

FIRST READING: Micah 6:6–8

A reading from Micah.

- ⁶"With what shall I come before the LORD,
and bow myself before God on high?
Shall I come before him with burnt offerings,
with calves a year old?
⁷Will the LORD be pleased with thousands of rams,
with ten thousands of rivers of oil?
Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression,
the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?"
⁸He has told you, O mortal, what is good;
and what does the LORD require of you
but to do justice, and to love kindness,
and to walk humbly with your God?

PSALM: Psalm 147:1–11, 20c—*read responsively by whole verse.*

- ¹Hallelujah! How good it is to sing praises to our God!
How pleasant it is to honor God with praise!
- ²**The LORD rebuilds Jerusalem,
and gathers the exiles of Israel.**
- ³The LORD heals the brokenhearted
and binds up their wounds.
- ⁴**The LORD counts the number of the stars
and calls them all by their names.**
- ⁵Great is our LORD and mighty in power;
there is no limit to God's wisdom.
- ⁶**The LORD lifts up the lowly,
but casts the wicked to the ground.**
- ⁷Sing to the LORD with thanksgiving;
make music upon the harp to our God,
- ⁸**who covers the heavens with clouds and prepares rain for the earth,
making grass to grow upon the mountains.**
- ⁹God provides food for the cattle
and for the young ravens when they cry.
- ¹⁰**God is not impressed by the might of a horse,
and has no pleasure in the speed of a runner,**
- ¹¹but finds pleasure in those who fear the LORD,
in those who await God's steadfast love.
- ^{20c} **Hallelujah!**

GOSPEL: Matthew 5:1–10

The holy gospel according to St. Matthew, the fifth chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. ²Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

³"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

⁴"Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

⁵"Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

⁶"Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

⁷"Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

⁸"Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

⁹"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

¹⁰"Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.