

4th Sunday of Easter
Year C

Reading 1

Citation: Acts, Chap. 13, Verses 14, 43-52
Acts 13: 14, 43-52

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

Paul and Barnabas continued on from Perga
and reached Antioch in Pisidia.

On the sabbath they entered the synagogue and took their seats.
Many Jews and worshipers who were converts to Judaism
followed Paul and Barnabas, who spoke to them
and urged them to remain faithful to the grace of God.

On the following sabbath almost the whole city gathered
to hear the word of the Lord.

When the Jews saw the crowds, they were filled with jealousy
and with violent abuse contradicted what Paul said.

Both Paul and Barnabas spoke out boldly and said,
"It was necessary that the word of God be spoken to you first,
but since you reject it
and condemn yourselves as unworthy of eternal life,
we now turn to the Gentiles.

For so the Lord has commanded us,
*I have made you a light to the Gentiles,
that you may be an instrument of salvation
to the ends of the earth."*

The Gentiles were delighted when they heard this
and glorified the word of the Lord.

All who were destined for eternal life came to believe,
and the word of the Lord continued to spread
through the whole region.

The Jews, however, incited the women of prominence who
were worshipers
and the leading men of the city,
stirred up a persecution against Paul and Barnabas,
and expelled them from their territory.

So they shook the dust from their feet in protest against them,
and went to Iconium.

The disciples were filled with joy and the Holy Spirit.

The word of the Lord.

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Reading 2

Citation: Revelation, Chap. 7, Verses 9, 14b-17
Revelation 7: 9, 14b-17

A reading from the Book of Revelation

I, John, had a vision of a great multitude,
which no one could count,
from every nation, race, people, and tongue.
They stood before the throne and before the Lamb,
wearing white robes and holding palm branches in their hands.

Then one of the elders said to me,
"These are the ones who have survived the time of great distress;
they have washed their robes
and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

"For this reason they stand before God's throne
and worship him day and night in his temple.
The one who sits on the throne will shelter them.
They will not hunger or thirst anymore,
nor will the sun or any heat strike them.
For the Lamb who is in the center of the throne
will shepherd them
and lead them to springs of life-giving water,
and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

The word of the Lord.

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Gospel

Citation: John, Chap. 10, Verses 27-30
John 10: 27-30

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

Jesus said:

"My sheep hear my voice;

I know them, and they follow me.

I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish.

No one can take them out of my hand.

My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all,

and no one can take them out of the Father's hand.

The Father and I are one."

The Gospel of the Lord.