

Twenty-Fourth Sunday of the Year B

Entrance Antiphon: 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. *Eccl 36:18*

Some people had no faith in Jesus. Others had a mistaken faith. But Peter showed true faith in Jesus when he declared: "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." If faith is to be alive in our lives, we have to make faith our own.

Lord Jesus, you are mighty God and prince of peace. Lord, have mercy.

Lord Jesus, you are Son of God and Son of Mary. Christ, have mercy.

Lord Jesus, you are the Word made flesh. Lord, have mercy.



Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to people of good will. We praise you, we bless you, we adore you, we glorify you, we give you thanks for your great glory. Lord God, heavenly King, O God, almighty Father. Lord Jesus Christ, only Begotten Son, Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us; you take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer; you are seated at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Let us pray:

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.**

FIRST READING

A reading from the prophet Isaiah.

Isaiah 50:5-9

The Lord has opened my ear. For my part, I made no resistance, neither did I turn away. I offered my back to those who struck me, my cheeks to those who tore at my beard; I did not cover my face against insult and spittle. The Lord comes to my help so that I am untouched by the insults. So, too, I set my face like flint; I know I shall not be shamed. My vindicator is here at hand. Does anyone start proceedings against me? Then let us go to court together. Who thinks he has a case against me? Let him approach me. The Lord is coming to my help, who dare condemn me?

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 114

Response: I will walk in the presence of the Lord in the land of the living.

I love the Lord for he has heard
the cry of my appeal;
for he turned his ear to me
in the day when I called him. **Response**

They surrounded me, the snares of death,
with the anguish of the tomb;
they caught me, sorrow and distress.

I called on the Lord's name.
O Lord my God, deliver me! **Response**

How gracious is the Lord, and just;
our God has compassion.
The Lord protects the simple hearts;
I was helpless so he saved me. **Response**

He has kept my soul from death,
my eyes from tears
and my feet from stumbling.
I will walk in the presence of the Lord
in the land of the living. **Response**

SECOND READING

A reading from the letter of St James.

James 2: 14-18

Take the case, my brothers, of someone who has never done a single good act but claims that he has faith. Will that faith save him? If one of the brothers or one of the sisters is in need of clothes and has not enough food to live on, and one of you says to them: 'I wish you well; keep yourself warm and eat plenty', without giving them these bare necessities of life, then what good is that? Faith is like that: if good works do not go with it, it is quite dead. This is the way to talk to people of that kind: 'You say you have faith and I have good deeds; I will prove to you that I have faith by showing you my good deeds - now you prove to me that you have faith without any good deeds to show.'

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

**Alleluia, alleluia! I am the Way, the Truth and the Life, says the Lord,
no one can come to the Father except through me. Alleluia!**

GOSPEL

The Lord be with you.

Mark 8:27-35

And with your spirit.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark.

Glory to you, Lord.

Jesus and his disciples left for the villages round Caesarea Philippi. On the way he put this question to his disciples: 'Who do people say I am?' And they told him. 'John the Baptist,' they said 'others Elijah; others again, one of the prophets.' 'But you,' he asked 'who do you say I am?' Peter spoke up and said to him: 'You are the Christ.' And he gave them strict orders not to tell anyone about him.

And he began to teach them that the Son of Man was destined to suffer grievously, to be rejected by the elders and the chief priests and the scribes, and to be put to death, and after three days to rise again; and he said all this quite openly. Then, taking him aside, Peter started to remonstrate with him. But, turning and seeing his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said to him: 'Get behind me, Satan! Because the way you think is not God's way but man's.'

He called the people and his disciples to him and said: 'If anyone want to be a follower of mine, let him renounce himself and take up his cross and follow me. For anyone who wants to save his life will lose it; but anyone who loses his life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

The Profession of faith:

I believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible. I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God, born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were made. For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven, and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate, he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead and his kingdom will have no end. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church. I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Offertory:

Pray, brothers and sisters, that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.

May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands, for the praise and glory of his name, for our good and the good of all his holy Church.

Prayer over the Offering:

Look with favour on our supplications, O Lord, and in your kindness accept these, your servants' offerings, that what each has offered to the honour of your name may serve the salvation of all. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Lord be with you.
Lift up your hearts.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**And with your spirit.
We lift them up to the Lord.
It is right and just.**

It is truly right and just, our duty and our salvation,
always and everywhere to give you thanks,
Lord, holy Father, almighty and eternal God.
For you laid the foundations of the world
and have arranged the changing of times and seasons;
you formed man in your own image
and set humanity over the whole world in all its wonder,
to rule in your name over all you have made
and for ever praise you in your mighty works,
through Christ our Lord.
And so, with all the Angels, we praise you,
as in joyful celebration we acclaim:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of hosts. Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

The mystery of faith. **We proclaim your Death, O Lord,
and profess your Resurrection until you come again.**

Communion Antiphon: 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. Psalm 35:8

REFLECTION: Faith without works
A watch may have a gold chain, but if it doesn't tell the time it is useless. A fruit tree may be teeming with blossoms, but if it doesn't produce fruit it is useless. And a faith that doesn't result in good works is dead. The fruit of prayer is love. The fruit of love is service. And the fruit of service is peace.

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.**

Final Blessing:

The Lord be with you.
May almighty God bless you,
the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.
The Mass is ended . Go in Peace.

**And with your spirit.

Amen.
Thanks be to God.**

Prayer: Courteous God, be the foundation of my being. May I sit in you in true rest, stand in you in sure strength, and be rooted in you in endless love. Reveal yourself more to me so that I may know my true nature better and act as I truly am.

You ... Seek not wealth and luxury, but elegance and taste; and no matter what you have, don't squander it, or waste your substance on the things that do not matter in the end ... Your common sense will tell you when to save, and when to spend. Don't let Money be your god, or outward show your goal. Cash won't buy life's greatest things - the things that feed the Soul. Mother Nature can provide more pleasure and delight, than all the haunts of gaiety where some folks spend the night. Ask not for a life of ease, a pathway strewn with flowers. Better ask for work to do, employment for your powers ... Then when comes the reckoning, you can stand up and say, you've justified yourself, and done your bit, from day to day.

Lord, it is good just to be with you in stillness. Your peace soaks into me and all the troubles of life get transformed most wonderfully. Why are all my times with you not like this? I do not forget the troubles of the world and of my friends, but they too are caught in the warmth of your peace, and surely like me, they must be changed by the beauty of it.