

**TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
(YEAR A)**

FIRST READING

A reading from the prophet Isaiah (55:6-9)

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.

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM (Ps 144:2-3,8-9,17-18.
R. v.18)**

R. The Lord is close to all who call him.

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. **R.**

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. **R.**

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. **R.**

SECOND READING

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the
Philippians (1:20-24,27)

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 the 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.

Gospel Acclamation (Lk 19:38)

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

Or: (Cf: Ac 16:14)
R. Alleluia, alleluia!
Open our hearts, O Lord,
to accept the words of your Son.
R. Alleluia!

GOSPEL

A reading from the holy Gospel according to
Matthew (20:1-16)

Jesus told this parable 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.