

THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Cycle C

ENTRANCE HYMN

*How great is our God,
how great is His name!
How great is our God,
forever the same.*

1. He rolled back the waters
of the mighty Red Sea
And He said: "I'll never leave you
put your trust in me".
2. He sent His Son Jesus,
to set us all free
And He said "I'll never leave you,
put your trust in me".

GLORIA

Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace to people of good will.

We praise you, we bless you,
we adore you, we glorify you,
we give you thanks for your great glory,
Lord God, heavenly King,
O God, almighty Father.

Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son,
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
you take away the sins of the world:
have mercy on us;
you take away the sins of the world,
receive our prayer;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
have mercy on us.

For you alone are the Holy One,
You alone are the Lord,
You alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

FIRST READING

A reading from the book of Nehemiah 8:2-6. 8-10
*Ezra read from the law of God and the people understood
what was read.*

Ezra the priest brought the Law before the assembly,
consisting of men, women, and children old enough to
understand. This was the first day of the seventh month. On
the square before the Water Gate, in the presence of the
men and women, and children old enough to understand,
he read from the book from early morning till noon; all the
people listened attentively to the Book of the Law.

Ezra the scribe stood on a wooden dais erected for the
purpose. In full view of all the people - since he stood higher
than all the people - Ezra opened the book; and when he
opened it all the people stood up. Then Ezra blessed the
Lord, the great God, and all the people raised their hands
and answered, 'Amen! Amen!'; then they bowed down and,
face to the ground, prostrated themselves before the Lord.
And Ezra read from the Law of God, translating and giving
the sense, so that the people understood what was read.

Then Nehemiah - His Excellency - and Ezra, priest and
scribe (and the Levites who were instructing the people)
said to all the people, 'This day is sacred to the Lord your
God. Do not be mournful, do not weep.' For the people were
all in tears as they listened to the words of the Law.

He then said, 'Go, eat the fat, drink the sweet wine,
and send a portion to the man who has nothing prepared
ready. For this day is sacred to our Lord. Do not be sad: the
joy of the Lord is your stronghold.'

The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Ps 18:8-10.15. R] Jn 6:63

**R. Your words are spirit, Lord,
and they are life.**

1. The law of the Lord is perfect,
it revives the soul.
The rule of the Lord is to be trusted,
it gives wisdom to the simple. (R.)
2. The precepts of the Lord are right,
they gladden the heart.
The command of the Lord is clear,
it gives light to the eyes. (R.)
3. The fear of the Lord is holy,
abiding for ever.
The decrees of the Lord are truth
and all of them just. (R.)
4. May the spoken words of my mouth,
the thoughts of my heart,
win favour in your sight, O Lord,
my rescuer, my rock! (R.)

SECOND READING

A reading from the first letter of St. Paul to the Corinthians
12:12-30

*You together are Christ's body; but each of you is a different
part of it.*

** Shorter Form, verses 12-14. 27.*

*Just as a human body, though it is made up of many parts
is a single unit because all these parts, though many, make
one body, so it is with Christ. In the one Spirit we were all
baptised, Jews as well as Greeks, slaves as well as
citizens, and one Spirit was given to us all to drink.

Nor is the body to be identified with any one of its many
parts.* If the foot were to say, 'I am not a hand and so I do
not belong to the body', would that mean that it stopped
being part of the body? If the ear were to say, 'I am not an
eye, and so I do not belong to the body,' would that mean
that it is not a part of the body? If your whole body was just
one eye, how would you hear anything? If it was just one
ear, how would you smell anything?

Instead of that, God put all the separate parts into the
body on purpose. If all the parts were the same, how could it
be a body? As it is, the parts are many but the body is one.
The eye cannot say to the hand, 'I do not need you,' nor can
the head say to the feet, 'I do not need you.'

What is more, it is precisely the parts of the body that
seem to be the weakest which are the indispensable ones;
and it is the least honourable parts of the body that we
clothe with the greatest care. So our more improper parts
get decorated in a way that our more proper parts do not
need. God has arranged the body so that more dignity is
given to the parts which are without it, and so that there may
not be disagreements inside the body, but that each part
may be equally concerned for all the others. If one part is
hurt, all parts are hurt with it. If one part is given special
honour, all parts enjoy it.

*Now you together are Christ's body; but each of you is
a different part of it.* In the Church, God has given the first
place to apostles, the second to prophets, the third to
teachers; after them, miracles, and after them the gift of
healing; helpers, good leaders, those with many languages.
Are all of them apostles, or all of them prophets, or all of
them teachers? Do they all have the gift of miracles, or all
have the gift of healing? Do all speak strange languages,
and all interpret them?

The word of the Lord.



