# Twenty-Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time A
## 20 September 2020

**THE LITURGY OF THE WORD**
**First Reading**
Isaiah 55:6-9

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah

Seek the Lord while he may be found,
call upon him while he is near;
let the wicked forsake their way,
and the unrighteous their thoughts;
let them return to the Lord,
that he may have mercy on them,
and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

For my thoughts are not your thoughts,
nor are your ways my ways, says the Lord.
For as the heavens are higher than the earth,
so are my ways higher than your ways
and my thoughts than your thoughts.

The word of the Lord.
**Thanks be to God.**

**Responsorial Psalm**
Ps 144:2-3, 8-9, 17-18

**R.** The Lord is near to all who call him.

Every day I will bless you,
and praise your name forever and ever.
Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised,
his greatness is unsearchable. R.

The Lord is gracious and merciful,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.
The Lord is good to all,
and his compassion is over all that he has made. R.

The Lord is just in all his ways,
and kind in all his doings.
The Lord is near to all who call on him,
to all who call on him from in truth. R.

## Second Reading
Philippians 1:20-24, 27

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Philippians

My brothers and sisters:
It is my eager expectation and hope
that I will not be put to shame in any way,
but that by my speaking with all boldness,
Christ will be exalted now as always in my body,
whether by life or by death.

For to me, living is Christ and dying is gain.
If I am to live in the flesh,
that means fruitful labour for me;
and I do not know which I prefer.
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 for you.

Live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ,
so that, whether I come and see you
or am absent and hear about you,
I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit,
striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel.

The word of the Lord.
**Thanks be to God.**

## Gospel Acclamation
Acts 16:14

Alleluia, alleluia!
Open our hearts, O Lord,
to listen to the words of your Son.
Alleluia!

## Gospel
Matthew 20:1-16

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew

Jesus spoke this parable to his disciples.
"The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner
who went out early in the morning
to hire labourers for his vineyard.
After agreeing with the labourers for the usual daily wage,
he sent them into his vineyard.
When he went out about nine o'clock,
he saw others standing idle in the marketplace;
and he said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard,
and I will pay you whatever is right.' So they went.

"When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock,
he did the same. And about five o'clock
 he went out and found others standing around;
and he said to them, 'Why are you standing here idle all day?'
They said to him, 'Because no one has hired us.'
He said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard.'

"When evening came,
the owner of the vineyard said to his manager,
'Call the labourers and give them their pay,
beginning with the last and then going to the first.'
When those hired about five o'clock came,
each of them received the usual daily wage.
Now when the first came,
they thought they would receive more;
but each of them also received the usual daily wage.
And when they received it,
they grumbled against the landowner, 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 the usual daily wage?
Take what belongs to you and go;

I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you.
Am I not allowed to do what I choose
with what belongs to me?
Or are you envious because I am generous?'

"So the last will be first,
and the first will be last."

The Gospel of the Lord.
**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**