

Psalm*Psalm 95:1–9*

- ¹Oh come, let us sing | to the LORD;*
let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our sal- | vation!
- ²Let us come into his presence with thanks- | giving;*
let us make a joyful noise to him with | songs of praise!
- ³For the LORD is a | great God,*
and a great King a- | bove all gods.
- ⁴In his hand are the depths | of the earth;*
the heights of the mountains are his | also.
- ⁵The sea is his, for he | made it,*
and his hands formed the | dry land.
- ⁶Oh come, let us worship and | bow down;*
let us kneel before the LORD, our | Maker!
- ⁷For he | is our God,*
and we are the people of his pasture,
and the sheep | of his hand.
- Today, if you | hear his voice,*
⁸do not harden your hearts, as at Meribah,
as on the day at Massah in the | wilderness,
- ⁹when your fathers put me | to the test*
and put me to the proof, though they had | seen my work.

Old Testament Reading*Exodus 17:1–7*

¹All the congregation of the people of Israel moved on from the wilderness of Sin by stages, according to the commandment of the LORD, and camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. ²Therefore the people quarreled with Moses and said, “Give us water to drink.” And Moses said to them, “Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the LORD?” ³But the people thirsted there for water, and the people grumbled against Moses and said, “Why did you bring us up out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and our livestock with thirst?” ⁴So Moses cried to the LORD, “What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me.” ⁵And the LORD said to Moses, “Pass on before the people, taking with you some of the elders of Israel, and take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. ⁶Behold, I will stand before you there on the rock at Horeb, and you shall strike the rock, and water shall come out of it,

and the people will drink.” And Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel.
⁷And he called the name of the place Massah and Meribah, because of the quarreling of the people of Israel, and because they tested the LORD by saying, “Is the LORD among us or not?”

Gradual

Psalm 9:9–10, 18–19a

The LORD is a stronghold for | the oppressed,*
a stronghold in times of | trouble.
And those who know your name put their | trust in you,*
for you, O LORD, have not forsaken those who | seek you.
For the needy shall not always be for- | gotten,*
and the hope of the poor shall not perish for- | ever.
A- | rise, O LORD!*
Let not | man prevail.

Epistle

1 Corinthians 9:24—10:5

²⁴Do you not know that in a race all the runners compete, but only one receives the prize? So run that you may obtain it. ²⁵Every athlete exercises self-control in all things. They do it to receive a perishable wreath, but we an imperishable. ²⁶So I do not run aimlessly; I do not box as one beating the air. ²⁷But I discipline my body and keep it under control, lest after preaching to others I myself should be disqualified.

¹I want you to know, brothers, that our fathers were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, ²and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, ³and all ate the same spiritual food, ⁴and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank from the spiritual Rock that followed them, and the Rock was Christ. ⁵Nevertheless, with most of them God was not pleased, for they were overthrown in the wilderness.

Tract

Psalm 130:1–4

Out | of the depths*
I cry to you, | O LORD!
O Lord, | hear my voice!*
Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my pleas for | mercy!
If you, O LORD, should mark in- | iquities,*

O Lord, | who could stand?
But with you there is for- | giveness,*
that you | may be feared.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 20:1–16

¹[Jesus said:] “The kingdom of heaven is like a master of a house who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. ²After agreeing with the laborers for a denarius a day, he sent them into his vineyard. ³And going out about the third hour he saw others standing idle in the marketplace, ⁴and to them he said, ‘You go into the vineyard too, and whatever is right I will give you.’ ⁵So they went. Going out again about the sixth hour and the ninth hour, he did the same. ⁶And about the eleventh hour he went out and found others standing. And he said to them, ‘Why do you stand here idle all day?’ ⁷They said to him, ‘Because no one has hired us.’ He said to them, ‘You go into the vineyard too.’ ⁸And when evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his foreman, ‘Call the laborers and pay them their wages, beginning with the last, up to the first.’ ⁹And when those hired about the eleventh hour came, each of them received a denarius. ¹⁰Now when those hired first came, they thought they would receive more, but each of them also received a denarius. ¹¹And on receiving it they grumbled at the master of the house, ¹²saying, ‘These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.’ ¹³But he replied to one of them, ‘Friend, I am doing you no wrong. Did you not agree with me for a denarius? ¹⁴Take what belongs to you and go. I choose to give to this last worker as I give to you. ¹⁵Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or do you begrudge my generosity?’ ¹⁶So the last will be first, and the first last.”

Acknowledgments

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