

Celebrating the Eucharist

LIVING LITURGY™

Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time
September 13, 2020

REFLECTION ON THE GOSPEL

Grudges are awful things. But today's gospel calls us to a higher standard. The forgiveness we've experienced should motivate us to be free with forgiveness when others wrong us. We cannot dole out forgiveness in infinitesimal pieces only to those we deem worthy. Instead, forgiveness ought to be given freely. We must die to the grudges, slights, rudeness, and other transgressions we've suffered and rise to a sense of freedom that comes through forgiving as we've been forgiven. Jesus himself warns us that if we withhold forgiveness, it will be withheld from us. And the consequences of that are severe indeed.

—Living Liturgy™, Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time 2020

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

CF. SIRACH 36:18

Give peace, O Lord, to those who wait for you,
that your prophets be found true.
Hear the prayers of your servant,
and of your people Israel.

COLLECT

Look upon us, O God,
Creator and ruler of all things,
and, that we may feel the working of your mercy,
grant that we may serve you with all our heart.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

He seized him and started to choke him, demanding,
'Pay back what you owe.'
Falling to his knees, his fellow servant begged him,
'Be patient with me, and I will pay you back.'
But he refused.

Instead, he had the fellow servant put in prison
until he paid back the debt.
Now when his fellow servants saw what had happened,
they were deeply disturbed, and went to their master
and reported the whole affair.

His master summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked servant!
I forgave you your entire debt because you begged me to.
Should you not have had pity on your fellow servant,
as I had pity on you?'

Then in anger his master handed him over to the torturers
until he should pay back the whole debt.
So will my heavenly Father do to you,
unless each of you forgives your brother from your heart."

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

CF. PSALM 36(35):8

How precious is your mercy, O God!
The children of men seek shelter in the shadow of your wings.

or
CF. 1 CORINTHIANS 10:16

The chalice of blessing that we bless
is a communion in the Blood of Christ;
and the bread that we break is a sharing in the Body of the Lord.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

May the working of this heavenly gift, O Lord, we pray,
take possession of our minds and bodies,
so that its effects, and not our own desires,
may always prevail in us.

Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

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READING I

L 130-A · SIRACH 27:30—28:7

A reading from the Book of Sirach

Forgive your neighbor's injustice; then when you pray, your own sins will be forgiven.

Wrath and anger are hateful things, yet the sinner hugs them tight.
The vengeful will suffer the LORD's vengeance,
for he remembers their sins in detail.

Forgive your neighbor's injustice;
then when you pray, your own sins will be forgiven.
Could anyone nourish anger against another
and expect healing from the LORD?

Could anyone refuse mercy to another like himself,
can he seek pardon for his own sins?

If one who is but flesh cherishes wrath, who will forgive his sins?
Remember your last days, set enmity aside;
remember death and decay, and cease from sin!

Think of the commandments, hate not your neighbor;
remember the Most High's covenant, and overlook faults.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

PSALM 103:1-2, 3-4, 9-10, 11-12

℟. (8) **The Lord is kind and merciful, slow to anger,
and rich in compassion.**

Bless the LORD, O my soul; and all my being, bless his holy name.
Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits. ℟.

He pardons all your iniquities, heals all your ills.
He redeems your life from destruction,
crowns you with kindness and compassion. ℟.

He will not always chide, nor does he keep his wrath forever.
Not according to our sins does he deal with us,
nor does he requite us according to our crimes. ℟.

For as the heavens are high above the earth,
so surpassing is his kindness toward those who fear him.
As far as the east is from the west,
so far has he put our transgressions from us. ℟.

READING II

ROMANS 14:7-9

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans

Whether we live or die, we are the Lord's.

Brothers and sisters:

None of us lives for oneself, and no one dies for oneself.

For if we live, we live for the Lord, and if we die, we die for the Lord;
so then, whether we live or die, we are the Lord's.

For this is why Christ died and came to life,
that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

JOHN 13:34

℟. **Alleluia, alleluia.**

℣. I give you a new commandment, says the Lord;
love one another as I have loved you. ℟.

GOSPEL READING

MATTHEW 18:21-35

✠ A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

All: **Glory to you, O Lord.***I say to you, forgive not seven times, but seventy-seven times.*

Peter approached Jesus and asked him,

“Lord, if my brother sins against me, how often must I forgive?
As many as seven times?”

Jesus answered, “I say to you, not seven times but seventy-seven times.
That is why the kingdom of heaven may be likened to a king
who decided to settle accounts with his servants.

When he began the accounting,

a debtor was brought before him who owed him a huge amount.

Since he had no way of paying it back, his master ordered him to be sold,
along with his wife, his children, and all his property,
in payment of the debt.

At that, the servant fell down, did him homage, and said,

‘Be patient with me, and I will pay you back in full.’

Moved with compassion the master of that servant let him go
and forgave him the loan.

When that servant had left, he found one of his fellow servants
who owed him a much smaller amount.

The Master Came to Bring Good News



1. The Mas - ter came to bring good news, The
2. The Law's ful - filled through Je - sus Christ, The
3. To seek the sin - ners Je - sus came, To
4. For - give us, Lord, as we for - give And



news of love and free - dom, To heal the sick and
man who lived for oth - ers. The law of Christ is:
live a - mong the friend - less, To show them love that
seek to help each oth - er. For - give us, Lord, and



seek the poor, To build the peace - ful king - dom.
Serve in love Our sis - ters and our broth - ers.
they might share The king - dom that is end - less.
we shall live To pray and work to - geth - er.




Fa - ther, for - give us! Through Je - sus hear us!




As we for - give one an - oth - er!

Make Me a Channel of Your Peace


Verses 1, 2, 4




1. Make me a chan-nel of your peace. Where
 2. Make me a chan-nel of your peace. Where
 4. Make me a chan-nel of your peace. It



there is ha - tred, let me bring your love. Where
 there's de - spair in life, let me bring hope. Where
 is in par - don - ing that we are par - doned, in




there is in - ju - ry, your par - don, Lord, And
 there is dark - ness, on - ly light, And
 giv - ing of our - selves that we re - ceive, and in



where there's doubt, true faith in you. 1. 2., 4.
 where there's sad - ness, ev - er joy.
 dy - ing that we're born to e - ter - nal life.

Verse 3



3. Oh, Mas-ter, grant that I may nev-er seek So much to be con-



soled as to con - sole. To be un-der-stood as to un-der-



stand. To be loved as to love with all my soul. D.C.

Text: *Prayer of St. Francis*; adapt. by Sebastian Temple, 1928–1997
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