

Saint Martin of Tours Catholic Community, a CACINA Mission

Lector: Our first reading is from the Book of Deuteronomy.

God will delight if you obey his voice and keep his commandments and his statutes, which are written in this Book of the Law, and if you turn to Yahweh, your God, with all your heart and with all your soul.

For this commandment that I give to you today, it is not too difficult for you, nor is beyond your reach. It is not up in heaven, so that you need to ask yourselves, “Who will go up to heaven for us, and bring it down to us so that we may hear it and keep it?” Neither is it beyond the seas, that you should say, “Who will cross the seas for us, and bring it back to us so that we may hear it and keep it?” No, the word of God is very near to you; it is in your mouth, and in your heart, that you may keep it.

Lector: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God’s people.

People Respond: Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm

Lector: Our response is - Your words are Spirit and Life.

People Repeat: Your words are Spirit and Life.

The precept of YAHWEH is perfect, it refreshes the soul. The commandment of YAHWEH is to be trusted; it gives wisdom to the naïve.

People Repeat: Your words are Spirit and Life.

Your purposes, O God, are right; they gladden the heart. Your command is clear, enlightening the eye.

People Repeat: Your words are Spirit and Life.

The fear of YAHWEH is pure, enduring forever. The ordinances of YAHWEH are true, all of them just.

People Repeat: Your words are Spirit and Life.

They are more precious than gold, than the purest of gold, And sweeter than honey, than honey fresh from the comb.

People Repeat: Your words are Spirit and Life.

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Lector: Our second reading is from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Colossians.

When Christ freed us, we were meant to remain free. So, stand up proudly! Don't become a slave to sin again!

Christ Jesus is the image of the unseen God, the firstborn of all creation. For in Christ were created all things in heaven and on earth, everything visible and the invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers; all things were created through Christ and for Christ. Before anything was created, Christ existed before all things, and all things hold together in Christ.

Christ is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, and so Christ is first in every way. God wanted all perfection to be found in Christ, and all things to be reconciled to God through Christ, everything in heaven and everything on earth, making peace by Christ's blood on the cross.

Lector: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People Respond: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Celebrant chants: Alleluia

People Respond (with chant): Alleluia.

Celebrant: Speak, your words, Lord Jesus, are Spirit and life; you have the words of everlasting life.

People Respond (with chant): Alleluia.

Gospel

Celebrant: Our God is with you.

People Respond: And also, with you.

Celebrant: A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Luke.

People Respond: † Praise to you, Jesus the Christ.

A scholar of the Law stood up to put Jesus to the test and said, "Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?" Jesus answered, "What is written in the law? How do you read it?"

The scholar of the Law replied: "You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your being, with all your strength, and with all your mind, and your neighbor as yourself."

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Jesus said, “You have answered correctly; do this and you will live.”

But the scholar, seeking self-justification, pressed Jesus further: “*And just who is my neighbor?*”

Jesus replied: “There was a traveler going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, who fell prey to robbers. The traveler was beaten, stripped of his clothes, and left for dead. A priest happened to be going down that road, and saw the traveler lying beside the road, but passed by on the opposite side. Likewise, there was a Levite who came the same way; this one, too, saw the afflicted traveler but passed by on the opposite side.”

“But a Samaritan taking the same road also came upon the traveler and, filled with compassion, approached the traveler, poured oil and wine over the wounds, and bandaged them. Then the Samaritan lifted the traveler upon his donkey, brought him to an inn, and cared for him.”

“The next day the Samaritan took out two silver pieces and gave them to the innkeeper with instructions: ‘*Take care of this person, and if you spend more than what I have given you, I will repay you on my way back.*’”

“Which of these three, in your opinion, was the neighbor to the traveler who fell in with the robbers?” The scholar answered: “The one who treated showed mercy and compassion.” To which Jesus replied, “Go and do the same.”

Celebrant: My friends, the Gospel of the Lord.

People Respond: Praise to you, Jesus the Christ.

Prayers of the People

Celebrant: Filled with the gratitude and joy of this celebration, we bring before God our prayers and petitions for this community and the whole world:

Lector: Our response is “Lord Jesus, hear our prayer.”

- ✠ For the universal community of faith: that, each day, we may continue to grow in the likeness and love of Christ to further his mission of reconciling others to both God and one another; for this we pray:

People Respond: Lord Jesus, hear our prayer.

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✠ For peace and an end to violence in our nation: that we may turn to Christ, whose peace surpasses all understanding, to give us a new vision for cooperation and justice and to end bloodshed and the loss of precious life; for this we pray:

People Respond: Lord Jesus, hear our prayer.

✠ For the freedom of spirit: that God will free us from fear, attachments, and wounds so that we may fully respond with love and compassion to all that God asks of us; for this we pray:

People Respond: Lord Jesus, hear our prayer.

✠ For insight: that God will help us recognize our neighbor in the refugee, the unsheltered, and marginalized, and that the Holy Spirit may inspire our response to their urgent needs; for this we pray:

People Respond: Lord Jesus, hear our prayer.

✠ We pause to remember and speak the names of those who are sick, especially our loved ones, that they may be blessed with comfort, hope and healing [Lector, please count to 6]; for this we pray:

People Respond: Lord Jesus, hear our prayer.

✠ We pause to remember and speak the names of those who have gone home to God, especially our deceased loved ones and friends. Although they are gone from our sight, may we feel the presence of their Spirit and hold them forever in our hearts; [Lector, please count to 6]; for this we pray:

People Respond: Lord Jesus, hear our prayer.

✠ For our unspoken prayers held deep within the silence of our hearts; we pray:

People Respond: Lord Jesus, hear our prayer.

Celebrant: God of love and compassion, Hear our prayers today and every day, and we strive to further understand your will in our lives. Grant this through Jesus the Christ who lives and reigns with you, one God, forever. Amen.

All: Amen.