

WELCOME: (COMMENTATOR)

On behalf of the Charis Community, I welcome you to our Sunday Mass. All are truly welcome, and we are excited that you are joining us whether it's your first time praying with us or if you've been with us for a while. The worship aid for Mass is on our website, and we will put the address in the chat for you should you like to pull it up to support your prayer.

We are a Eucharistic people, so we invite you to have bread and wine, in whatever form you have it, with you where you are. Even though we are in many locations, we affirm that we are one table of believers.

Today's readings encourage us to work for justice, to release our attachment to things and to trust Jesus to form us into a people of compassion. In today's gospel, Jesus advises that those who seek God obey God's commandments and detach from possessions, focusing fully on God.

Being faithful to God calls us to live into God's ways of justice. We need to love our neighbor as ourselves—it is the commandment Jesus gives us—and we cannot love our neighbor without seeing to their needs. And it is hard for us to see to their needs when we are too busy caring for our stuff, worrying about our material wants, rather than seeing the needs of others.

Opening our hearts to our teacher and our God, let us raise our voices in song.

FIRST READING

A reading from the Book of Wisdom.

I prayed, and prudence was given me;
I pleaded, and the spirit of wisdom came to me.

I preferred her to scepter and throne,
and deemed riches nothing in comparison with her,
nor did I liken any priceless gem to her;
because all gold, in view of her, is a little sand,
and before her, silver is to be accounted mire.

Beyond health and comeliness I loved her,
and I chose to have her rather than the light,
because the splendor of her never yields to sleep.
Yet all good things together came to me in her company,
and countless riches at her hands.

The Word of God. R/. Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING

A reading from the Letter to the Hebrews.

Sisters and brothers:

Indeed the word of God is living and effective,
sharper than any two-edged sword,
penetrating even between soul and spirit, joints and marrow,
and able to discern reflections and thoughts of the heart.

No creature is concealed from God,
but everything is naked and exposed to the eyes of the One
to whom we must render an account.

The Word of God.

R/. Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark.

And Jesus was going forth on the way, one ran up,
fell on knees before him, and accosted him,
“Good teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?”
Jesus answered, "Why do you say I am good?
No one is good but God alone.

You know the commandments: ‘Do not murder,
Do not commit adultery,
do not steal,
do not give false testimony,
do not defraud,
honor your father and mother.’”

The one answered and said to him,
"Teacher, all of these I have observed from my youth."

Jesus, looking at the one, loved him and said to him,
"You are lacking in one thing.

Go, sell all you have, and give to the poor
and you will have treasure in heaven; then come, follow me."
At that statement, he saddened
and went away sorrowful, because he had a multitude of possessions.

And Jesus looked around and said to his disciples,
"How hard it will be for those who have wealth
to enter the realm (kingdom) of God!"
The disciples were astonished at these words.

But answering, Jesus again said to them,
“Children, how hard it is to enter the realm of God!
It is easier for a camel to pass through the eye of a needle
than for one who is rich to enter the realm of God.”
They were astonished beyond measure and said among themselves,
"Then who can be saved?"

Jesus looked at them and said,

"For human beings it is impossible, but not for God.
For with God, all things are possible."

Peter began to speak to him,
"Behold, We have left everything and have followed you."

Jesus answered and said, "Amen, I tell 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 Glad Tidings
who now in this present age,
will not receive a hundred times as much –
houses and brothers and sisters
and mothers and children and lands,
all with persecutions,
and then eternal life in the age to come."

The Gospel of Our Savior Jesus Christ.
R/. Praise to you, O Jesus Christ.

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL:

Commentator:

Friends in Christ,
God invites us to hold the needs of our sisters and brothers
as dear to us as our own needs.
Loving our neighbors as ourselves,
we offer our thanksgivings and our petitions
on behalf of the church and the world.

For whom and for what else do we want to pray today?

(We offer our prayers and respond, Lord Hear Our Prayer.)

Hear our prayers, God of power,
and through the ministry of your Son
free us from the grip of the tomb,
that we may desire you as the fullness of life
and proclaim your saving deeds to all the world. **Amen**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Merciful God, You are so gracious to us and we thank you for that. Strengthen us as we live out our lives as your disciples. Empower your church to embody your love in our witness and in our works of justice. Build up your compassion in us for those we know in need and those we do not know in need. Lead and guide those who govern the nations with wisdom and justice. May this eucharist we have shared, an act of thanksgiving for all we have received, help us to heed your call to help the needy, those who are ill, in distress and grief. We trust in your mercy and love, **Amen.**

