

A LITURGY FOR FAMILIES & INDIVIDUALS
-- for the --
Feast of St. James the Greater

[Note: This symbol '✠' indicates an appropriate place to make the sign of the cross. The Leader's lines are un-bolded, everyone else's lines, as indicated, are in bold face.]

Take a moment to quiet your hearts and prepare for worship

Leader: O Lord, open my lips.

All: And my mouth shall show forth your praise.

O Lord make speed to save us.

O Lord make haste to help us.

Glory be to the ✠ Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.

As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever, Amen.

“Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.”

[Matt 3:2]

Let us confess our sins to Almighty God.

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.

We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name.

Amen.

Almighty God, hear our prayers, be merciful to us, and grant us forgiveness of our sins in the name of the ✠ Father, and the Son, and Holy Spirit.

PSALM 95

To be read responsively.

Leader: Oh come, let us sing to the Lord;
let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!

**All: Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving;
let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise!**

For the Lord is a great God,
and a great King above all gods.

**In his hand are the depths of the earth;
the heights of the mountains are his also.**

[Continued on next page]

Leader: The sea is his, for he made it,
and his hands formed the dry land.

All: **Oh come, let us worship and bow down;
let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker!**

For he is our God,
and we are the people of his pasture, and the sheep of his hand.

**Today, if you hear his voice,
do not harden your hearts, as at Meribah,
as on the day at Massah in the wilderness,**

when your fathers put me to the test
and put me to the proof, though they had seen my work.

**For forty years I loathed that generation
and said, "They are a people who go astray in their heart,
and they have not known my ways."**

Therefore I swore in my wrath,
"They shall not enter my rest."

Amen!

THE EPISTLE READING: *Acts 11.27-12.5*

1st Reader: "Now in those days prophets came down from Jerusalem to Antioch. And one of them named Agabus stood up and foretold by the Spirit that there would be a great famine over all the world (this took place in the days of Claudius). So the disciples determined, every one according to his ability, to send relief to the brothers living in Judea. And they did so, sending it to the elders by the hand of Barnabas and Saul. About that time Herod the king laid violent hands on some who belonged to the church. He killed James the brother of John with the sword, and when he saw that it pleased the Jews, he proceeded to arrest Peter also. This was during the days of Unleavened Bread. And when he had seized him, he put him in prison, delivering him over to four squads of soldiers to guard him, intending after the Passover to bring him out to the people. So Peter was kept in prison, but earnest prayer for him was made to God by the church."

The Word of the LORD.

All: **Thanks be to God!**

THE GOSPEL READING: *Matthew 20.20-28*

2nd Reader: The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ, according to St. Matthew.

All: ✠ Glory to you, Lord Christ.

2nd Reader: “Then the mother of the sons of Zebedee came up to him with her sons, and kneeling before him she asked him for something. And he said to her, “What do you want?” She said to him, “Say that these two sons of mine are to sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your kingdom.” Jesus answered, “You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I am to drink?” They said to him, “We are able.” He said to them, “You will drink my cup, but to sit at my right hand and at my left is not mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared by my Father.” And when the ten heard it, they were indignant at the two brothers. But Jesus called them to him and said, “You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones exercise authority over them. It shall not be so among you. But whoever would be great among you must be your servant, and whoever would be first among you must be your slave, even as the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, Lord Christ!

A TIME OF PRAYER

At this time, prayers may be offered for ourselves and others.

THE COLLECT

Leader: The Lord be with you!

All: And also with you!

Let us Pray:

Grant, O merciful God, that as your holy Apostle Saint James, leaving his father and all that he had, without delay was obedient unto the calling of your Son Jesus Christ, and followed him; so we forsaking all worldly and carnal affections, may be evermore ready to follow your holy commandments, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.