

Seventh Sunday of the Year c



Antiphon: O Lord, I trust in your merciful love. My heart will rejoice in your salvation. I will sing to the Lord who has been bountiful with me. Psalm 12:6

The God we are asked to relate to as Christians is a God of compassion and love. The Gospel today calls us to show the same kind of compassion to others as we ourselves are given by God. We are called to love even those we consider as our enemies.

Lord Jesus, you are slow to anger and rich in mercy. Lord, have mercy.

You bring peace and pardon to us sinners. Christ, have mercy.

We are blessed when we love others as you love us. Lord, have mercy.

May Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins and lead us to everlasting life. **Amen.**

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:

Grant, we pray, almighty God, that, always pondering spiritual things, we may carry out both in word and deed that which is pleasing to you. 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 book of Samuel.

1 Samuel 26:2,7-9,11-13,22-23

Do not lift your hand against the Lord's anointed

Saul set off and went down to the wilderness of Ziph, accompanied by three thousand men chosen from Israel to search for David in the wilderness of Ziph. In the dark David and Abishai made their way towards the force, where they found Saul lying asleep inside the camp, his spear stuck in the ground beside his head, with Abner and the troops lying round him.

Then Abishai said to David, 'Today God has put your enemy in your power; so now let me pin him to the ground with his own spear. Just one stroke! I will not need to strike him twice.' David answered Abishai, 'Do not kill him, for who can lift his hand against the Lord's anointed and be without guilt? The Lord forbid that I should raise my hand against the Lord's anointed! But now take the spear beside his head and the pitcher of water and let us go away.' David took the spear and the pitcher of water from beside Saul's head, and they made off. No one saw, no one knew, no one woke up; they were all asleep, for a deep sleep from the Lord had fallen on them.

David crossed to the other side and halted on the top of the mountain a long way off; there was a wide space between them. He called out, 'Here is the king's spear. Let one of the soldiers come across and take it. The Lord repays everyone for his uprightness and loyalty. Today the Lord put you in my power, but I would not raise my hand against the Lord's anointed.'

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 102(103):1-4,8,10,12-13

Response: The Lord is compassion and love.

My soul, give thanks to the Lord
all my being, bless his holy name.

My soul, give thanks to the Lord
and never forget all his blessings.

Response

It is he who forgives all your guilt,
who heals every one of your ills,
who redeems your life from the grave,
who crowns you with love and compassion. **Response**

The Lord is compassion and love,
slow to anger and rich in mercy.
He does not treat us according to our sins
nor repay us according to our faults. **Response**

As far as the east is from the west
so far does he remove our sins.
As a father has compassion on his sons,
the Lord has pity on those who fear him. **Response**

SECOND READING

A reading from St Paul's first letter to the Corinthians.

1 Cor 15:45-49

The first man, Adam, as scripture says, became a living soul; but the last Adam has become a life-giving spirit. That is, first the one with the soul, not the spirit, and after that, the one with the spirit. The first man, being from the earth, is earthly by nature; the second man is from heaven. As this earthly man was, so are we on earth; and as the heavenly man is, so are we in heaven. And we, who have been modelled on the earthly man, will be modelled on the heavenly man.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

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

GOSPEL

The Lord be with you.

Luke 6:27-38

And with your spirit.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, Lord.

Jesus said to his disciples: 'I say this to you who are listening: Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who treat you badly. To the man who slaps you on one cheek, present the other cheek too; to the man who takes your cloak from you, do not refuse your tunic. Give to everyone who asks you, and do not ask for your property back from the man who robs you. Treat others as you would like them to treat you. If you love those who love you, what thanks can you expect? Even sinners love those who love them. And if you do good to those who do good to you, what thanks can you expect? For even sinners do that much. And if you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what thanks can you expect? Even sinners lend to sinners to get back the same amount. Instead, love your enemies and do good, and lend without any hope of return. You will have a great reward, and you will be sons of the Most High, for he himself is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked.

'Be compassionate as your Father is compassionate. Do not judge, and you will not be judged yourselves; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned yourselves; grant pardon, and you will be pardoned. Give, and there will be gifts for you: a full measure, pressed down, shaken together, and running over, will be poured into your lap; because the amount you measure out is the amount you will be given back.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

Let us now make the profession of our faith:

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried; he descended into hell; on the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty; from there he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. 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 Gifts:

As we celebrate your mysteries, O Lord, with the observance that is your due, we humbly ask you, that what we offer to the honour of your majesty, may profit us for salvation. Through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Preface:

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 so loved the world
that in your mercy you sent us a Redeemer,
to live like us in all things but sin,
so that you might love in us what you loved in your Son,
by whose obedience we have been restored
to those gifts of yours that, by sinning,
we had lost in disobedience.
And so, Lord, with all the Angels and Saints,
we, too, give you thanks, as in exultation 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. **Save us, Saviour of the world,
for by your Cross and Resurrection
you have set us free.**

Communion Antiphon:

**Lord, I have come to believe that you are the Christ,
the Son of the living God, who is coming into this world.**

Communion Reflection:

There are those who give but only on condition that they receive something in return, and receive it immediately. There are those who give on condition that they receive something in return later on and with a handsome profit. And there are those who give without expecting anything in return, now or ever: they scatter the seeds of the heart without looking for any harvest. These are imitating the generosity of God, who bestows his love on good people and bad, and grants mercy to saints and sinners.

Prayer after Communion:

Grant we pray almighty God, that we may experience the effects of the salvation which is pledged to us by these mysteries. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Final Blessing

The Lord be with you:

May almighty God bless you,
the Father, and the Son and Holy Spirit.

Go and announce the Gospel of the Lord.

And with your spirit.

Amen.

Thanks be to God.