

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
Cycle C

FIRST READING

I have appointed you as prophet to the nations.

A reading from the book of the prophet Jeremiah

1:4-5, 17ab, 18-19

The Lord said to Jeremiah,
“Before I gave you life,
and before you were born,
I chose you to be a prophet to the nations.

“Jeremiah, get ready!
Go and tell those people everything I command you.
Don’t be afraid of them.

“Today my power will make you as strong as a fortress
or a tall column of iron or a wall of bronze.
You will be against everyone in Judah,
its kings, leaders, priests, and all the common people.
They will fight against you,
but they won’t win,
because I will be with you to protect you.
I, the Lord, have spoken.”

The word of the Lord.



RESPONSORIAL PSALM

71:1-2, 3abcd, 3ef and 5a

R. (see 15ab8) I will sing of your salvation.

I run to you, Lord,
for protection.
Don't disappoint me.
You do what is right,
so come to my rescue.
Listen to my prayer
and keep me safe.

R. I will sing of your salvation.

Be my mighty rock, the place
where I can always run
for protection.
Save me by your command!

R. I will sing of your salvation.

You are my might rock
and my fortress.
I depend on you.

R. I will sing of your salvation.

Children's Liturgy shared by the Adorers of the Blood of Christ
www.adorers.org



SECOND READING

There are three things that last; faith, hope, and love;
and the greatest of these is love.

A reading from the first letter of Paul to the Corinthians

13:4-8a, 11-13

Brothers and sisters:

Love is kind and patient,
never jealous, boastful, proud, or rude.
Love isn't selfish or quick tempered.
It doesn't keep a record of wrongs that others do.
Love rejoices in the truth, but not in evil.
Love is always supportive, loyal, hopeful, and trusting.
Love never fails!

When we were children,
we thought and reasoned as children do.
But when we grew up,
we quit our childish ways.

Now all we can see of God is like a cloudy picture in a mirror.
Later we will see him face to face.
We don't know everything,
but then we will,
just as God completely understands us.

For now there are faith, hope, and love.
But of these three, the greatest is love.

The word of the Lord.



ALLELUIA

Luke 4:18

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

The Lord sent me to bring good news to the poor
and freedom to prisoners.

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

GOSPEL

No prophets are liked by the people of their own town.

† A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke

4:20b-24, 28-30

Everyone in the Jewish meeting place looked straight at Jesus.
Then Jesus said to them,
“What you have just heard me read has come true today.”

All the people started talking about Jesus
and were amazed at the wonderful things he said.
They kept on asking, “Isn’t he Joseph’s son?”

Jesus answered:

“You will certainly want to tell me this saying,
‘Doctor, first make yourself well.’

You will tell me to do the same things here in my own hometown
that you heard I did in Capernaum.

But you can be sure that no prophets are liked by the people
of their own hometown.”

When the people in the meeting place heard Jesus say this,
they became so angry that they got up and threw him out of town.
They dragged him to the edge of the cliff on which the town was built,
because they wanted to throw him down from there.
But Jesus slipped through the crowd and got away.

The gospel of the Lord.



FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME Cycle C

Prayer: Dear God, We know you help us to do good things. Help us to see and understand your love in new and better ways every day. Thank you for your love and forgiveness. We love you. Amen.

Readings: Jeremiah 1:4-5, 17-19; Ps 71:1-6, 15, 17; 1 Cor 12: 31-13:13; Luke 4:21-30

Reflection: Jesus always spoke the truth even if it didn't make others like him. The gospel begins with the line that ended last Sunday's gospel: "Today this Scripture passage is fulfilled in your hearing." The stories Jesus retells show us that many times in history people believe they know what is best, right and true and no one is going to convince them otherwise. Jesus clearly says to the religious people listening to him: You have it all wrong. You have to think differently. You don't have it all figured out! They just couldn't take it. In fact, the story says clearly, they were so upset they couldn't even stay focused enough to move Jesus to the edge of the hill to hurl him down. Doesn't that sound like the raucous after a losing football game and everyone goes so crazy they don't even know what they are doing!?! Well, that's what happens here. Jesus reminds us again that he came to bring the Gift of Love not just to live into our expectations.

Activities:

As we read the list of love's characteristics, we realize just how simple and yet challenging love is. Our society does not always reward us when we are patient, or even kind. In fact, it regularly says: Watch out for Number One; Don't be taken advantage of; etc. By making icons of movie stars, sports heroes and musical artists, we see their power and fame as more often praised and sought after than love, care and truth.

If we stop for a moment and reflect, we might discover that the people we really admire the most are those who are indeed patient and kind. The ones who make our days and nights more safe and enjoyable not by doing big things but by doing simple things in a big way. They are people who genuinely love, people after whom we might want to model ourselves, people who have discovered the "more excellent way." You might use a newspaper, bulletin, Diocesan Paper or magazine to find stories that show ordinary people doing loving deeds.



To Conclude the Session: Print a copy (or copies) of the list on the following page large enough for each child to see.

Have each child complete at least one phrase. This can be done verbally.

Pray together: God is Love and when we love, we are being like God.

Prayer

Dear God, Your Son Jesus is Love. We are your children, too, and share your love. We are so happy being in your family. Help us to love everyone and to be our very best self every day.

Thank you for loving us no matter what! AMEN.

Love is patient

Love is kind.

Love is not jealous.

Love cares about the other.

Love forgives hurts.

Love tells the truth.

Love never fails.

The greatest gift is LOVE.

Love (complete the phrase) _____

Love _____

Love _____

Love _____

Love _____

