

SAINT MATTHEW
APOSTLE and EVANGELIST

First Reading

Prov. 3:1-6

A reading from the book of Proverbs

Trust in the Lord.

My child, do not forget my teaching, but let your heart keep my commandments; for length of days and years of life and abundant welfare they will give you. Do not let loyalty and faithfulness forsake you; bind them around your neck, write them on the tablet of your heart. So you will find favour and good repute in the sight of God and of people. Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not rely on your own insight. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.

Hear the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps. 18(19)

Response: *Their message goes out through all the earth.*

The heavens proclaim your glory, O God,
and the firmament shows forth the work of your hands.
Day unto day takes up the story
and night unto night makes known the message. **R.**

No speech, no word, no voice is heard
yet their span extends through all the earth,
their words to the utmost bounds of the world. **R.**

There you have placed a tent for the sun;
it comes forth like a bridegroom coming from his tent,
rejoices like a champion to run its course. **R.**

Second Reading

Eph. 4:1-14

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Ephesians

It was his gift that some should be apostles, others evangelists.

I therefore, the prisoner in the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling, one Lord, one faith,

one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all.

But each of us was given grace according to the measure of Christ's gift. Therefore it is said,

"When he ascended on high he made captivity itself a captive;
he gave gifts to his people."

(When it says, "He ascended," what does it mean but that he had also descended into the lower parts of the earth? He who descended is the same one who ascended far above all the heavens, so that he might fill all things.) The gifts he gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ. We must no longer be children, tossed to and fro and blown about by every wind of doctrine, by people's trickery, by their craftiness in deceitful scheming.

Hear the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, Alleluia!

We praise you, God; we acknowledge you as Lord;
your glorious band of apostles extols you.

Alleluia!

Gospel

Mtt. 9:9-13

✠ A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew

℟: **Glory to you Lord Christ.**

"Follow me." And he got up and followed him.

As Jesus was walking along, he saw a man called Matthew sitting at the tax booth; and he said to him, "Follow me." And he got up and followed him. And as he sat at dinner in the house, many tax collectors and sinners came and were sitting with him and his disciples. When the Pharisees saw this, they said to his disciples, "Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?"

But when he heard this, he said, "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. Go and learn what this means, 'I desire mercy, not sacrifice.' For I have come to call not the righteous but sinners."

For the gospel of the Lord

Praise to you Lord Christ.

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