

Psalms, readings and collect

Date: 20th September - Sunday XXV/S Matthew

Week I

Obviously on Sundays, people will use the Act of Spiritual Communion; but for those who wish to say an evening office, provision is included here.

Office

Office hymn:

He sat to watch o'er customs paid,
A man of scorned and hardening trade,
Alike the symbol and the tool
Of foreign masters' hated rule.

O wise exchange! With these to part,
And lay up treasures in the heart –
Who now with crown of light doth shine
Among the apostolic line.

But grace within his breast had stirred;
There needed but the timely word:
It came, true Lord of souls, from Thee,
That royal summons, "Follow me."

Come, Saviour, as in days of old;
Pass where the world has strongest hold,
And faithless care and selfish greed
Are thorns which choke the holy seed.

Enough, when Thou wast passing by,
To hear Thy voice, to meet Thine eye:
He rose, responsive to the call,
And left His task, His gains, His all.

Who keep Thy gifts, O bid them claim
The steward's, not the owner's name;
Who yield up all for Thy dear sake,
Let them of Matthew's wealth partake.

Psalm:

(34) I WILL always give thanks unto the Lord : his praise shall ever be in my mouth.
2 My soul shall make her boast in the Lord : the humble shall hear thereof, and be glad.
3 O praise the Lord with me : and let us magnify his Name together.
4 I sought the Lord, and he heard me : yea, he delivered me out of all my fear.
5 They had an eye unto him, and were lightened: and their faces were not ashamed.
6 Lo, the poor crieth, and the Lord heareth him : yea, and saveth him out of all his troubles.
7 The angel of the Lord tarrieth round about them that fear him : and delivereth them.
8 O taste, and see, how gracious the Lord is : blessed is the man that trusteth in him.
9 O fear the Lord, ye that are his saints : for they that fear him lack nothing.
10 The lions do lack, and suffer hunger : but they who seek the Lord shall want no manner of thing that is good.
11 Come, ye children, and hearken unto me : I will teach you the fear of the Lord.
12 What man is he that lusteth to live : and would fain see good days?
13 Keep thy tongue from evil : and thy lips, that they speak no guile.
14 Eschew evil, and do good : seek peace, and ensue it.
15 The eyes of the Lord are over the righteous : and his ears are open unto their prayers.
16 The countenance of the Lord is against them that do evil : to root out the remembrance of them from the earth.

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17 The righteous cry, and the Lord heareth them: and delivereth them out of all their troubles.

18 The Lord is nigh unto them that are of a contrite heart : and will save such as be of an humble spirit.

19 Great are the troubles of the righteous : but the Lord delivereth him out of all.

20 He keepeth all his bones : so that not one of them is broken.

21 But misfortune shall slay the ungodly : and they that hate the righteous shall be desolate.

22 The Lord delivereth the souls of his servants : and all they that put their trust in him shall not be destitute.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son: and to the Holy Ghost.

As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be: world without end. Amen.

Reading:

A Reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah.

Hear, you who are far off, what I have done; and you who are near, acknowledge my might. The sinners in Zion are afraid; trembling has seized the godless: "Who among us can dwell with the devouring fire? Who among us can dwell with everlasting burnings?" He who walks righteously and speaks uprightly, who despises the gain of oppressions, who shakes his hands, lest they hold a bribe, who stops his ears from hearing of bloodshed and shuts his eyes from looking upon evil, he will dwell on the heights; his place of defence will be the fortresses of rocks; his bread will be given him, his water will be sure. Your eyes will see the king in his beauty; they will behold a land that stretches afar.

Responsory:

Thou shalt make them princes in all lands.

[Thou shalt make them princes in all lands.](#)

They shall remember Thy Name, O Lord.

[Thou shalt make them princes in all lands.](#)

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost:

Thou shalt make them princes in all lands.

Magnificat antiphon:

The Lord says, "I desire mercy, not sacrifice. For I came not to call the righteous, but sinners."

Collect of the day:

O almighty God, Who by Thy blessed Son didst call Matthew from the receipt of custom to be an Apostle and Evangelist: grant us grace to forsake all covetous desires and inordinate love of riches, and to follow the same Thy Son Jesus Christ, Who liveth and reigneth with Thee and the same Holy Ghost, God, throughout all ages, world without end. Amen.

Act of Spiritual Communion

Collect:

God most high, Your ways are not our ways, for Your kindness is lavished equally upon all. Teach us to welcome Your mercy towards others, even as we hope to receive mercy ourselves; in and through Jesus Christ, Your Son our Lord, Who is alive and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, God, throughout all ages world without end. Amen.

First Reading:

A Reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Church in Philippi.

Christ will be honoured in my body, whether by life or by death. For to me to live is Christ, and to die is gain. If it is to be life in the flesh, that means fruitful labour for me. Yet which I shall choose I cannot tell. I am hard pressed between the two. My desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better. But to remain in the flesh is more necessary on your account. Only let your manner of life be worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that whether I come and see you or am absent, I may hear of you that you stand firm in one spirit, with one mind striving side by side for the faith of the gospel.

Psalm:

I will exalt you, O God my King, ♦ and bless your name for ever and ever.
Every day will I bless you ♦ and praise your name for ever and ever.
Great is the Lord and highly to be praised; ♦ his greatness is beyond all searching out.
The Lord is gracious and merciful, ♦ long-suffering and of great goodness.
The Lord is loving to everyone ♦ and his mercy is over all his creatures.
The Lord is righteous in all his ways ♦ and loving in all his works.
The Lord is near to those who call upon him, ♦ to all who call upon him faithfully.

Gospel:

A Reading from the Gospel according to Saint Matthew.

Jesus said to His disciples, "For the kingdom of heaven is like a householder who went out early in the morning to hire labourers for his vineyard. After agreeing with the labourers for a denarius a day, he sent them into his vineyard. And going out about the third hour he saw others standing idle in the market place; and to them he said, 'You go into the vineyard too, and whatever is right I will give you.' So they went. Going out again about the sixth hour and the ninth hour, he did the same. And about the eleventh hour he went out and found others standing; and he said to them, 'Why do you stand here idle all day?' They said to him, 'Because no one has hired us.' He said to them, 'You go into the vineyard too.' And when evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his steward, 'Call the labourers and pay them their wages, beginning with the last, up to the first.' And when those hired about the eleventh hour came, each of them received a denarius. Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received a denarius. And on receiving it they grumbled at the householder, saying, 'These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.' But he replied to one of them, 'Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for a

denarius? Take what belongs to you, and go; I choose to give to this last as I give to you. Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or do you begrudge my generosity?' So the last will be first, and the first last."