



YEAR C

PROPER 25 [30]

Sirach 35:12-17 [Ecclesiasticus]

A reading from the book of Sirach

The prayer of the humble man will penetrate the heavens.

Do not offer him a bribe, for he will not accept it; and do not trust to an unrighteous sacrifice; for the Lord is the judge, and with him is no partiality. He will not show partiality in the case of a poor man; and he will listen to the prayer of one who is wronged. He will not ignore the supplication of the fatherless, nor the widow when she pours out her story. Do not the tears of the widow run down her cheek as she cries out against him who has caused them to fall? He whose service is pleasing to the Lord will be accepted, and his prayer will reach to the clouds. The prayer of the humble pierces the clouds, and he will not be consoled until it reaches the Lord; he will not desist until the Most High visits him, and does justice for the righteous, and executes judgment.

The Word of the Lord.

Psalm 84:1-6 [page 707]

2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18

A reading from the second letter of Paul to Timothy

All that remains is the crown of righteousness reserved
for me.

I am already on the point of being sacrificed; the time of my departure has come. I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. Henceforth there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will award to me on that Day, and not only to me but also to all who have loved his appearing. At my first defense no one took my part; all deserted me. May it not be charged against them! But the Lord stood by me and gave me strength to proclaim the message fully, that all the Gentiles might hear it. So I was rescued from the lion's mouth. The Lord will rescue me from every evil and save me for his heavenly kingdom. To him be the glory for ever and ever. Amen.

The Word of the Lord.

Luke 18:9-14

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

Every one who exalts himself will be humbled, says the Lord;
but he who humbles himself will be exalted.

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

The ☩ Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke

The publican returned home justified; the pharisee did not.

Jesus told this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous and despised others: "Two men

went up into the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. The Pharisee stood and prayed thus with himself, ‘God, I thank thee that I am not like other men, extortioners, unjust, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. I fast twice a week, I give tithes of all that I get.’ But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even lift up his eyes to heaven, but beat his breast, saying, ‘God, be merciful to me a sinner!’ I tell you, this man went down to his house justified rather than the other; for every one who exalts himself will be humbled, but he who humbles himself will be exalted.”

The gospel of the Lord.