

SUNDAY READINGS & PRAYERS

TRINITY 3 (YEAR B) PROPER 6

COLLECT

Almighty God, you have broken the tyranny of sin and have sent the Spirit of your Son into our hearts whereby we call you Father: give us grace to dedicate our freedom to your service, that we and all creation may be brought to the glorious liberty of the children of God; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

FIRST READING

Eze 17.22-24

A reading from the prophet Ezekiel.

Thus says the Lord God: "I myself will take a sprig from the lofty top of the cedar and will set it out. I will break off from the topmost of its young twigs a tender one, and I myself will plant it on a high and lofty mountain. On the mountain height of Israel will I plant it, that it may bear branches and produce fruit and become a noble cedar. And under it will dwell every kind of bird; in the shade of its branches birds of every sort will nest. And all the trees of the field shall know that I am the Lord; I bring low the high tree, and make high the low tree, dry up the green tree, and make the dry tree flourish. I am the Lord; I have spoken, and I will do it."

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

from Ps 92



R. It is good to give you thanks, O Lord.

(All repeat)



It is good to give thanks | to the Lord,
to make music to your name, | O Most High,
to proclaim your love | in the morning
and your truth in the watches | of the
night. **R.**

The just will flourish | like the palm tree,
and grow like a ce-|dar of Lebanon.
Planted in the house | of the Lord,
they will flourish in the courts | of our God. **R.**

Still bearing fruit when | they are old,
still full of | sap, still green,
to proclaim that the | Lord is just:
my rock, in whom there | is no wrong. **R.**

SECOND READING

2 Cor 5.6-10,14-17

A reading from the second letter of Paul to the Corinthians.

So we are always of good courage. We know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord, for we walk by faith, not by sight. Yes, we are of good courage, and we would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord. So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him. For we must all appear before the judgement seat of Christ, so that each one may receive what is due for what he has done in the body, whether good or evil.

For the love of Christ controls us, because we have concluded this: that one has died for all, therefore all have died; and he died for all, that those who live might no longer live for themselves but for him who for their sake died and was raised.

From now on, therefore, we regard no-one according to the flesh. Even though we once regarded Christ according to the flesh, we regard him thus no longer. Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Jn 15.15

Alleluia.

I do not call you servants but friends:
for all that I have heard from my Father I have
made known to you.

Alleluia.

GOSPEL READING

Mk 4.26-34

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Hear the Gospel ✠ of our Lord Jesus Christ
according to Mark.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus said to the crowds:

“The kingdom of God is as if a man should scatter seed on the ground. He sleeps and rises night and day, and the seed sprouts and grows; he knows not how. The earth produces by itself, first the blade, then the ear, then the full grain in the ear. But when the grain is ripe, at once he puts in the sickle, because the harvest has come.”

And he said, “With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable shall we use for it? It is like a grain of mustard seed, which, when sown on the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth, yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes larger than all the garden plants and puts out large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade.”

With many such parables he spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it. He did not speak to them without a parable, but privately to his own disciples he explained everything.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

O God, in your mercy you give us the sacraments to help us: grant that we may offer this sacrifice in a manner worthy of your gifts; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

POST-COMMUNION

O God, whose beauty is beyond our imagining and whose power we cannot comprehend: show us your glory as far as we can grasp it, and shield us from knowing more than we can bear until we may look upon you without fear; through Jesus Christ our Saviour. **Amen.**