

COMMUNION ANTIPHON *cf Psalm 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.

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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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TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

I am the salvation of the people, says the Lord.
Should they cry to me in any distress,
I will hear them, and I will be their Lord for ever.

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COLLECT

O God, who founded all the commands of your sacred Law
upon love of you and of our neighbour,
grant that, by keeping your precepts,
we may merit to attain eternal life.
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.**

FIRST READING *Isaiah 55:6-9*

My thoughts are not your thoughts.

Seek the Lord while he is still to be
found, call to him while he is still near.
Let the wicked man abandon his way,
the evil man his thoughts. Let him
turn back to the Lord who will take
pity on him, to our God who is rich in

forgiving; for my thoughts are not your
thoughts, my ways not your ways – it is
the Lord who speaks. Yes, the heavens
are as high above earth as my ways are
above your ways, my thoughts above
your thoughts.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM *Psalms 144:2-3, 8-9, 17-18 response v 18*

The Lord is close to all who call him.

- 1 I will bless you day after day
and praise your name for ever.
The Lord is great, highly to be praised,
his greatness cannot be measured.
- 2 The Lord is kind and full of compassion,
slow to anger, abounding in love.
How good is the Lord to all,
compassionate to all his creatures.
- 3 The Lord is just in all his ways
and loving in all his deeds.
He is close to all who call him,
who call on him from their hearts.

SECOND READING *Philippians 1:20-24, 27*

Life to me is Christ.

Christ will be glorified in my body,
whether by my life or by my death. Life
to me, of course, is Christ, but then death
would bring me something more; but
then again, if living in this body means
doing work which is having good results
– I do not know what I should choose. I
am caught in this dilemma: I want to be
gone and be with Christ, which would

be very much better, but for me to stay
alive in this body is a more urgent need
for your sake.

Avoid anything in your everyday lives
that would be unworthy of the gospel
of Christ.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *Luke 19:38*

Alleluia, alleluia!
Blessings on the King who comes,
in the name of the Lord!
Peace in heaven
and glory in the highest heavens!
Alleluia!

OR *cf Acts 16:14*

Alleluia, alleluia!
Open our heart, O Lord,
to accept the words of your Son.
Alleluia!

GOSPEL *Matthew 20:1-16*

The Lord be with you.
And with your spirit.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.
Glory to you, O Lord.

Why be envious because I am generous?

Jesus said to his disciples: "The kingdom
of heaven is like a landowner going
out at daybreak to hire workers for his
vineyard. He made an agreement with
the workers for one denarius a day, and
sent them to his vineyard. Going out
at about the third hour he saw others
standing idle in the market place and
said to them, "You go to my vineyard
too and I will give you a fair wage." So
they went. At about the sixth hour and
again at about the ninth hour, he went
out and did the same. Then at about the
eleventh hour he went out and found
more men standing round, and he said
to them, "Why have you been standing
here idle all day?" "Because no one has
hired us," they answered. He said to
them, "You go into my vineyard too." In
the evening, the owner of the vineyard
said to his bailiff, "Call the workers and
pay them their wages, starting with the

last arrivals and ending with the first."
So those who were hired at about
the eleventh hour came forward and
received one denarius each. When the
first came, they expected to get more,
but they too received one denarius
each. They took it, but grumbled at the
landowner. "The men who came last"
they said "have done only one hour,
and you have treated them the same as
us, though we have done a heavy day's
work in all the heat." He answered one
of them and said, "My friend, I am not
being unjust to you; did we not agree
on one denarius? Take your earnings
and go. I choose to pay the last-comer
as much as I pay you. Have I no right
to do what I like with my own? Why be
envious because I am generous?" Thus
the last will be first, and the first, last.'

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

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PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

Receive with favour, O Lord, we pray,
the offerings of your people,
that what they profess with devotion and faith
may be theirs through these heavenly mysteries.
Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

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COMMUNION ANTIPHON *Psalms 118:4-5*

You have laid down your precepts to be carefully kept;
may my ways be firm in keeping your statutes.

OR *John 10:14*

I am the Good Shepherd, says the Lord;
I know my sheep, and mine know me.

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