through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

.....
The friend who can be silent with us in a
moment of despair or confusion, who can stay
with us in an hour of grief and bereavement,
who can tolerate not knowing, not healing, not
curing: that is a friend who cares.

Henri Nouwen

Sunday Message

27TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

THE WORD

Year C • 5 October 2025 • Colour: Green • Psalter Week 3

DUTY CALLS

LK 17:5-10



When Jesus or the writers of the New Testament talk about faith, they don't mean simply believing a set of statements such as we find in the Creed. Faith in the biblical sense means the kind of trust you have in someone that makes you risk everything to follow them.

This is the kind of faith the disciples ask of Jesus as they make their way to Jerusalem. Jesus replies that even if their faith were the size of a mustard seed, it could do great things. In the Gospels, the mustard seed is an example of something very tiny that possesses great potential for growth. Indeed, St Matthew says that faith the size of a mustard seed moves mountains (Mt 17:20). Whether Jesus spoke about mountains or mulberry trees isn't important. What is important is how he challenges his followers to have the kind of faith that will make us aspire to do things that might seem beyond our ordinary capacity.

Jesus then uses a parable to describe what is expected of servants. The situation he depicts would have been familiar to his audience, a medium-sized farmer who can afford to employ a single worker as a kind of jack-of-all-trades. The work would have included working in the fields and also helping around the house. It would be unthinkable for someone who employed such a servant to prepare the servant's dinner and wait on the servant at table. It would have been the other way around. Jesus applies the parable directly to his disciples. They have no right to expect special treatment for doing what is expected of them – they are simply servants of the Kingdom of God.

We could say that today's Gospel is about two of the basic attitudes that should characterise the disciple of Jesus. The first is the need for a strong faith and trust that won't be daunted even by things that look impossible. Saints are people who don't take no for an answer when they face great obstacles. The second is the need for an attitude of humility that doesn't expect to be thanked simply for doing what is required of them. It is the direct opposite of the attitude of the Pharisee who expected public recognition for every act of piety. ■

SAY

Repeat the words of the apostles in today's Gospel. Say slowly and prayerfully: "Lord, increase our faith."

PRAY

God gives faith to all who ask for it. Pray for the light of faith and for the strength to live out its implications.

LEARN

Real faith is not just assent to a list of teachings. It is belief in a person. It is a deep relationship with God who reveals himself to us in Jesus

The gift of faith is the greatest treasure one can possess

To live the Gospel is to do our duty

REFLECT

Sometimes we can be tempted to think we deserve credit for doing our Christian duty. We go to Mass regularly; we contribute financially to the Church, we say our prayers, we try our best to live the Gospel every day. We consider ourselves to be good Catholics. So, when we think of all those who have fallen away from the practice of the faith, or have lost the faith altogether, we might conclude we deserve recognition, some kind of reward. Surely, God is mightily pleased with us and will thank us for our faithfulness.

But what does Jesus say in today's Gospel? "When you have done all you have been told to do, say, 'We are merely servants: we have done no more than our duty.'"

What Jesus is saying is simple but not very comforting. No worker, no teacher, no student, no parent expects special recognition simply for doing what is expected of them. The same applies to his followers. He is reminding us that we are merely servants, and therefore should never expect a special reward or honour or bonus or pat on the back for doing what as Christians we are called to do anyway. We shouldn't expect to be congratulated simply for fulfilling our baptismal promises. It's like rewarding someone just for turning up for work.

Jesus is reminding us that we have received something precious, to be treasured - the gift of faith. This is no ordinary gift. To live a life of faith is merely to do our duty. That will bring its own rewards. ■

DO

Think about what your faith means to you. Why do you continue to practise your faith when so many others have given it up? What difference does it make to your day-to-day living?

