

Sixth Sunday After the Epiphany

12th February, 2017

First Reading

Deuteronomy 10.12-22

A reading from the book of Deuteronomy

12 So now, O Israel, what does the Lord your God require of you? Only to fear the Lord your God, to walk in all his ways, to love him, to serve the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul, 13 and to keep the commandments of the Lord your God and his decrees that I am commanding you today, for your own well-being. 14 Although heaven and the heaven of heavens belong to the Lord your God, the earth with all that is in it, 15 yet the Lord set his heart in love on your ancestors alone and chose you, their descendants after them, out of all the peoples, as it is today. 16 Circumcise, then, the foreskin of your heart, and do not be stubborn any longer. 17 For the Lord your God is God of gods and Lord of lords, the great God, mighty and awesome, who is not partial and takes no bribe, 18 who executes justice for the orphan and the widow, and who loves the strangers, providing them with food and clothing. 19 You shall also love the stranger, for you were strangers in the land of Egypt. 20 You shall fear the Lord your God; him alone you shall worship; to him you shall hold fast, and by his name you shall swear. 21 He is your praise; he is your God, who has done for you these great and awesome things that your own eyes have seen. 22 Your ancestors went down to Egypt seventy persons; and now the Lord your God has made you as numerous as the stars in heaven.

Hear the word of the Lord.
God.

Thanks be to

Psalm 119:1-8 - A.P.B.A Page 349

¹ Blessed are those whose way is blameless:
who walk in the law of the Lord.

² Blessed are those who keep his commands:
and seek him with their whole heart;

³ Those who do no wrong:
but walk in the ways of our God.
⁴ For you, Lord, have commanded us:
to persevere in all your precepts.
⁵ If only my ways were unerring:
towards the keeping of your statutes!
⁶ Then I should not be ashamed:
when I looked on all your commandments.
⁷ I will praise you with sincerity of heart:
as I learn your righteous judgements.
⁸ I will keep your statutes:
O forsake me not utterly.

Second Reading

1 Corinthians 3.1-9

A reading from the First Letter to the Corinthians

¹ When I came to you, brothers and sisters, I did not come
proclaiming the mystery of God to you in lofty words or wisdom.
² For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ,
and him crucified.
³ And I came to you in weakness and in fear and in much
trembling.
⁴ My speech and my proclamation were not with plausible words of
wisdom, but with a demonstration of the Spirit and of power,
⁵ so that your faith might rest not on human wisdom but on the
power of God.
⁶ Yet among the mature we do speak wisdom, though it is not a
wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are doomed to
perish.
⁷ But we speak God's wisdom, secret and hidden, which God
decreed before the ages for our glory.
⁸ None of the rulers of this age understood this; for if they had, they
would not have crucified the Lord of glory.
⁹ But, as it is written,
'What no eye has seen, nor ear heard,
nor the human heart conceived,
what God has prepared for those who love him'—
¹⁰ these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit; for the

Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God.

¹¹ For what human being knows what is truly human except the human spirit that is within? So also no one comprehends what is truly God's except the Spirit of God.

¹² Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit that is from God, so that we may understand the gifts bestowed on us by God.

¹³ And we speak of these things in words not taught by human wisdom but taught by the Spirit, interpreting spiritual things to those who are spiritual.

Hear the word of the Lord.
God.

Thanks be to

Gospel

Matthew 5.21-27

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew

²¹ 'You have heard that it was said to those of ancient times, "You shall not murder"; and "whoever murders shall be liable to judgement." ²² But I say to you that if you are angry with a brother or sister, you will be liable to judgement; and if you insult a brother or sister, you will be liable to the council; and if you say, "You fool", you will be liable to the hell of fire. ²³ So when you are offering your gift at the altar, if you remember that your brother or sister has something against you, ²⁴ leave your gift there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother or sister, and then come and offer your gift. ²⁵ Come to terms quickly with your accuser while you are on the way to court with him, or your accuser may hand you over to the judge, and the judge to the guard, and you will be thrown into prison. ²⁶ Truly I tell you, you will never get out until you have paid the last penny. ²⁷ 'You have heard that it was said, "You shall not commit adultery."

The Gospel of the Lord
Christ.

Praise to you Lord Jesus

Sentence

Blessed are those whose way is blameless, who walk in the law of the Lord.

Psalm 119.1

Prayer of the Day

Almighty God,
you gave the law to guide our lives:
grant that we may never shrink from your commandments,
but, as we are taught by your Spirit,
may fulfil your law in perfect love;
through Christ our Lord and Master,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God now and for ever. Amen.

Supplementary readings

Isaiah 59:1-9

Psalm 53

Romans 3:12-22a

Prayer Response

Life-giving God,
hear us and be with us.