

TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

First Reading: Ezekiel 18:25-28

A reading from the book of the prophet Ezekiel.

“Yet you say, ‘The way of YHWH is not just!’ Listen, you Israelites! Am I unjust? It is your ways that are unjust. If the just turn from their integrity, take to evil ways, and die, it is because of their evil ways that they die. If

sinners give up their evil ways and do what is just and right, they preserve their life. They acknowledged their sins and turned their backs on all their wrongdoing, and they will live.”

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

Second Reading: Philippians 2:1-11

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Philippians.

If our life in Christ means anything to you— if love, or the Spirit that we have in common, or any tenderness and sympathy can persuade you at all—then be united in your convictions and united in your love, with a common purpose and a common mind. That is the one thing that would make me completely

happy. There must be no competition among you, no conceit, but everybody is to be humble: value others over yourselves, each of you thinking of the interests of others before your own. Your attitude must be the same as that of Christ Jesus:

Christ, though in the image of God,
did not deem equality with God
something to be clung to—
but instead became completely empty
and took on the image of oppressed humankind.
Born into the human condition,
found in the likeness of a human being.
Jesus was thus humbled—
obediently accepting death, even death on a cross!
Because of this, God highly exalted Christ
and gave to Jesus the name above every other name,
so that at the name of Jesus every knee must bend
in the heavens, on the earth and under the earth,
and every tongue proclaim to the glory of God:
Jesus Christ reigns supreme!

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

ALLELUIA!

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Gospel Reading: Matthew 21:28-32

A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Jesus put this parable to the chief priests and elders of the people, “What do you think? There was a landowner who had two children. The landowner approached the elder and said, ‘My child, go out and work in the vineyard today.’ This first child replied, ‘No, I will not,’ but afterwards regretted it and went. The landowner then came to the second child and said the same thing. The second child

said in reply, ‘I am on my way,’ but never went. Which of the two did what was wanted?” They said, “The first.”

Jesus said to them, “The truth is, tax collectors and prostitutes are entering the kingdom of God before you. When John came walking on the road of justice, you didn’t believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes did. Yet even when you saw that, you didn’t repent and believe.”

The Good News of Salvation!

R. Glory and praise to our Savior Jesus Christ!