

Thursday of the First Week in Ordinary Time
January 14, 2021

Gathering Song: *Come To Us*

1. Come to me, come to us, you who are burdened.
Come to the word, and come to the meal.
Come without question or pressure or price:
Come, be embraced by the body of Christ.

2. Come to me, come to us, broken or building,
Come with your children, your choices, your chains.
All are invited to friendship or rest,
to share in our struggle, our call and our quest.
Come, be embraced by the body of Christ.

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First Reading Hebrews 3:7-14

A reading from the Letter to the Hebrews

The Holy Spirit says:

*Oh, that today you would hear his voice,
“Harden not your hearts as at the rebellion
in the day of testing in the desert,
where your ancestors tested and tried me
and saw my works for forty years.
Because of this I was provoked with that generation
and I said, ‘They have always been of erring heart,
and they do not know my ways.’
As I swore in my wrath,
‘They shall not enter into my rest.’”*

Take care, brothers and sisters,
that none of you may have an evil and unfaithful heart,
so as to forsake the living God.
Encourage yourselves daily while it is still “today,”
so that none of you may grow hardened by the deceit of sin.
We have become partners of Christ
if only we hold the beginning of the reality firm until the end.
The word of the Lord. – Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm Psalm 95:6-7c, 8-9, 10-11

If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.

Come, let us bow down in worship;

let us kneel before the LORD who made us.

For he is our God,

and we are the people he shepherds, the flock he guides.

Oh, that today you would hear his voice:

“Harden not your hearts as at Meribah,

as in the day of Massah in the desert,

Where your fathers tempted me;

they tested me though they had seen my works.”

Forty years I was wearied of that generation;

I said: “This people’s heart goes astray,

they do not know my ways.”

Therefore I swore in my anger:

“They shall never enter my rest.”

If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.

Gospel Acclamation

R. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Jesus preached the Gospel of the Kingdom
and cured every disease among the people.

R. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Gospel Mark 1:40-45

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

A leper came to him and kneeling down begged him and said,

“If you wish, you can make me clean.”

Moved with pity, he stretched out his hand, touched the leper, and said to him,

“I do will it. Be made clean.”

The leprosy left him immediately, and he was made clean.

Then, warning him sternly, he dismissed him at once.

Then he said to him, “See that you tell no one anything,

but go, show yourself to the priest

and offer for your cleansing what Moses prescribed; that will be proof for them.”

The man went away and began to publicize the whole matter.

He spread the report abroad so that it was impossible for Jesus to enter a town openly.

He remained outside in deserted places,

and people kept coming to him from everywhere.

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

Spiritual Communion Prayer

Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.

I love You above all things,
and I desire to receive You into my soul.

Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally,
come at least spiritually into my heart.

I embrace You as if You were already there
and unite myself wholly to You.

Never permit me to be separated from You.

Amen.

Sending Forth Song:

A Touching Place

Christ's is the world in which we move,
Christ's are the folk we're summoned to love,
Christ's is the voice which calls us to care,
And Christ is the one who meets us here.
To the lost Christ shows his face;
to the unloved he gives his embrace;
To those who cry in pain or disgrace,
Christ makes, with his friends, a touching place.

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“I do will it. Be made clean.”