

First Reading

Zephaniah 2:3; 3:12–13

A reading from the book of the prophet Zephaniah

If you humbly obey the Lord,
then come and worship him.
If you do right and are humble,
you might be safe on that day
 when the Lord shows his anger.
I won't destroy any of you that are truly humble
 and come to me for safety.
The people of Israel who survive will live right
 and refuse to tell lies.
They will eat in peace,
and no one will bother them.

The word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm

*Psalm 146:6d-7ab,
7c-9a*

All: *Blessed are the poor in spirit;
the kingdom of heaven is theirs!*

*God always keeps his word.
He gives justice to the poor
and food to the hungry.*

All: *Blessed are the poor in spirit;
the kingdom of heaven is theirs!*

*The Lord sets prisoners free
and heals blind eyes.
He gives a helping hand
to everyone who falls.
The Lord loves good people
and looks after strangers.*

All: *Blessed are the poor in spirit;
the kingdom of heaven is theirs!*

Second Reading

1 Corinthians 1:26–31

A reading from the first letter of Paul to the Corinthians

My dear friends,
remember what you were when God chose you.
The people of this world
 didn't think that many of you were wise.
Only a few of you were in places of power,
and not many of you came from important families.

But God chose the foolish things of this world
 to put the wise to shame.
He chose the weak things of this world
 to put the powerful to shame.

What the world thinks is worthless, useless,
 and nothing at all is what God has used
 to destroy what the world considers important.
God did all this to keep anyone from bragging to him.
You are God's children.
He sent Christ Jesus to save us
 and to make us wise, acceptable, and holy.
So if you want to brag,
do what the Scriptures say and brag about the Lord.

The word of the Lord.

Gospel

Matthew 5:1–12ab

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A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

When Jesus saw the crowds,
he went up on the side of a mountain and sat down.

Jesus' disciples gathered around him, and he taught them:

“God blesses those people who depend only on him.
They belong to the kingdom of heaven!

“God blesses those people who grieve.
They will find comfort!

“God blesses those people who are humble.
The earth will belong to them!

“God blesses those people who want to obey him
more than to eat or drink.
They will be given what they want!

“God blesses those people who are merciful.
They will be treated with mercy!

“God blesses those people whose hearts are pure.
They will see him!

“God blesses those people who make peace.
They will be called his children!

“God blesses those people who are treated badly
for doing right.
They belong to the kingdom of heaven.

Gospel

Matthew 5:1–12ab

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(continued)

“God will bless you when people insult you, mistreat you,
and tell all kinds of evil lies about you because of me.
Be happy and excited!
You will have a great reward in heaven.”

The Gospel of the Lord.