

## FOURTH SUNDAY

# ORDINARY Season of the Year C

*First Reading* † *Jeremiah 1:4-5.17-19*

*I have appointed you as prophet to the nations.*

### **A reading from the prophet Jeremiah**

In the days of Josiah, the word of the Lord came to me, saying:

‘Before I formed you in the womb I knew you;  
before you were born I consecrated you;  
I appointed you as prophet to the nations.’

But you, hitch up your clothes.  
Stand up and tell them everything I command you.  
Don’t be afraid of them or I will give you cause to fear them.

For look, today I have made you a fortified city,  
a pillar of iron, a wall of bronze  
to stand against the whole land –  
the kings of Judah, its princes,  
its priests and the people of the land.

They will fight against you  
but will not overcome you,  
for I am with you to rescue you,’  
says the Lord.

The word of the Lord.

*Responsorial* † *Psalms 70:1-6.15.17*

### ***I will sing of your salvation.***

In you, O Lord, I take refuge;  
let me never be put to shame.  
In your righteousness, rescue me, free me;  
incline your ear to me and save me.

### ***I will sing of your salvation.***

Be my rock, my constant refuge,  
a mighty stronghold to save me,  
for you are my rock, my stronghold.  
My God, free me from the hand of the wicked.

### ***I will sing of your salvation.***

It is you, O Lord, who are my hope,  
my trust, O Lord, from my youth.  
On you I have leaned from my birth;  
from my mother’s womb, you have been my help.

***I will sing of your salvation.***

My mouth will tell of your righteousness,  
and of your salvation all the day long,  
though I can never tell it all.  
O God, you have taught me from my youth,  
and I proclaim your wonders still.

***I will sing of your salvation.***

***Second Reading [longer form] † 1 Corinthians 12:31-13:13***

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

**A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians**

Be eager for the greater gifts. And now I will show you the most excellent way.

If I speak in the tongues of human beings and of angels but I do not have love, I have become a sounding bronze or a cymbal clashing. If I have the power of prophecy and I know all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith so as to move mountains, but I do not have love, I am nothing. And if I distribute all my possessions, and if I hand over my body to be burnt, but I do not have love, I gain nothing.

Love is patient; love is kind; love is not jealous; love is not boastful, or puffed up or rude; it does not insist on its rights, it does not take offence, it does not plan evil, it does not rejoice at wrongdoing but rejoices in the truth. It puts up with everything, it believes everything, it hopes everything, endures everything. Love never falls away. If there are prophecies, they will become superfluous; if there are tongues, they will cease; if there is knowledge, it will become superfluous; for we know only in part and we prophesy only in part, but once perfection comes, the partial will be superfluous.

When I was a child, I spoke as a child, I thought as a child, I reasoned as a child. When I became a man, I put aside the things of childhood, for now we see in a mirror, confusedly, but then we shall see face to face.

Now I know only partially, then I shall know fully, just as I am fully known. Now faith, hope and love abide, the three of them, but the greatest of them is love.

The word of the Lord.

***Second Reading [shorter form] † 1 Corinthians 13:4-13***

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

**A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Corinthians**

Love is patient; love is kind; love is not jealous; love is not boastful, or puffed up or rude; it does not insist on its rights, it does not take offence, it does not plan evil, it does not rejoice at wrongdoing but rejoices in the truth. It puts up with everything, it believes everything, it hopes everything, endures everything. Love never falls away. If there are prophecies, they will become superfluous; if there are tongues, they will cease; if there is knowledge, it will become superfluous; for we know only in part and we prophesy only in part, but once perfection comes, the partial will be superfluous.

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Now I know only partially, then I shall know fully, just as I am fully known. Now faith, hope and love abide, the three of them, but the greatest of them is love.

The word of the Lord.

***Gospel Acclamation † Luke 4:18***

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!  
The Lord sent me to bring Good News to the poor  
and freedom to prisoners.  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

***Gospel † Luke 4:21-30***

*Jesus, like Elijah and Elisha, was not sent only to the Jews.*

**A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke**

Then Jesus began to speak to them in the synagogue,

‘Today this text has been fulfilled in your hearing.’

And all bore witness to him, and were astonished by the words of grace that came from his lips.

They said,

‘Is not this the son of Joseph?’

But he replied,

‘No doubt you will quote me the saying, “Physician, heal yourself.  
Do here also in your own country  
what we have heard has been happening in Capernaum.”’

And he said,

‘Amen I say to you, no prophet is ever accepted in his own country.

In truth I tell you, there were many widows in Israel in Elijah’s day, when heaven remained shut for three years and six months and a great famine raged throughout the land, but Elijah was not sent to any one of these, but only to a widow at Zarephath, a town in Sidonia.

And there were many lepers in Israel in the prophet Elisha’s time, but none of these was cured – only Naaman the Syrian.’

When they heard this everyone in the synagogue was enraged. They sprang to their feet and hustled him out of the town; and they took him up to the brow of the hill on which their town was built, intending to throw him off the cliff, but he passed through the midst of them and walked away.

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