

## 23<sup>rd</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – SEPTEMBER 6 A

### Reading 1 – Ezekiel

Thus says the LORD: You, son of man, I have appointed watchman for the house of Israel; when you hear me say anything, you shall warn them for me. If I tell the wicked, “O wicked one, you shall surely die,” and you do not speak out to dissuade the wicked from his way, the wicked shall die for his guilt, but I will hold you responsible for his death. But if you warn the wicked, trying to turn him from his way, and he refuses to turn from his way, he shall die for his guilt, but you shall save yourself.

### Responsorial Psalm 95

**Response: If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.**

Come, let us sing joyfully to the LORD; let us acclaim the rock of our salvation.

Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving; let us joyfully sing psalms to him.

**R. If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.**

Come, let us bow down in worship; let us kneel before the LORD who made us.

For he is our God, and we are the people he shepherds, the flock he guides.

**R. If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.**

Oh, that today you would hear his voice: “Harden not your hearts as at Meribah, as in the day of Massah in the desert,

Where your fathers tempted me; they tested me though they had seen my works.”

**R. If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.**

### Reading 2 – Romans

Brothers and sisters: Owe nothing to anyone, except to love one another; for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. The commandments, “You shall not commit adultery; you shall not kill; you shall not steal; you shall not covet,” and whatever other commandment there may be, are summed up in this saying, namely, “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” Love does no evil to the neighbor; hence, love is the fulfillment of the law.

### Gospel – Matthew

**Alleluia, alleluia.**

God was reconciling the world to himself in Christ and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation.

**Alleluia, alleluia.**

### Gospel – Matthew

Jesus said to his disciples: “If your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault between you and him alone. If he listens to you, you have won over your brother. If he does not listen, take one or two others along with you, so that ‘every fact may be established on the testimony of two or three witnesses.’ If he refuses to listen to them, tell the church. If he refuses to listen even to the church, then treat him as you would a Gentile or a tax collector. Amen, I say to you, whatever you bind on earth shall be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven. Again, amen, I say to you, if two of you agree on earth about anything for which they are to pray, it shall be granted to them by my heavenly Father. For where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them.”

## Opening – Gather ‘Round This Table

Refrain



Bless-ed are they who will feast in the reign of God. Bless-ed are they who will share the cup of life.

Bless-ed are they who are least in the reign of God; they shall re-joice at the feast of life.\_\_\_\_\_

1. Come, gather ‘round this table,  
all you from far and near,  
gather ‘round this table,  
for all are welcome here,  
yes, all are welcome here.

2. O come and join the banquet,  
holy and happy feast,  
God has spread a banquet  
where the greatest shall be least,  
the greatest shall be least.

Text: Marty Haugen, b.1950 | Tune: Marty Haugen, b.1950 | © 1999, 2001, GIA Publications, Inc.

## Offertory – Where Charity and Love Prevail

1. Where charity and love prevail,  
There God is ever found;  
Brought here together by Christ’s love,  
By love are we thus bound.

3. Forgive we now each other’s faults  
As we our faults confess;  
And let us love each other well  
In Christian holiness.

5. Let us recall that in our midst  
Dwells Gods begotten Son;  
As members of his body joined,  
We are in Christ made one.

2. With grateful joy and holy fear  
God’s charity we learn;  
Let us with heart and mind and soul  
Now love God in return.

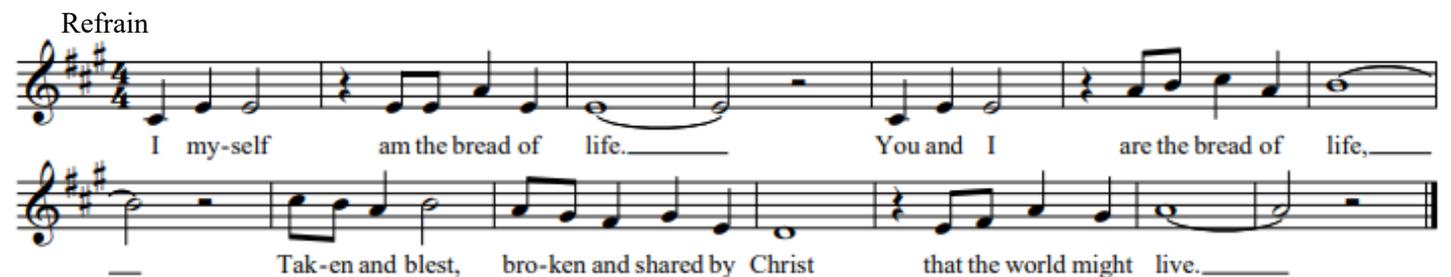
4. Let strife among us be unknown,  
Let all contention cease;  
Be God’s the glory that we seek,  
Be ours God’s holy peace.

6. No race nor creed can love exclude  
If honored be God’s name;  
Our family embraces all  
Whose Father is the same.

Text: Ubi caritas; tr. by Omer Westendorf, 1916-1998 | Tune: CHRISTIAN LOVE, CM; Paul Benoit, OSB, 1893-1976 | © 1960, World Library Publications

## Communion – I Myself Am the Bread of Life

Refrain



I my-self am the bread of life.\_\_\_\_\_ You and I are the bread of life,\_\_\_\_\_

— Tak-en and blest, bro-ken and shared by Christ that the world might live.\_\_\_\_\_

Tune: Rory Cooney, b.1952 | Text: Rory Cooney, b.1952 | © 1987, North American Liturgy Resources. Published by OCP Publications.

## Closing – Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee

1. Joyful, joyful, we adore you,  
God of glory, Lord of love;  
Hearts unfold like flow'rs before you,  
Opening to the sun above.  
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness;  
Drive the dark of doubt away;  
Giver of immortal gladness,  
Fill us with the light of day!

2. All your works with joy surround you,  
Earth and heav'n reflect your rays,  
Stars and angels sing around you,  
Center of unbroken praise;  
Field and forest, vale and mountain,  
Flowery meadow, flashing sea,  
Chanting bird and flowing fountain,  
Praising you eternally!

3. Always giving and forgiving,  
Ever blessing, ever blest,  
Wellspring of the joy of living,  
Ocean depth of happy rest!  
Loving Father, Christ our brother,  
Let your light upon us shine;  
Teach us how to love each other,  
Lift us to the joy divine.

Text: Henry van Dyke, 1852-1933, alt.