

## Reading

1 Samuel 16:1–13

### David Anointed King

<sup>1</sup>The LORD said to Samuel, “How long will you grieve over Saul, since I have rejected him from being king over Israel? Fill your horn with oil, and go. I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons.” <sup>2</sup>And Samuel said, “How can I go? If Saul hears it, he will kill me.” And the LORD said, “Take a heifer with you and say, ‘I have come to sacrifice to the LORD.’” <sup>3</sup>And invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do. And you shall anoint for me him whom I declare to you.” <sup>4</sup>Samuel did what the LORD commanded and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling and said, “Do you come peaceably?” <sup>5</sup>And he said, “Peaceably; I have come to sacrifice to the LORD. Consecrate yourselves, and come with me to the sacrifice.” And he consecrated Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice.

<sup>6</sup>When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, “Surely the LORD’s anointed is before him.” <sup>7</sup>But the LORD said to Samuel, “Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him. For the LORD sees not as man sees: man looks on the outward appearance, but the LORD looks on the heart.” <sup>8</sup>Then Jesse called Abinadab and made him pass before Samuel. And he said, “Neither has the LORD chosen this one.” <sup>9</sup>Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, “Neither has the LORD chosen this one.” <sup>10</sup>And Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel. And Samuel said to Jesse, “The LORD has not chosen these.” <sup>11</sup>Then Samuel said to Jesse, “Are all your sons here?” And he said, “There remains yet the youngest, but behold, he is keeping the sheep.” And Samuel said to Jesse, “Send and get him, for we will not sit down till he comes here.” <sup>12</sup>And he sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy and had beautiful eyes and was handsome. And the LORD said, “Arise, anoint him, for this is he.” <sup>13</sup>Then Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the midst of his brothers. And the Spirit of the LORD rushed upon David from that day forward. And Samuel rose up and went to Ramah.

## Reading

Psalm 89:18–29

<sup>18</sup>For our shield belongs | to the LORD,\*  
our king to the Holy One of | Israel.

<sup>19</sup>Of old you spoke in a vision to your godly one, and said:  
 “I have granted help to one who is | mighty;\*  
 I have exalted one chosen from the | people.  
<sup>20</sup>I have found David, my | servant;\*  
 with my holy oil I have a- | nointed him,  
<sup>21</sup>so that my hand shall be estab- | lished with him;\*  
 my arm also shall | strengthen him.  
<sup>22</sup>The enemy shall not out- | wit him;\*  
 the wicked shall not | humble him.  
<sup>23</sup>I will crush his foes be- | fore him\*  
 and strike down those who | hate him.  
<sup>24</sup>My faithfulness and my steadfast love shall | be with him,\*  
 and in my name shall his horn be ex- | alted.  
<sup>25</sup>I will set his hand | on the sea\*  
 and his right hand on the | rivers.  
<sup>26</sup>He shall cry to me, ‘You are my | Father,\*  
 my God, and the Rock of my sal- | vation.’  
<sup>27</sup>And I will make him the | firstborn,\*  
 the highest of the kings | of the earth.  
<sup>28</sup>My steadfast love I will keep for him for- | ever,\*  
 and my covenant will stand | firm for him.  
<sup>29</sup>I will establish his offspring for- | ever\*  
 and his throne as the days of the | heavens.

## Reading

*1 Corinthians 13*

### The Way of Love

<sup>1</sup>If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. <sup>2</sup>And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. <sup>3</sup>If I give away all I have, and if I deliver up my body to be burned, but have not love, I gain nothing.

<sup>4</sup>Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant <sup>5</sup>or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; <sup>6</sup>it does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but rejoices with the truth. <sup>7</sup>Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

<sup>8</sup>Love never ends. As for prophecies, they will pass away; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will pass away. <sup>9</sup>For we know in part and we prophesy in part, <sup>10</sup>but when the perfect comes, the partial will pass away. <sup>11</sup>When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I gave up childish ways. <sup>12</sup>For now we see in a mirror dimly, but then face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I have been fully known.

<sup>13</sup>So now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; but the greatest of these is love.

## Reading

*Luke 18:31–43*

### Jesus Foretells His Death a Third Time

<sup>31</sup>Taking the twelve, [Jesus] said to them, “**See, we are going up to Jerusalem, and everything that is written about the Son of Man by the prophets will be accomplished.** <sup>32</sup>**For he will be delivered over to the Gentiles and will be mocked and shamefully treated and spit upon.** <sup>33</sup>**And after flogging him, they will kill him, and on the third day he will rise.**” <sup>34</sup>But they understood none of these things. This saying was hidden from them, and they did not grasp what was said.

### Jesus Heals a Blind Beggar

<sup>35</sup>As he drew near to Jericho, a blind man was sitting by the roadside begging. <sup>36</sup>And hearing a crowd going by, he inquired what this meant. <sup>37</sup>They told him, “Jesus of Nazareth is passing by.” <sup>38</sup>And he cried out, “Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!” <sup>39</sup>And those who were in front rebuked him, telling him to be silent. But he cried out all the more, “Son of David, have mercy on me!” <sup>40</sup>And Jesus stopped and commanded him to be brought to him. And when he came near, he asked him, <sup>41</sup>**“What do you want me to do for you?”** He said, “Lord, let me recover my sight.” <sup>42</sup>And Jesus said to him, **“Recover your sight; your faith has made you well.”** <sup>43</sup>And immediately he recovered his sight and followed him, glorifying God. And all the people, when they saw it, gave praise to God.

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