

Psalm

Psalm 25:15–22

- ¹⁵My eyes are ever | toward the LORD,*
for he will pluck my feet out | of the net.
- ¹⁶Turn to me and be gra- | cious to me,*
for I am lonely and af- | flicted.
- ¹⁷The troubles of my heart | are enlarged;*
bring me out of my dis- | tresses.
- ¹⁸Consider my affliction and my | trouble,*
and forgive | all my sins.
- ¹⁹Consider how many | are my foes,*
and with what violent hatred they | hate me.
- ²⁰Oh, guard my soul, and de- | liver me!*
- Let me not be put to shame, for I take ref- | uge in you.
- ²¹May integrity and uprightness pre- | serve me,*
for I | wait for you.
- ²²Redeem Israel, | O God,*
out of all his | troubles.

Reading

Micah 5:2–5a

² But you, O Bethlehem Ephrathah,
who are too little to be among the clans of Judah,
from you shall come forth for me
one who is to be ruler in Israel,
whose origin is from of old,
from ancient days.

³ Therefore he shall give them up until the time
when she who is in labor has given birth;
then the rest of his brothers shall return
to the people of Israel.

⁴ And he shall stand and shepherd his flock in the strength of the LORD,
in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God.
And they shall dwell secure, for now he shall be great
to the ends of the earth.

⁵ And he shall be their peace.

Reading

Matthew 20:20–28

A Mother's Request

²⁰ Then the mother of the sons of Zebedee came up to him with her sons, and kneeling before him she asked him for something. ²¹ And he said to her, “**What do you want?**” She said to him, “Say that these two sons of mine are to sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your kingdom.” ²² Jesus answered, “**You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I am to drink?**” They said to him, “We are able.” ²³ He said to them, “**You will drink my cup, but to sit at my right hand and at my left is not mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared by my Father.**” ²⁴ And when the ten heard it, they were indignant at the two brothers. ²⁵ But Jesus called them to him and said, “**You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones exercise authority over them. ²⁶ It shall not be so among you. But whoever would be great among you must be your servant, ²⁷ and whoever would be first among you must be your slave, ²⁸ even as the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.**”

Acknowledgments

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