

Prelude: Organist Phill Sterling

Opening Hymn *All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name, Verses 1-3* 450 (blue book)**The Word of God**

Opening Acclamation 355 (red book)

Gloria S280(blue book)

O God, you declare your almighty power chiefly in showing mercy and pity: Grant us the fullness of your grace, that we, running to obtain your promises, may become partakers of your heavenly treasure; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

Amen.

The Lessons 357(red book)

First Lesson: Ezekiel 18:1-4,25-32

The word of the Lord came to me: What do you mean by repeating this proverb concerning the land of Israel, "The parents have eaten sour grapes, and the children's teeth are set on edge"? As I live, says the Lord God, this proverb shall no more be used by you in Israel. Know that all lives are mine; the life of the parent as well as the life of the child is mine: it is only the person who sins that shall die.

Yet you say, "The way of the Lord is unfair." Hear now, O house of Israel: Is my way unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair? When the righteous turn away from their righteousness and commit iniquity, they shall die for it; for the iniquity that they have committed they shall die. Again, when the wicked turn away from the wickedness they have committed and do what is lawful and right, they shall save their life.

Because they considered and turned away from all the transgressions that they had committed, they shall surely live; they shall not die. Yet the house of Israel says, "The way of the Lord is unfair." O house of Israel, are my ways unfair? Is it not your ways that are unfair?

Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, all of you according to your ways, says the Lord God. Repent and turn from all your transgressions; otherwise iniquity will be your ruin. Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed against me, and get yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! Why will you die, O house of Israel? For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, says the Lord God. Turn, then, and live.

Reader: The word of the Lord**People:** Thanks be to God**Psalm 104: 10-25**

You, LORD God, send the springs into the valleys; *
they flow between the mountains.

All the beasts of the field drink their fill from them, *
and the wild asses quench their thirst.

Beside them the birds of the air make their nests *
and sing among the branches.

You water the mountains from your dwelling on high; *
the earth is fully satisfied by the fruit of your works.

You make grass grow for flocks and herds *
and plants to serve humankind;

That they may bring forth food from the earth, *
and wine to gladden our hearts,

Oil to make a cheerful countenance, *
and bread to strengthen the heart.

The trees of the LORD are full of sap, *
the cedars of Lebanon which God planted,

In which the birds build their nests, *
and in whose tops the stork makes a dwelling.

The high hills are a refuge for the mountain goats, *
 and the stony cliffs for the rock badgers.
 You appointed the moon to mark the seasons, *
 and the sun knows the time of its setting.
 You make darkness that it may be night, *
 in which all the beasts of the forest prowl.
 The lions roar after their prey *
 and seek their food from God.
 The sun rises, and they slip away *
 and lay themselves down in their dens.
 People go forth to their work *
 and to their labor until the evening.
 O LORD, how manifold are your works! *
 in wisdom you have made them all;
 the earth is full of your creatures.

Second Lesson: Philippians 2:1-13

If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,

who, though he was in the form of God,
 did not regard equality with God
 as something to be exploited,
 but emptied himself,
 taking the form of a slave,
 being born in human likeness.
 And being found in human form,
 he humbled himself
 and became obedient to the point of death--
 even death on a cross.
 Therefore God also highly exalted him
 and gave him the name
 that is above every name,
 so that at the name of Jesus
 every knee should bend,
 in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
 and every tongue should confess
 that Jesus Christ is Lord,
 to the glory of God the Father.

Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence, but much more now in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

Reader: The word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God

Gradual Hymn *O, For a Thousand Tongues to Sing, Verses 1-3* 493 (blue book)

Gospel — Matthew 21:23-32

Priest: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew

People: Glory be to thee, O Lord.

When Jesus entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, "By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?" Jesus said to them, "I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?" And they argued with one another, "If we say, 'From heaven,' he will say to us, 'Why then did you not believe him?' But if we say, 'Of human origin,' we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet." So they

answered Jesus, “We do not know.” And he said to them, “Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.
 “What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, ‘Son, go and work in the vineyard today.’ He answered, ‘I will not’; but later he changed his mind and went. The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, ‘I go, sir’; but he did not go. Which of the two did the will of his father?” They said, “The first.” Jesus said to them, “Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him.”

Priest: The Gospel of the Lord
 Homily

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ
 Fr. Joe

The Nicene Creed

358 (red book)

Prayers of the People

handout

LEM: Now our minds are one

People: Thanks be to God

Confession of Sin

360 (red book)

The Peace

360 (red book)

Announcements *Birthday & Anniversary Prayers*

Offertory

Instrumental

Doxology (v3)

380 (blue book)

The Holy Communion

The Great Thanksgiving — Prayer C

369 (red book)

The Lord’s Prayer

364 (red book)

At the Breaking of the Bread *Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia*

S154 (blue book)

Communion

Instrumental

All baptized persons, regardless of denomination, and including children, are welcome to receive Holy Communion. If you wish a blessing instead please cross your arms across your chest.

Post-Communion Prayer

366 (red book)

Blessing

Closing Hymn *O, For a Thousand Tongues to Sing, Verses 4-6*

493 (blue book)

Dismissal

366 (red book)

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