

TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

First Reading: Isaiah 55:6-9

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

“Seek me YHWH while I may still be found,
call upon me while I am near!
Let the corrupt abandon their ways,
the evil their thoughts.
Let them return to YHWH, and I will have mercy on them;
return to YHWH, for I will freely pardon.

“For my thoughts are not your thoughts,
nor are your ways my ways,” says YHWH.
As high as the heavens are above the earth,
so high are my ways above your ways
and my thoughts above your thoughts.”

The Word of God. R. Thanks be to God.

Second Reading: Philippians 1:20-24,27

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Philippians.

I firmly trust and anticipate that I will never be put to shame for my hopes; I have full confidence that, now as always, Christ will be exalted through me, whether I live or die.

For to me, “life” means Christ; hence dying is only so much gain. If, on the other hand, I am to continue living on earth, that means productive toil for me—and I honestly do not know which I prefer. I am strongly attracted to both: I long to be freed from

this life and to be with Christ, for that is the far better thing; yet, it’s more urgent that I remain alive for your sakes.

Conduct yourselves, then, in a way worthy of the Gospel of Christ. If you do, whether I come and see you myself or hear about your behavior from a distance, it will be clear that you are standing firm in unity of spirit, and exerting yourselves with one accord for the faith of the Gospel.

The Word of God. R. Thanks be to God.

ALLELUIA!

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Gospel Reading: Matthew 20:1-16

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Jesus said to the disciples, “The kingdom of God is like the owner of an estate who went out at dawn to hire workers for the vineyard. After reaching an agreement with them for the usual daily wage, the owner sent them out to the vineyard.

“About mid-morning, the owner came out and saw others standing around the marketplace without work, and said to them, ‘You go along to my vineyard and I will pay you whatever is fair.’ At that, they left.

“Around noon and again in the mid-afternoon, the owner came out and did the same. Finally, going out late in the afternoon, the owner found still others standing around, and said to them, ‘Why have you been standing here idle all day?’

‘No one has hired us,’ they replied.

The owner said, ‘You go to my vineyard, too.’

“When evening came, the owner said to the overseer, ‘Call the workers and give them

their pay, but begin with the last group and end with the first.’ When those hired late in the afternoon came up, they received a full day’s pay, and when the first group appeared they assumed they would get more. Yet, they received the same daily wage.

“Thereupon they complained to the owner, ‘This last group did only an hour’s work, but you have put them on the same basis as those who have worked a full day in the scorching heat.’

“My friends,’ said the owner to those who voiced this complaint, ‘I do you no injustice. You agreed on the usual wage, didn’t you? Take your pay and go home. I intend to give this worker who was hired last the same pay as you. I am free to do as I please with my money. Or are you envious because I am generous?’

“Thus, the last will be first and the first will be last.”

The Good News of Salvation!
R. Glory and praise to our Savior Jesus Christ!