

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME (YR B)

FIRST READING

A reading from the prophet Amos (7:12-15)

Amaziah, the priest of Bethel, said to Amos, 'Go away, seer; get back to the land of Judah; earn your bread there, do your prophesying there. We want no more prophesying in Bethel; this is the royal sanctuary, the national temple.' 'I was no prophet, neither did I belong to any of the brotherhoods of prophets,' Amos replied to Amaziah. 'I was a shepherd, and looked after sycamores: but it was the Lord who took me from herding the flock, and the Lord who said, "Go, prophesy to my people Israel."'

The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM (Ps 84:9-14. R. v.8)

**R. Let us see, O Lord, your mercy
and give us your saving help.**

I will hear what the Lord God has to say,
a voice that speaks of peace,
peace for his people.
His help is near for those who fear him
and his glory will dwell in our land. **R.**

Mercy and faithfulness have met;
justice and peace have embraced.
Faithfulness shall spring from the earth
and justice look down from heaven. **R.**

The Lord will make us prosper
and our earth shall yield its fruit.
Justice shall march before him
and peace shall follow his steps. **R.**

SECOND READING

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians
(1:3-14)

Blessed be God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
who has blessed us with all the spiritual blessings of
heaven in Christ.
Before the world was made, he chose us, chose us
in Christ,

to be holy and spotless, and to live through love in
his presence,
determining that we should become his adopted
sons, through Jesus Christ for his own kind
purposes,
to make us praise the glory of his grace,
his free gift to us in the Beloved
in whom, through his blood, we gain our freedom,
the forgiveness of our sins.
Such is the richness of the grace
which he has showered on us
in all wisdom and insight.
He has let us know the mystery of his purpose,
the hidden plan he so kindly made in Christ from
the beginning
to act upon when the times had run their course to
the end:
that he would bring everything together under
Christ, as head
everything in the heavens and everything on earth.

And it is in him that we were claimed as God's own,
chosen from the beginning,
under the predetermined plan of the one who
guides all things
as he decides by his own will;
chosen to be,
for his greater glory,
the people who would put their hopes in Christ
before he came.
Now you too, in him,
have heard the message of the truth and the good
news of your salvation,
and have believed it:
and you too have been stamped with the seal of the
Holy Spirit of the Promise,
the pledge of our inheritance
which brings freedom for those whom God has
taken for his own,
to make his glory praised.

The word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation (Cf. Jn 6:63,68)

R. Alleluia, alleluia!
Your words are spirit, Lord,
and they are life:
you have the message of eternal life.

R. Alleluia!

Or: (Cf. Ep 1:17,18)

R. Alleluia, alleluia!

May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ
enlighten the eyes of our mind
so that we can see what hope his call holds for us.

R. Alleluia!

GOSPEL

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark
(6:7-13)

Jesus summoned the Twelve and began to send them out in pairs giving them authority over the unclean spirits. And he instructed them to take nothing for the journey except a staff – no bread, no haversack, no coppers for their purses. They were to wear sandals but, he added, ‘Do not take a spare tunic.’ And he said to them, ‘If you enter a house anywhere, stay there until you leave the district. And if any place does not welcome you and people refuse to listen to you, as you walk away shake off the dust from under your feet as a sign to them.’ So they set off to preach repentance, and they cast out many devils, and anointed many sick people with oil and cured them.

The Gospel of the Lord.