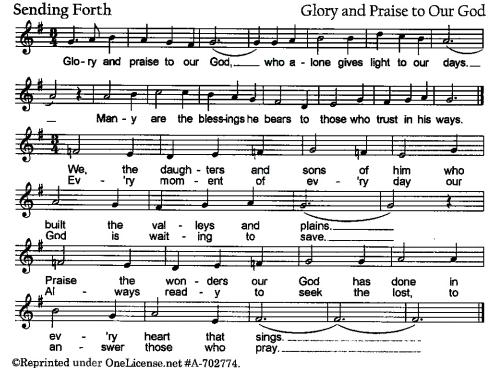


Prayer after communion

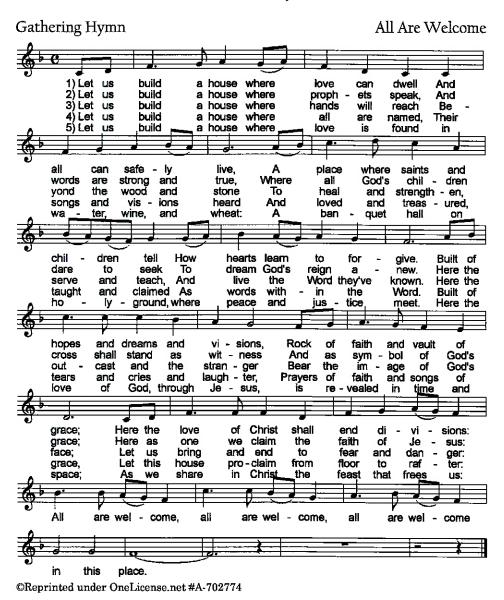






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25TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME SEPTEMBER 20, 2020



Penitential Act



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~LITURGY OF THE WORD~

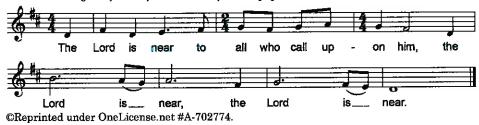
First Reading

Sirach 27: 30 - 28: 7

God's way is often not our way. We are merely human. The prophet beseeches us to align ourselves with God. Note that this passage is not a strong condemnation and call to conversion but rather a more gentle entreaty to return to and live in the Lord. As Isaiah continues, the prophet reminds us that God's will always "achieves the end for which God sent it."

Responsorial Psalm

The cantor will sing the refrain the first time. Please join in singing the second time.



Second Reading

Philippians 1: 20c - 24, 27a

Psalm 145

Paul wrote his letter to the Philippians from jail. He had founded the community in Philippi in northeastern Greece and now writes words of encouragement to them. Hence, when in today's reading he speaks of life and death, he is not waxing metaphorical. He is reflecting on the real possibilities that are before him. Paul concludes that in both life and death we live as Christians for Christ. We embrace each day in faith.

Gospel Acclamation

The cantor will sing the refrain the first time. Please join in singing the second time.



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Matthew 18: 21-35 Gospel

Today's parable really begins at the end of chapter 19. There Peter and the disciples are complaining about all they have given up for Christ for they think that material possessions indicate a person's blessedness before God. The end of chapter 19 is "But many who are first will be last, and the last will be first." (19:30) Jesus continues with the parable of the workers in the vineyard and concludes with a similar refrain. The parable is also a reflection on those who see themselves as having tried to live the Gospel well and for a long time. In some people's hearts, there is a sense of earning grace, mercy and God's love. Some Christian communities have developed a belief in 'real' Christians and lesser ones. This pericope is also a confrontation and condemnation of this type of thinking. All is gift. All belong equally in the Reign of God.

Profession of Faith

Apostles' Creed

(All bow at the words highlighted in red.)

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.

Universal Prayer

~LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST~

