

Sunday, February 5, 2023

Fifth Sunday after Epiphany / Lectionary 5, Year A

First Reading Isaiah 58:1-9a [9b-12]
Psalm Psalm 112:1-9 [10]
Second Reading 1 Corinthians 2:1-12 [13-16]

A READING FROM ISAIAH

¹Shout out, do not hold back!

 Lift up your voice like a trumpet!

Announce to my people their rebellion,
 to the house of Jacob their sins.

²Yet day after day they seek me
 and delight to know my ways,
as if they were a nation that practiced righteousness
 and did not forsake the ordinance of their God;
they ask of me righteous judgments,
 they delight to draw near to God.

³“Why do we fast, but you do not see?
 Why humble ourselves, but you do not notice?”
Look, you serve your own interest on your fast day,
 and oppress all your workers.

⁴Look, you fast only to quarrel and to fight
 and to strike with a wicked fist.
Such fasting as you do today
 will not make your voice heard on high.

⁵Is such the fast that I choose,
 a day to humble oneself?
Is it to bow down the head like a bulrush,
 and to lie in sackcloth and ashes?
Will you call this a fast,
 a day acceptable to the LORD?

⁶Is not this the fast that I choose:
 to loose the bonds of injustice,
 to undo the thongs of the yoke,
to let the oppressed go free,
 and to break every yoke?

⁷Is it not to share your bread with the hungry,

and bring the homeless poor into your house;
when you see the naked, to cover them,
and not to hide yourself from your own kin?

⁸Then your light shall break forth like the dawn,
and your healing shall spring up quickly;
your vindicator shall go before you,
the glory of the LORD shall be your rear guard.

^{9a}Then you shall call, and the LORD will answer;
you shall cry for help, and he will say, Here I am.

[^{9b}If you remove the yoke from among you,
the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil,

¹⁰if you offer your food to the hungry
and satisfy the needs of the afflicted,
then your light shall rise in the darkness
and your gloom be like the noonday.

¹¹The LORD will guide you continually,
and satisfy your needs in parched places,
and make your bones strong;

and you shall be like a watered garden,
like a spring of water,
whose waters never fail.

¹²Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt;
you shall raise up the foundations of many generations;
you shall be called the repairer of the breach,
the restorer of streets to live in.]

THE WORD OF THE LORD
THANKS BE TO GOD

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*(If the Psalm is sung by the choir, you will not be required to lead the Psalm.
Check the day's worship bulletin to confirm one way or the other)*

PLEASE JOIN ME IN READING THE 112st PSALM IN UNISON

- ¹Hallelujah! Happy are they who | fear the LORD
and have great delight in | God's commandments!**
- ²Their descendants will be mighty | in the land;
the generation of the upright | will be blessed.**
- ³Wealth and riches will be | in their house,
and their righteousness will | last forever.**
- ⁴Light shines in the darkness | for the upright;
the righteous are merciful and full | of compassion. R**
- ⁵It is good for them to be gener- | ous in lending
and to manage their af- | fairs with justice.**
- ⁶For they will nev- | er be shaken;
the righteous will be kept in everlast- | ing remembrance.**
- ⁷They will not be afraid of any | evil rumors;
their heart is steadfast, trusting | in the LORD.**
- ⁸Their heart is established and | will not shrink,
until they see their desire up- | on their enemies.**
- ⁹They have given freely to the poor, and their righteousness
stands | fast forever;
they will hold up their | head with honor.**
- [¹⁰The wicked will see it and be angry; they will gnash their teeth
and | pine away;
the desires of the wick- | ed will perish. R]**

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A READING FROM 1st CORINTHIANS

¹When I came to you, brothers and sisters, I did not come proclaiming the mystery of God to you in lofty words or wisdom. ²For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ, and him crucified. ³And I came to you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling. ⁴My speech and my proclamation were not with plausible words of wisdom, but with a demonstration of the Spirit and of power, ⁵so that your faith might rest not on human wisdom but on the power of God.

⁶Yet among the mature we do speak wisdom, though it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are doomed to perish. ⁷But we speak God's wisdom, secret and hidden, which God decreed before the ages for our glory. ⁸None of the rulers of this age understood this; for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. ⁹But, as it is written,

“What no eye has seen, nor ear heard,
nor the human heart conceived,
what God has prepared for those who love him”—

¹⁰these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit; for the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. ¹¹For what human being knows what is truly human except the human spirit that is within? So also no one comprehends what is truly God's except the Spirit of God. ¹²Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit that is from God, so that we may understand the gifts bestowed on us by God. [¹³And we speak of these things in words not taught by human wisdom but taught by the Spirit, interpreting spiritual things to those who are spiritual.

¹⁴Those who are unspiritual do not receive the gifts of God's Spirit, for they are foolishness to them, and they are unable to understand them because they are spiritually discerned. ¹⁵Those who are spiritual discern all things, and they are themselves subject to no one else's scrutiny.

¹⁶“For who has known the mind of the Lord
so as to instruct him?”

But we have the mind of Christ.]

THE WORD OF THE LORD
THANKS BE TO GOD

Sunday, February 12, 2023

Sixth Sunday after Epiphany / Lectionary 6, Year A

First Reading Deuteronomy 30:15-20

Psalm Psalm 119:1-8

Second Reading 1 Corinthians 3:1-9

A READING FROM DEUTERONOMY

[Moses said to the people:] ¹⁵See, I have set before you today life and prosperity, death and adversity. ¹⁶If you obey the commandments of the LORD your God that I am commanding you today, by loving the LORD your God, walking in his ways, and observing his commandments, decrees, and ordinances, then you shall live and become numerous, and the LORD your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to possess. ¹⁷But if your heart turns away and you do not hear, but are led astray to bow down to other gods and serve them, ¹⁸I declare to you today that you shall perish; you shall not live long in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to enter and possess. ¹⁹I call heaven and earth to witness against you today that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Choose life so that you and your descendants may live, ²⁰loving the LORD your God, obeying him, and holding fast to him; for that means life to you and length of days, so that you may live in the land that the LORD swore to give to your ancestors, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob.

THE WORD OF THE LORD
THANKS BE TO GOD

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(If the Psalm is sung by the choir, you will not be required to lead the Psalm. Check the day's worship bulletin to confirm one way or the other)

PLEASE JOIN ME IN READING THE 119th PSALM IN UNISON

- ¹Happy are they whose | way is blameless,
who follow the teaching | of the LORD!**
- ²Happy are they who observe | your decrees
and seek you with | all their hearts,**
- ³who never do | any wrong,
but always walk | in your ways.**
- ⁴You laid down | your commandments,
that we should | fully keep them. R**
- ⁵Oh, that my ways were made | so direct
that I might | keep your statutes!**
- ⁶Then I should not be | put to shame,
when I regard all | your commandments.**
- ⁷I will thank you with | a true heart,
when I have learned your | righteous judgments.**
- ⁸I will | keep your statutes;
do not utter- | ly forsake me. R**

A READING FROM 1st CORINTHIANS

¹Brothers and sisters, I could not speak to you as spiritual people, but rather as people of the flesh, as infants in Christ. ²I fed you with milk, not solid food, for you were not ready for solid food. Even now you are still not ready, ³for you are still of the flesh. For as long as there is jealousy and quarreling among you, are you not of the flesh, and behaving according to human inclinations? ⁴For when one says, "I belong to Paul," and another, "I belong to Apollos," are you not merely human?

⁵What then is Apollos? What is Paul? Servants through whom you came to believe, as the Lord assigned to each. ⁶I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth. ⁷So neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but only God who gives the growth. ⁸The one who plants and the one who waters have a common purpose, and each will receive wages according to the labor of each. ⁹For we are God's servants, working together; you are God's field, God's building.

**THE WORD OF THE LORD
THANKS BE TO GOD**

Sunday, February 19, 2023
Transfiguration of Our Lord, Year A

First Reading Exodus 24:12-18
Psalm Psalm 2
Second Reading 2 Peter 1:16-21

A READING FROM EXODUS

¹²The LORD said to Moses, "Come up to me on the mountain, and wait there; and I will give you the tablets of stone, with the law and the commandment, which I have written for their instruction." ¹³So Moses set out with his assistant Joshua, and Moses went up into the mountain of God.

¹⁴To the elders he had said, "Wait here for us, until we come to you again; for Aaron and Hur are with you; whoever has a dispute may go to them."

¹⁵Then Moses went up on the mountain, and the cloud covered the mountain. ¹⁶The glory of the LORD settled on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it for six days; on the seventh day he called to Moses out of the cloud. ¹⁷Now the appearance of the glory of the LORD was like a devouring fire on the top of the mountain in the sight of the people of Israel. ¹⁸Moses entered the cloud, and went up on the mountain. Moses was on the mountain for forty days and forty nights.

THE WORD OF THE LORD
THANKS BE TO GOD

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*(If the Psalm is sung by the choir, you will not be required to lead the Psalm.
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PLEASE JOIN ME IN READING THE 2nd PSALM IN UNISON

- ¹Why are the nations | in an uproar?
Why do the peoples mutter | empty threats?**
- ²Why do the kings of the earth rise up in revolt, and the princes |
plot together,
against the LORD and against the | LORD's anointed?**
- ³"Let us break their | yoke," they say;
"let us cast off their | bonds from us."**
- ⁴God whose throne is in heav- | en is laughing;
the LORD holds them | in derision. R**
- ⁵Then in wrath God | speaks to them,
and in rage fills | them with terror.**
- ⁶"As for me, I have anoint- | ed my king
upon Zion, my | holy mountain."**
- ⁷Let me announce the decree | of the LORD,
who said to me, "You are my son; this day have I be- | gotten
you.**
- ⁸Ask of me, and I will give you the nations for | your inheritance
and the ends of the earth for | your possession. R**
- ⁹You shall crush them with an | iron rod
and shatter them like a | piece of pottery."**
- ¹⁰And now, you | kings, be wise;
be warned, you rulers | of the earth.**
- ¹¹Submit to the | LORD with fear,
and with trembling | bow in worship;**
- ¹²lest the LORD be angry, and you perish in a sudden | blaze of
wrath.
Happy are all who take ref- | uge in God! R**

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A READING FROM 2nd PETER

¹⁶For we did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we had been eyewitnesses of his majesty. ¹⁷For he received honor and glory from God the Father when that voice was conveyed to him by the Majestic Glory, saying, "This is my Son, my Beloved, with whom I am well pleased." ¹⁸We ourselves heard this voice come from heaven, while we were with him on the holy mountain.

¹⁹So we have the prophetic message more fully confirmed. You will do well to be attentive to this as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts. ²⁰First of all you must understand this, that no prophecy of scripture is a matter of one's own interpretation, ²¹because no prophecy ever came by human will, but men and women moved by the Holy Spirit spoke from God.

THE WORD OF THE LORD
THANKS BE TO GOD

Wednesday, February 22, 2023
Ash Wednesday, Year A

First Reading Joel 2:1-2, 12-17
Psalm Psalm 51:1-17
Second Reading 2 Corinthians 5:20b--6:10

A READING FROM JOEL

¹Blow the trumpet in Zion;
 sound the alarm on my holy mountain!
Let all the inhabitants of the land tremble,
 for the day of the LORD is coming, it is near—
²a day of darkness and gloom,
 a day of clouds and thick darkness!
Like blackness spread upon the mountains
 a great and powerful army comes;
their like has never been from of old,
 nor will be again after them
 in ages to come.

¹²Yet even now, says the LORD,
 return to me with all your heart,
with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning;
 ¹³rend your hearts and not your clothing.
Return to the LORD, your God,
 for he is gracious and merciful,
slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love,
 and relents from punishing.

¹⁴Who knows whether he will not turn and relent,
 and leave a blessing behind him,
a grain offering and a drink offering
 for the LORD, your God?

¹⁵Blow the trumpet in Zion;
 sanctify a fast;
call a solemn assembly;
 ¹⁶gather the people.
Sanctify the congregation;
 assemble the aged;

gather the children,
even infants at the breast.
Let the bridegroom leave his room,
and the bride her canopy.

¹⁷Between the vestibule and the altar
let the priests, the ministers of the LORD, weep.
Let them say, "Spare your people, O LORD,
and do not make your heritage a mockery,
a byword among the nations.
Why should it be said among the peoples,
'Where is their God?'"

THE WORD OF THE LORD
THANKS BE TO GOD

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*(If the Psalm is sung by the choir, you will not be required to lead the Psalm.
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PLEASE JOIN ME IN READING THE 51st PSALM IN UNISON

- ¹Have mercy on me, O God, according to your | steadfast love;
in your great compassion blot out | my offenses.**
- ²Wash me through and through | from my wickedness,
and cleanse me | from my sin.**
- ³For I know | my offenses,
and my sin is ev- | er before me.**
- ⁴Against you only have I sinned and done what is evil | in your
sight;
so you are justified when you speak and right | in your
judgment. R**
- ⁵Indeed, I was born | steeped in wickedness,
a sinner from my | mother's womb.**
- ⁶Indeed, you delight in truth | deep within me,
and would have me know wisdom | deep within.**
- ⁷Remove my sins with hyssop, and I | shall be clean;
wash me, and I shall be pur- | er than snow.**
- ⁸Let me hear | joy and gladness;
that the body you have broken | may rejoice. R**
- ⁹Hide your face | from my sins,
and blot out | all my wickedness.**
- ¹⁰Create in me a clean | heart, O God,
and renew a right spir- | it within me.**
- ¹¹Cast me not away | from your presence,
and take not your Holy Spir- | it from me.**
- ¹²Restore to me the joy of | your salvation
and sustain me with your boun- | tiful Spirit. R**
- ¹³Let me teach your ways | to offenders,
and sinners shall be re- | stored to you.**
- ¹⁴Rescue me from bloodshed, O God of | my salvation,
and my tongue shall sing | of your righteousness.**
- ¹⁵O Lord, o- | pen my lips,
and my mouth shall pro- | claim your praise.**
- ¹⁶For you take no delight in sacrifice, or | I would give it.
You are not pleased | with burnt offering.**
- ¹⁷The sacrifice of God is a | troubled spirit;
a troubled and broken heart, O God, you will | not despise. R**

A READING FROM 2nd CORINTHIANS

^{20b}We entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. ²¹For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

^{6:1}As we work together with him, we urge you also not to accept the grace of God in vain. ²For he says,

“At an acceptable time I have listened to you,
and on a day of salvation I have helped you.”

See, now is the acceptable time; see, now is the day of salvation! ³We are putting no obstacle in anyone’s way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, ⁴but as servants of God we have commended ourselves in every way: through great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, ⁵beatings, imprisonments, riots, labors, sleepless nights, hunger; ⁶by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, holiness of spirit, genuine love, ⁷truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; ⁸in honor and dishonor, in ill repute and good repute. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; ⁹as unknown, and yet are well known; as dying, and see—we are alive; as punished, and yet not killed; ¹⁰as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing everything.

THE WORD OF THE LORD
THANKS BE TO GOD

Sunday, February 26, 2023
First Sunday in Lent, Year A

First Reading Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7
Psalm Psalm 32
Second Reading Romans 5:12-19

A READING FROM GENESIS

¹⁵The LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it. ¹⁶And the LORD God commanded the man, "You may freely eat of every tree of the garden; ¹⁷but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall die."

^{3:1}Now the serpent was more crafty than any other wild animal that the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God say, 'You shall not eat from any tree in the garden?'" ²The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden; ³but God said, 'You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the middle of the garden, nor shall you touch it, or you shall die.'" ⁴But the serpent said to the woman, "You will not die; ⁵for God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." ⁶So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate; and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate. ⁷Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves.

THE WORD OF THE LORD
THANKS BE TO GOD

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*(If the Psalm is sung by the choir, you will not be required to lead the Psalm.
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PLEASE JOIN ME IN READING THE 32nd PSALM IN UNISON

**¹Happy are they whose transgressions | are forgiven,
and whose sin is | put away!**

**²Happy are they to whom the LORD im- | putes no guilt,
and in whose spirit there | is no guile!**

**³While I held my tongue, my bones with- | ered away,
because of my groaning | all day long.**

**⁴For your hand was heavy upon me | day and night;
my moisture was dried up as in the | heat of summer. R**

**⁵Then I acknowledged my sin to you, and did not con- | ceal my
guilt.**

**I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD." Then you
forgave me the guilt | of my sin.**

**⁶Therefore all the faithful will make their prayers to you in | time
of trouble;**

when the great waters overflow, they | shall not reach them.

**⁷You are my hiding-place; you preserve | me from trouble;
you surround me with shouts | of deliverance.**

**⁸"I will instruct you and teach you in the way that | you should go;
I will guide you | with my eye. R**

**⁹Do not be like horse or mule, which have no | understanding;
who must be fitted with bit and bridle, or else they will | not stay
near you."**

**¹⁰Great are the tribulations | of the wicked;
but mercy embraces those who trust | in the LORD.**

**¹¹Be glad, you righteous, and rejoice | in the LORD;
shout for joy, all who are | true of heart. R**

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A READING FROM ROMANS

¹²Just as sin came into the world through one man, and death came through sin, and so death spread to all because all have sinned—¹³sin was indeed in the world before the law, but sin is not reckoned when there is no law. ¹⁴Yet death exercised dominion from Adam to Moses, even over those whose sins were not like the transgression of Adam, who is a type of the one who was to come.

¹⁵But the free gift is not like the trespass. For if the many died through the one man's trespass, much more surely have the grace of God and the free gift in the grace of the one man, Jesus Christ, abounded for the many.

¹⁶And the free gift is not like the effect of the one man's sin. For the judgment following one trespass brought condemnation, but the free gift following many trespasses brings justification. ¹⁷If, because of the one man's trespass, death exercised dominion through that one, much more surely will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness exercise dominion in life through the one man, Jesus Christ.

¹⁸Therefore just as one man's trespass led to condemnation for all, so one man's act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all. ¹⁹For just as by the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, so by the one man's obedience the many will be made righteous.

THE WORD OF THE LORD
THANKS BE TO GOD