

# SUNDAY READINGS & PRAYERS

TRINITY 20 (YEAR B) PROPER 23

## COLLECT

God, the giver of life, whose Holy Spirit wells up within your Church: by the Spirit's gifts equip us to live the gospel of Christ and make us eager to do your will, that we may share with the whole creation the joys of eternal life; 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

*Amos 5.6–7,10–15*

A reading from the prophet Amos.

Seek the Lord and live, lest he break out like fire in the house of Joseph, and it devour, with none to quench it for Bethel, O you who turn justice to wormwood and cast down righteousness to the earth!

They hate him who reproves in the gate, and they abhor him who speaks the truth. Therefore because you trample on the poor and you exact taxes of grain from him, you have built houses of hewn stone, but you shall not dwell in them; you have planted pleasant vineyards, but you shall not drink their wine. For I know how many are your transgressions and how great are your sins – you who afflict the righteous, who take a bribe, and turn aside the needy in the gate. Therefore he who is prudent will keep silent in such a time, for it is an evil time. Seek good, and not evil, that you may live; and so the Lord, the God of hosts, will be with you, as you have said. Hate evil, and love good, and establish justice in the gate; it may be that the Lord, the God of hosts, will be gracious to the remnant of Joseph.

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## RESPONSORIAL PSALM

*from Ps 90*



*R.* Fill us with your love, that we may rejoice.

*(All repeat)*



Make us know the shortness | of our days,  
that we may apply our | hearts to wisdom.  
Return O Lord; how long will | you delay?  
Have pity up-|on your servants. *R.*

In the morning fill us | with your love;  
so shall we rejoice and be glad | all our days.  
Give us joy as many days as | you afflicted us,  
and as many years as we suf-|fered  
adversity. *R.*

Show forth your work | to your servants,  
and your glorious power | to their children.  
May the favour of the Lord our God | be  
upon us;  
give success to the work | of our hands. *R.*

## SECOND READING

*Heb 4.12–16*

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews.

The word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing to the division of soul and of spirit, of joints and of marrow, and discerning the thoughts and intentions of the heart. And no creature is hidden from his sight, but all are naked and exposed to the eyes of him to whom we must give account.

Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Alleluia.**

Blessed are the poor in spirit:  
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

**Alleluia.**

## GOSPEL READING

Mk 10:17-31

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.**

As Jesus was setting out on his journey, a man ran up and knelt before him and asked him, "Good Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?" And Jesus said to him, "Why do you call me good? No-one is good except God alone. You know the commandments: 'Do not murder, Do not commit adultery, Do not steal, Do not bear false witness, Do not defraud, Honour your father and mother.'" And he said to him, "Teacher, all these I have kept from my youth." And Jesus, looking at him, loved him, and said to him, "You lack one thing: go, sell all that you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow me." Disheartened by the saying, he went away sorrowful, for he had great possessions.

And Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, "How difficult it will be for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God!" And the disciples were amazed at his words. But Jesus said to them again, "Children, how difficult it is to enter the kingdom of God! It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich person to enter the kingdom of God." And they were exceedingly astonished, and said to him, "Then who can be saved?" Jesus looked at them and said, "With man it is impossible, but not with God. For all things are possible with God."

Peter began to say to him, "See, we have left everything and followed you." Jesus said, "Truly, I say to you, there is no-one who has left house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or lands, for my sake and for

the gospel, who will not receive a hundredfold now in this time, houses and brothers and sisters and mothers and children and lands, with persecutions, and in the age to come eternal life. But many who are first will be last, and the last first."

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

Lord, accept these gifts which we offer you in obedience to your command. Make us always seek to do your will, so that through this Eucharist we may grow more pleasing to you; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## POST-COMMUNION

God our Father, whose Son, the light unflinching, has come from heaven to deliver the world from the darkness of ignorance: let these holy mysteries open the eyes of our understanding that we may know the way of life, and walk in it without stumbling; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**