

[140] **TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME** A

**FIRST READING**

I have taken the hand of Cyrus to subdue nations  
Before his countenance.

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah

45:1, 4-6

**T**he Lord said to Cyrus, his chosen one,  
“I have taken hold of your right hand  
to help you conquer nations and remove kings from power.  
City gates will open for you.  
Not one will stay closed.”

“Cyrus, you don’t even know me!  
But I have called you by name and highly honored you,  
because of Jacob, my servant,  
and Israel, my chosen one.  
Only I am the Lord!”

“There is no other God.  
I have made you strong,  
though you don’t know me.  
Now everyone from east to west will know that I am the Lord.  
No other gods are real.”

The word of the Lord.

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

96:1 and 3, 4-5, 9-10abef

*R. (7b) Give the Lord glory and honor.*

Sing a new song to the Lord!  
Everyone on this earth,  
sing praises to the Lord.  
Tell every nation on earth,  
“The Lord is wonderful  
and does marvelous things!”

*R. Give the Lord glory and honor.*

“The Lord is great and deserves

our greatest praise!  
He is the only God  
worthy of our worship.  
Other nations worship idols,  
but the Lord created the heavens.”

*R. Give the Lord glory and honor.*

“Everyone on earth, now tremble  
and worship the Lord,  
majestic and holy.”  
Announce to the nations,  
“The Lord is King!  
God will judge the people  
with fairness.”

*R. Give the Lord glory and honor.*

## **SECOND READING**

We are mindful of your faith, hope and love.

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Thessalonians 1:1-5b

**F**rom Paul, Silas, and Timothy.  
To the church in Thessalonica,  
the people of God the Father and of the Lord Jesus Christ.

I pray that God will be kind to you and will bless you with peace!

We thank God for you and always mention you in our prayers.  
Each time we pray,  
we tell God our Father about your faith and loving work  
and about your firm hope in our Lord Jesus Christ.

My dear friends, God loves you,  
and we know he has chosen you to be his people.  
When we told you the good news,  
it was with the power and assurance  
that come from the Holy Spirit,  
and not simply with words.

The word of the Lord.

## ALLELUIA

Philippians 2:15d, 16a

*R. Alleluia, alleluia.*

Shine on the world like bright stars;  
you are offering it the word of life.

*R. Alleluia, alleluia.*

## GOSPEL

Give to Caesar the things that belong to Caesar  
and to God the things that are God's.

† A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew 22:15-21

**T**he Pharisees got together and planned how they could trick Jesus  
into saying something wrong.

They sent some of their followers

and some of Herod's followers to say to him,

"Teacher, we know that you are honest.

You teach the truth about what God wants people to do.

And you treat everyone with the same respect,  
no matter who they are.

Tell us what you think!

Should we pay taxes to the Emperor or not?"

Jesus knew their evil thoughts and said,

"Why are you trying to test me? You showoffs!

Let me see one of the coins used for paying taxes."

They brought him a silver coin, and he asked,

"Whose picture and name are on it?"

"The Emperor's," they answered.

Then Jesus told them,

"Give the Emperor what belongs to him

and give God what belongs to God."

The gospel of the Lord.

