



### *Readings Tuesday May 26th*

#### *Psalm 99*

- 1 The Lord is king: let the peoples tremble; ♦  
he is enthroned above the cherubim: let the earth shake.
- 2 The Lord is great in Zion ♦  
and high above all peoples.
- 3 Let them praise your name, which is great and awesome; ♦  
the Lord our God is holy.
- 4 Mighty king, who loves justice,  
you have established equity; ♦  
you have executed justice and righteousness in Jacob.
- 5 *Exalt the Lord our God;* ♦  
*bow down before his footstool, for he is holy.*
- 6 Moses and Aaron among his priests  
and Samuel among those who call upon his name, ♦  
they called upon the Lord and he answered them.
- 7 He spoke to them out of the pillar of cloud; ♦  
they kept his testimonies and the law that he gave them.

8 You answered them, O Lord our God; ♦  
you were a God who forgave them  
and pardoned them for their offences.

9 *Exalt the Lord our God*  
*and worship him upon his holy hill,* ♦  
*for the Lord our God is holy.*

*Lord God, mighty king,  
you love justice and establish equity;  
may we love justice more than gain  
and mercy more than power;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.*

#### *Each psalm may end with*

**Glory to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning is now  
and shall be for ever. Amen.**

#### **1 Samuel 10.1-10**

Samuel took a phial of oil and poured it on his head, and kissed him; he said, 'The LORD has anointed you ruler over his people Israel. You shall reign over the people of the LORD and you will save them from the hand of their enemies all around. Now this shall be the sign to you that the LORD has anointed you ruler over his heritage: When you depart from me today you will meet two men by Rachel's tomb in the territory of Benjamin at Zelzah; they will

say to you, “The donkeys that you went to seek are found, and now your father has stopped worrying about them and is worrying about you, saying: What shall I do about my son?” Then you shall go on from there further and come to the oak of Tabor; three men going up to God at Bethel will meet you there, one carrying three kids, another carrying three loaves of bread, and another carrying a skin of wine. They will greet you and give you two loaves of bread, which you shall accept from them. After that you shall come to Gibeath-elohim, at the place where the Philistine garrison is; there, as you come to the town, you will meet a band of prophets coming down from the shrine with harp, tambourine, flute, and lyre playing in front of them; they will be in a prophetic frenzy. Then the spirit of the LORD will possess you, and you will be in a prophetic frenzy along with them and be turned into a different person. Now when these signs meet you, do whatever you see fit to do, for God is with you. And you shall go down to Gilgal ahead of me; then I will come down to you to present burnt-offerings and offer sacrifices of well-being. For seven days you shall wait, until I come to you and show you what you shall do.’

## **Saul Prophecies**

As he turned away to leave Samuel, God gave him another heart; and all these signs were fulfilled that day. When they were going from there to Gibeah, a band of prophets met him; and the spirit of God possessed him, and he fell into a prophetic frenzy along with them.

## **1 Cor. 12.1-13 Spiritual Gifts**

<sup>1</sup> Now concerning spiritual gifts, brothers and sisters, I do not want you to be uninformed. <sup>2</sup> You know that when you were pagans, you

were enticed and led astray to idols that could not speak. <sup>3</sup> Therefore I want you to understand that no one speaking by the Spirit of God ever says ‘Let Jesus be cursed!’ and no one can say ‘Jesus is Lord’ except by the Holy Spirit.

<sup>4</sup> Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; <sup>5</sup> and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; <sup>6</sup> and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. <sup>7</sup> To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. <sup>8</sup> To one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom, and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, <sup>9</sup> to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, <sup>10</sup> to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another the discernment of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. <sup>11</sup> All these are activated by one and the same Spirit, who allots to each one individually just as the Spirit chooses.

## **One Body with Many Members**

<sup>12</sup> For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. <sup>13</sup> For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.



### *Readings Wednesday May 27<sup>th</sup>*

#### *Psalm 29*

*Refrain: The Lord shall give his people the blessing of peace.*

1 Ascribe to the Lord, you powers of heaven, ◆  
ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.

2 Ascribe to the Lord the honour due to his name; ◆  
worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness.

3 The voice of the Lord is upon the waters;  
the God of glory thunders; ◆  
the Lord is upon the mighty waters. *R*

4 The voice of the Lord is mighty in operation; ◆  
the voice of the Lord is a glorious voice.

5 The voice of the Lord breaks the cedar trees; ◆  
the Lord breaks the cedars of Lebanon;

6 He makes Lebanon skip like a calf ◆  
and Sirion like a young wild ox. *R*

7 The voice of the Lord splits the flash of lightning;  
the voice of the Lord shakes the wilderness; ◆  
the Lord shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.

8 The voice of the Lord makes the oak trees writhe  
and strips the forests bare; ◆  
in his temple all cry, 'Glory!'

9 The Lord sits enthroned above the water flood; ◆  
the Lord sits enthroned as king for evermore.

10 The Lord shall give strength to his people; ◆  
the Lord shall give his people the blessing of peace.

*Refrain: The Lord shall give his people the blessing of peace.*

*Open our ears, glorious Lord Christ,  
to hear the music of your voice  
above the chaos of this world;  
open our eyes to see the vision of your glory,  
for you are our King, now and for ever.*

### **1 Kings 19.1-18**

#### **Elijah Flees from Jezebel**

1Ahab told Jezebel all that Elijah had done, and how he had killed all the prophets with the sword. <sup>2</sup>Then Jezebel sent a messenger to Elijah, saying, 'So may the gods do to me, and more also, if I do not make your life like the life of one of them by this time tomorrow.' <sup>3</sup>Then he was afraid; he got up and fled for his life, and came to Beer-sheba, which belongs to Judah; he left his servant there.

4 But he himself went a day's journey into the wilderness, and came and sat down under a solitary broom tree. He asked that he might die: 'It is enough; now, O LORD, take away my life, for I am no better than my ancestors.' <sup>5</sup>Then he lay down under the broom tree and fell asleep. Suddenly an angel touched him and said to him, 'Get up and eat.' <sup>6</sup>He looked, and there at his head was a cake baked on hot stones, and a jar of water. He ate and drank, and lay down again. <sup>7</sup>The angel of the LORD came a second time, touched him, and said, 'Get up and eat, otherwise the journey will be too much for you.' <sup>8</sup>He got up, and ate and drank; then he went in the strength of that food for forty days and forty nights to Horeb the mount of God. <sup>9</sup>At that place he came to a cave, and spent the night there.

Then the word of the LORD came to him, saying, 'What are you doing here, Elijah?' <sup>10</sup>He answered, 'I have been very zealous for the LORD, the God of hosts; for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away.'

### **Elijah Meets God at Horeb**

11 He said, 'Go out and stand on the mountain before the LORD, for the LORD is about to pass by.' Now there was a great wind, so strong that it was splitting mountains and breaking rocks in pieces before the LORD, but the LORD was not in the wind; and after the wind an earthquake, but the LORD was not in the earthquake; <sup>12</sup>and after the earthquake a fire, but the LORD was not in the fire; and after the fire a sound of sheer silence. <sup>13</sup>When Elijah heard it, he wrapped his face in his mantle and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave. Then there came a voice to him that said, 'What are you doing here, Elijah?' <sup>14</sup>He answered, 'I have been very

zealous for the LORD, the God of hosts; for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away.' <sup>15</sup>Then the LORD said to him, 'Go, return on your way to the wilderness of Damascus; when you arrive, you shall anoint Hazael as king over Aram. <sup>16</sup>Also you shall anoint Jehu son of Nimshi as king over Israel; and you shall anoint Elisha son of Shaphat of Abel-meholah as prophet in your place. <sup>17</sup>Whoever escapes from the sword of Hazael, Jehu shall kill; and whoever escapes from the sword of Jehu, Elisha shall kill. <sup>18</sup>Yet I will leave seven thousand in Israel, all the knees that have not bowed to Baal, and every mouth that has not kissed him.'

### **Matthew 3.13-end The Baptism of Jesus**

13 Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptized by him. <sup>14</sup>John would have prevented him, saying, 'I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?' <sup>15</sup>But Jesus answered him, 'Let it be so now; for it is proper for us in this way to fulfil all righteousness.' Then he consented. <sup>16</sup>And when Jesus had been baptized, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him. <sup>17</sup>And a voice from heaven said, 'This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased.'



### *Readings Thursday May 28<sup>th</sup>*

#### *Psalm 24*

*Refrain: The Lord of hosts: he is the King of glory.*

1 The earth is the Lord's and all that fills it, ♦  
the compass of the world and all who dwell therein.

2 For he has founded it upon the seas ♦  
and set it firm upon the rivers of the deep. *R*

3 'Who shall ascend the hill of the Lord, ♦  
or who can rise up in his holy place?'

4 'Those who have clean hands and a pure heart, ♦  
who have not lifted up their soul to an idol,  
nor sworn an oath to a lie;

5 'They shall receive a blessing from the Lord, ♦  
a just reward from the God of their salvation.'

6 Such is the company of those who seek him, ♦  
of those who seek your face, O God of Jacob. *R*

7 Lift up your heads, O gates;  
be lifted up, you everlasting doors; ♦  
and the King of glory shall come in.

8 'Who is the King of glory?' ♦  
'The Lord, strong and mighty,  
the Lord who is mighty in battle.'

9 Lift up your heads, O gates;  
be lifted up, you everlasting doors; ♦  
and the King of glory shall come in.

10 'Who is this King of glory?' ♦  
'The Lord of hosts,  
he is the King of glory.'

*Refrain: The Lord of hosts: he is the King of glory.*

*O Lord of hosts,  
purify our hearts  
that the King of glory may come in,  
your Son, Jesus our redeemer.*

### **Ezekiel 11.14-20**

#### **God Will Restore Israel**

14 Then the word of the LORD came to me: <sup>15</sup>Mortal, your kinsfolk, your own kin, your fellow exiles, the whole house of Israel, all of them, are those of whom the inhabitants of Jerusalem have said, 'They have gone far from the LORD; to us this land is given for a possession.' <sup>16</sup>Therefore say: Thus says the Lord GOD: Though I removed them far away among the nations, and though I scattered them among the countries, yet I have been a sanctuary to them for a little while in the countries where they have gone. <sup>17</sup>Therefore say: Thus says the Lord GOD: I will gather you from the peoples, and assemble you out of the countries where you have been scattered, and I will give you the land of Israel. <sup>18</sup>When they come there, they

will remove from it all its detestable things and all its abominations. <sup>19</sup>I will give them one heart, and put a new spirit within them; I will remove the heart of stone from their flesh and give them a heart of flesh, <sup>20</sup>so that they may follow my statutes and keep my ordinances and obey them. Then they shall be my people, and I will be their God.

## **Matthew 9.35-10.20**

### **The Harvest Is Great, the Labourers Few**

<sup>35</sup> Then Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom, and curing every disease and every sickness. <sup>36</sup>When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. <sup>37</sup>Then he said to his disciples, 'The harvest is plentiful, but the labourers are few; <sup>38</sup>therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out labourers into his harvest.'

### **The Twelve Apostles**

<sup>10</sup>Then Jesus summoned his twelve disciples and gave them authority over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to cure every disease and every sickness. <sup>2</sup>These are the names of the twelve apostles: first, Simon, also known as Peter, and his brother Andrew; James son of Zebedee, and his brother John; <sup>3</sup>Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas and Matthew the tax-collector; James son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus; <sup>4</sup>Simon the Cananaean, and Judas Iscariot, the one who betrayed him.

### **The Mission of the Twelve**

<sup>5</sup> These twelve Jesus sent out with the following instructions: 'Go nowhere among the Gentiles, and enter no town of the Samaritans, <sup>6</sup>but go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. <sup>7</sup>As you go, proclaim the good news, "The kingdom of heaven has come near." <sup>8</sup>Cure the sick, raise the dead, cleanse the lepers, cast out demons. You received without payment; give without payment. <sup>9</sup>Take no gold, or silver, or copper in your belts, <sup>10</sup>no bag for your journey, or two tunics, or sandals, or a staff; for labourers deserve their food. <sup>11</sup>Whatever town or village you enter, find out who in it is worthy, and stay there until you leave. <sup>12</sup>As you enter the house, greet it. <sup>13</sup>If the house is worthy, let your peace come upon it; but if it is not worthy, let your peace return to you. <sup>14</sup>If anyone will not welcome you or listen to your words, shake off the dust from your feet as you leave that house or town. <sup>15</sup>Truly I tell you, it will be more tolerable for the land of Sodom and Gomorrah on the day of judgement than for that town.

### **Coming Persecutions**

<sup>16</sup> 'See, I am sending you out like sheep into the midst of wolves; so be wise as serpents and innocent as doves. <sup>17</sup>Beware of them, for they will hand you over to councils and flog you in their synagogues; <sup>18</sup>and you will be dragged before governors and kings because of me, as a testimony to them and the Gentiles. <sup>19</sup>When they hand you over, do not worry about how you are to speak or what you are to say; for what you are to say will be given to you at that time; <sup>20</sup>for it is not you who speak, but the Spirit of your Father speaking through you.



### *Readings Friday May 29<sup>th</sup>*

*Psalm 28: Refrain: The Lord is my strength and my shield.*

1 To you I call, O Lord my rock;  
be not deaf to my cry, ♦  
lest, if you do not hear me,  
I become like those who go down to the Pit.

2 Hear the voice of my prayer when I cry out to you, ♦  
when I lift up my hands to your holy of holies. *R*

3 Do not snatch me away with the wicked,  
with the evildoers, ♦  
who speak peaceably with their neighbours,  
while malice is in their hearts.

4 Repay them according to their deeds ♦  
and according to the wickedness of their devices. *R*

5 Reward them according to the work of their hands ♦  
and pay them their just deserts.

6 They take no heed of the Lord's doings,  
nor of the works of his hands; ♦  
therefore shall he break them down  
and not build them up. *R*

7 Blessed be the Lord, ♦  
for he has heard the voice of my prayer.

8 The Lord is my strength and my shield; ♦  
my heart has trusted in him and I am helped;

9 Therefore my heart dances for joy ♦  
and in my song will I praise him. *R*

10 The Lord is the strength of his people, ♦  
a safe refuge for his anointed.

11 Save your people and bless your inheritance; ♦  
shepherd them and carry them for ever.

*Refrain: The Lord is my strength and my shield.*

*Hear us, Shepherd of your people,  
forgive us our sins  
and, in a world of pretences,  
make us true in heart and mind;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.*

### **Ezekiel 36.22-28**

22 Therefore say to the house of Israel, Thus says the Lord GOD: It is not for your sake, O house of Israel, that I am about to act, but for the sake of my holy name, which you have profaned among the nations to which you came. <sup>23</sup>I will sanctify my great name, which has been profaned among the nations, and which you have profaned among them; and the nations shall know that I am the LORD, says the Lord GOD, when through you I display my holiness before their eyes. <sup>24</sup>I will take you from the nations, and gather you from all the countries, and bring you into your own land. <sup>25</sup>I will sprinkle clean water upon you, and you shall be clean from all your uncleannesses, and from all your idols I will cleanse

you. <sup>26</sup>A new heart I will give you, and a new spirit I will put within you; and I will remove from your body the heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh. <sup>27</sup>I will put my spirit within you, and make you follow my statutes and be careful to observe my ordinances. <sup>28</sup>Then you shall live in the land that I gave to your ancestors; and you shall be my people, and I will be your God.

## **Matthew 12.22-32**

### **Jesus and Beelzebul**

22 Then they brought to him a demoniac who was blind and mute; and he cured him, so that the one who had been mute could speak and see. <sup>23</sup>All the crowds were amazed and said, 'Can this be the Son of David?' <sup>24</sup>But when the Pharisees heard it, they said, 'It is only by Beelzebul, the ruler of the demons, that this fellow casts out the demons.' <sup>25</sup>He knew what they were thinking and said to them, 'Every kingdom divided against itself is laid waste, and no city or house divided against itself will stand. <sup>26</sup>If Satan casts out Satan, he is divided against himself; how then will his kingdom stand? <sup>27</sup>If I cast out demons by Beelzebul, by whom do your own exorcists cast them out? Therefore they will be your judges. <sup>28</sup>But if it is by the Spirit of God that I cast out demons, then the kingdom of God has come to you. <sup>29</sup>Or how can one enter a strong man's house and plunder his property, without first tying up the strong man? Then indeed the house can be plundered. <sup>30</sup>Whoever is not with me is against me, and whoever does not gather with me scatters. <sup>31</sup>Therefore I tell you, people will be forgiven for every sin and blasphemy, but blasphemy against the Spirit will not be forgiven. <sup>32</sup>Whoever speaks a word against the Son of Man will be forgiven, but whoever speaks against the Holy Spirit will not be forgiven, either in this age or in the age to come.