

The Reign of the LORD's Anointed

¹Why do the | nations rage*

and the peoples | plot in vain?

²The kings of the earth set themselves,

and the rulers take counsel to- | gether,*

against the LORD and against his anointed, | saying,

³"Let us burst their | bonds apart*

and cast away their | cords from us."

⁴He who sits in the | heavens laughs,*

the Lord holds them in de- | rision.

⁵Then he will speak to them | in his wrath,*

and terrify them in his fury, | saying,

⁶"As for me, I have | set my King*

on Zion, my | holy hill."

⁷I will tell of | the decree:*

The LORD said to me, "You are my Son;

today I have be- | gotten you.

⁸Ask of me, and I will make the nations your | heritage,*

and the ends of the earth your pos- | session.

⁹You shall break them with a | rod of iron*

and dash them in pieces like a potter's | vessel."

¹⁰Now therefore, O | kings, be wise,*

be warned, O rulers | of the earth.

¹¹Serve the | LORD with fear,*

and rejoice with | trembling.

¹²Kiss the Son,

lest he be angry, and you perish in the way,

for his wrath is quickly | kindled.*

Blessèd are all who take ref- | uge in him.

Old Testament Reading

Proverbs 25:6–14

⁶Do not put yourself forward in the king's presence
or stand in the place of the great,

⁷for it is better to be told, "Come up here,"
than to be put lower in the presence of a noble.

What your eyes have seen

⁸do not hastily bring into court,
for what will you do in the end,
when your neighbor puts you to shame?

⁹Argue your case with your neighbor himself,
and do not reveal another's secret,

¹⁰lest he who hears you bring shame upon you,
and your ill repute have no end.

¹¹A word fitly spoken
is like apples of gold in a setting of silver.

¹²Like a gold ring or an ornament of gold
is a wise reprovèr to a listening ear.

¹³Like the cold of snow in the time of harvest
is a faithful messenger to those who send him;
he refreshes the soul of his masters.

¹⁴Like clouds and wind without rain
is a man who boasts of a gift he does not give.

Gradual

Psalm 33:12, 6

Blessèd is the nation whose God | is the LORD,*
the people whom he has chosen as his | heritage!
By the word of the LORD the heav- | ens were made,*
and by the breath of his mouth | all their host.

Epistle

Ephesians 4:1–6

Unity in the Body of Christ

¹I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, ²with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, ³eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. ⁴There is one body and one Spirit—just as you were called to the one hope that belongs to your call— ⁵one Lord, one faith, one baptism, ⁶one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.

Holy Gospel

Luke 14:1–11

Healing of a Man on the Sabbath

¹One Sabbath, when [Jesus] went to dine at the house of a ruler of the Pharisees, they were watching him carefully. ²And behold, there was a man before him who had dropsy. ³And Jesus responded to the lawyers and Pharisees, saying, **“Is it lawful to heal on the Sabbath, or not?”** ⁴But they remained silent. Then he took him and healed him and sent him away. ⁵And he said to them, **“Which of you, having a son or an ox that has fallen into a well on a Sabbath day, will not immediately pull him out?”** ⁶And they could not reply to these things.

The Parable of the Wedding Feast

⁷Now he told a parable to those who were invited, when he noticed how they chose the places of honor, saying to them, **⁸“When you are invited by someone to a wedding feast, do not sit down in a place of honor, lest someone more distinguished than you be invited by him, ⁹and he who invited you both will come and say to you, ‘Give your place to this person,’ and then you will begin with shame to take the lowest place. ¹⁰But when you are invited, go and sit in the lowest place, so that when your host comes he may say to you, ‘Friend, move up higher.’ Then you will be honored in the presence of all who sit at table with you. ¹¹For everyone who exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted.”**

Acknowledgments

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