

THE WORD OF THE LORD : TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

At the Liturgy at Nine Thirty

SEPTUAGESIMA

COLLECT OF THE DAY

Presider: Almighty God, you have created the heavens and the earth and made us in your own image: teach us to discern your hand in all your works and your likeness in all your children; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit reigns supreme over all things, now and for ever.

People: Amen.

First Lesson: Genesis 1-5

In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. Then God said, 'Let there be light'; and there was light. And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

The word of the Lord

R/. Thanks be to God

Psalm 9.9-20



- 9 THE LORD / will be a refuge for the **op**-pressed, :
a refuge in **time** öf trou-ble.
- 10 Those who know your name will put their trust **in** you :
for you never forsake those **who** sēek you, O Lord.
- 11 Sing praise to the Lord who dwells in **Zi**-on :
proclaim to the peoples **the** thǐngs he has done.
- 12 The avenger of blood will remem-ber them :
he will not forget the cry of **the** äf-flic-ted.
- 13 Have pity on me, **O** Lord : see the misery I suffer from those
who hate me, O you who lift me up from **the** gäte of death.
- 14 So that I may tell of all your praises and rejoice in your sal-va-tion :
in the gates of the ci-ty öf Zi-on.
- 15 The ungodly have fallen into the pit **they** dug :
and in the snare they set is **their** öwn foot caught.
- 16 The Lord is known by his acts of **jus**-tice :
the wicked are trapped in the works **of** thēir öwn hands.
- 17 The wicked shall be given over to **the** grave, :
and also all the peoples **that** för-get God.
- 18 For the needy shall not always be for-got-ten :
and the hope of the poor shall not per-ish för ev-er.
- 19 Rise up, O Lord, let not the ungodly have the up-**per** hand :
let them be **judged** bē-fore you.
- 20 Put fear upon them, **O** Lord :
let the ungodly know they **are** büt mor-tal.

Second Lesson: I Corinthians 9.24-27

Do you not know that in a race the runners all compete, but only one receives the prize? Run in such a way that you may win it. Athletes exercise self-control in all things; they do it to receive a perishable garland, but we an imperishable one. So I do not run aimlessly, nor do I box as though beating the air; but I punish my body and enslave it, so that after proclaiming to others I myself should not be disqualified.

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

Septuagesima Gradual: Psalm 119, Part 4



- 25 MY SOUL cleaves to **the** dust;
*give me life ac-**cord**-ing tō your word.
- 26 I have confessed my ways, and you an-**swered** me;
*instruct me **in** your stā-tutes.
- 27 Make me to understand the way of your com-**mand**-ments,
*that I may meditate on your **mar**-vel-lōus works.
- 28 My soul melts away for **sor**-row;
*strengthen me ac-**cord**-ing tō your word.
- 29 Take from me the way of **ly**-ing;
*let me find **grace** through yōur law.
- 30 I have chosen the way of faith-**ful**-ness;
*I have set your judge-**ments** be-före me.
- 31 I hold fast to your **de**-crees;
*O Lord, let me **not** be püt to shame.
- 32 I will run the way of your com-**mand**-ments,
*for you have set my **heart** at li-ber-ty.

Gospel: Matthew 20 1-16

R/. Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ

Jesus told this parable: 'For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire labourers for his vineyard. After agreeing with the labourers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the market-place; and he said to them, "You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right." So they went. When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, "Why are you standing here idle all day?" They said to him, "Because no one has hired us." He said to them, "You also go into the vineyard." When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, "Call the labourers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first." When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, saying, "These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat." But he replied to one of them, "Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?" So the last will be first, and the first will be last.'

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

PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

Presider: God of power, the glory of your works fills us with wonder and awe. Accept our offering this day, and help us to live in peace and harmony with all your creation, for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **People: Amen.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Presider: God our creator, by your gift the tree of life was set at the heart of the earthly paradise, and the bread of life at the heart of your Church: may we who have been nourished at your table on earth be transformed by the glory of the Saviour's cross and enjoy the delights of eternity; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **People: Amen.**