

# 17 JANUARY 2021 Sunday Message 2<sup>ND</sup> SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Year B • Psalter Week 2

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON**

All the earth shall bow down before you,  
O God,  
and shall sing to you,  
and shall sing to your name, O Most High!

**GLORIA**

Glory to God in the highest,  
and on earth peace to people of good will.

We praise you,  
we bless you,  
we adore you,  
we glorify you,  
we give you thanks for your great glory,  
Lord God, heavenly King,  
O God, almighty Father.

Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son,  
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,  
you take away the sins of the world,  
have mercy on us;  
you take away the sins of the world,  
receive our prayer;  
you are seated at the right hand of the Father,  
have mercy on us.

For you alone are the Holy One,  
you alone are the Lord,  
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,  
with the Holy Spirit,  
in the glory of God the Father.  
Amen.

**COLLECT**

Almighty ever-living God,  
who govern all things,  
both in heaven and on earth,  
mercifully hear the pleading of your people  
and bestow your peace on our times.  
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of  
the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever.  
Amen.

**FIRST READING** 1 Samuel 3:3-10. 19

A reading from the first book of Samuel.  
Samuel was lying in the sanctuary of the Lord  
where the ark of God was, when the Lord  
called, "Samuel! Samuel!" He answered,  
"Here I am." Then he ran to Eli and said,  
"Here I am, since you called me." Eli said,  
"I did not call. Go back and lie down." So  
he went and lay down. Once again the Lord  
called, "Samuel! Samuel!" Samuel got up  
and went to Eli and said, "Here I am, since  
you called me." He replied, "I did not call  
you, my son; go back and lie down." Samuel  
had as yet no knowledge of the Lord and the  
word of the Lord had not yet been revealed  
to him. Once again the Lord called, the third  
time. He got up and went to Eli and said,  
"Here I am, since you called me." Eli then  
understood that it was the Lord who was  
calling the boy, and he said to Samuel, "Go  
and lie down, and if someone calls say,  
'Speak, Lord, your servant is listening'." So  
Samuel went and lay down in his place.  
The Lord then came and stood by, calling  
as he had done before, "Samuel! Samuel!"  
Samuel answered, "Speak, Lord, your  
servant is listening."  
Samuel grew up and the Lord was with him  
and let no word of his fall to the ground.

The word of the Lord.  
Thanks be to God.

**PSALM**

Psalms 39

Response:

Here I am Lord!  
I come to do your will.

1. I waited, I waited for the Lord  
and he stooped down to me;  
he heard my cry.  
He put a new song into my mouth,  
praise of our God. (R.)
2. You do not ask for sacrifice and offerings,  
but an open ear.  
You do not ask for holocaust and victim.  
Instead, here am I. (R.)
3. In the scroll of the book it stands written  
that I should do your will.  
My God, I delight in your law  
in the depth of my heart. (R.)
4. Your justice I have proclaimed  
in the great assembly.  
My lips I have not sealed;  
you know it, O Lord. (R.)

**SECOND READING** 1 Corinthians 6:13-15. 17-20

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the  
Corinthians.

The body is not meant for fornication; it is for  
the Lord, and the Lord for the body. God, who  
raised the Lord from the dead, will by his  
power raise us up too.

You know, surely, that your bodies are  
members making up the body of Christ;  
anyone who is joined to the Lord is one spirit  
with him.

Keep away from fornication. All the other  
sins are committed outside the body; but  
to fornicate is to sin against your own  
body. Your body, you know, is the temple  
of the Holy Spirit, who is in you since you  
received him from God. You are not your own  
property; you have been bought and paid for.  
That is why you should use your body for the  
glory of God.

The word of the Lord.  
Thanks be to God.

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Alleluia, alleluia!  
Speak, Lord, your servant is listening:  
you have the message of eternal life.  
Alleluia!

**GOSPEL**

John 1:35-42

A reading from the holy Gospel according to  
John.

As John stood with two of his disciples,  
Jesus passed, and John stared hard at him  
and said, "Look, there is the lamb of God."  
Hearing this, the two disciples followed  
Jesus. Jesus turned round, saw them  
following and said, "What do you want?"  
They answered, "Rabbi," – which means  
Teacher – "where do you live?" "Come and  
see" he replied; so they went and saw where  
he lived, and stayed with him the rest of that  
day. It was about the tenth hour.

One of these two who became followers of  
Jesus after hearing what John had said was  
Andrew, the brother of Simon Peter. Early  
next morning, Andrew met his brother and  
said to him, "We have found the Messiah" –  
which means the Christ – and he took Simon

to Jesus. Jesus looked hard at him and said,  
"You are Simon son of John; you are to be  
called Cephas" – meaning Rock.

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

**PROFESSION OF FAITH**

I believe in one God,  
the Father almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all things visible and invisible.

I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,  
the Only Begotten Son of God,  
born of the Father before all ages.  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made, consubstantial with  
the Father;  
through him all things were made.  
For us men and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven,

(all bow during the next three lines)  
and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the  
Virgin Mary,  
and became man.

For our sake he was crucified under  
Pontius Pilate,  
he suffered death and was buried,  
and rose again on the third day  
in accordance with the Scriptures.  
He ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory  
to judge the living and the dead  
and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord,  
the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son is adored  
and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.

I believe in one, holy, catholic and  
apostolic Church.  
I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness  
of sins  
and I look forward to the resurrection of the  
dead  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

**PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS**

Grant us, O Lord, we pray,  
that we may participate worthily in these  
mysteries,  
for whenever the memorial of this sacrifice is  
celebrated  
the work of our redemption is accomplished.  
Through Christ our Lord.  
Amen.

**COMMUNION ANTIPHON**  
You have prepared a table before me,  
and how precious is the chalice that  
quenches my thirst.

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**  
Pour on us, O Lord, the Spirit of your love,  
and in your kindness  
make those you have nourished  
by this one heavenly Bread  
one in mind and heart.  
Through Christ our Lord.  
Amen.

**THE WORD**

Image in Grace Church, Chiang Mai, Thailand, of John the Baptist talking about Jesus

Today's Gospel reading (this week from the writing of the evangelist John) illustrates the fading of John the Baptist from the story. He had his own disciples, but when Jesus appears, he identifies Jesus to them as "the lamb of God", at which point two of his followers leave him and go to Jesus.

However, they appreciate Jesus simply as a rabbi ("teacher"). They ask where he lives, where his place of instruction is and spend the next few hours with him. One of these is identified as Andrew, who tells his brother Simon that "we have found the Messiah". On one level, this may be true, but in fact he is still speaking according to his own understanding of who the Messiah will be: it is also not quite true that he and his companion actually "found" Jesus – they were pointed in his direction by their previous master, John, and then were invited to spend time with Jesus. In the Fourth Gospel, it is usually Jesus who takes the initiative, and when Simon is presented to him, he tells Simon who he is and who he will be.

This episode shows the beginning of Jesus' forming a circle of disciples. He gives Simon his more familiar name of Cephas (Rock/Peter), which is associated in the Gospel tradition with his position as leader of the disciples: a change of name indicates a change of function or identity. To be a disciple is to answer Jesus' invitation to spend time with him and to learn from him. ■

**REFLECT**

The old Catechism defined faith as "a response to revelation". In the Bible, people do not find God: God always takes the initiative and communicates with human beings. In the Gospel, Jesus calls disciples and within the larger group he chooses an inner circle, as it were, of twelve apostles. Faith is essentially a positive response to the invitation of Jesus to each one of us. We can learn about the teachings, the dogmas of our faith, but this is not the same as believing.

From the titles the characters in John's Gospel story use for Jesus, we see at what level their appreciation of him really is. Sometimes we see it developing: sometimes a person can meet Jesus, even be healed by him, but not see him as anything more than a human being, albeit with extraordinary powers.

It is easy to identify ourselves or other people as Christian because we or they act in a certain way and hold certain values, but often these apply to anyone

**SAY**

Jesus, my Lord, my God, my All,  
how can I love you as I ought?  
(F.W. Faber)

**LEARN**

In the original Gospel text, the verb "to believe" can also be translated as "to trust".

In the Bible, a change of name signifies a change of function or responsibility.

Jesus as "the Lamb of God" is the one through whom human beings are now reconciled to God.

**DO**

Look at a picture of a person close to you. Think how your friendship and appreciation of that individual has developed over time: take that as the model for your relationship with Jesus.

