

4th Sunday in Ordinary Time
(Yr C)

Reading 1

Citation: Jeremiah, Chap. 1, Verses 4-5, 17-19
Jeremiah 1: 4-5, 17-19

God speaks to Jeremiah to both assure him about his mission as a prophet as well as to drive home to him that He will see to it that Jeremiah prevails in his mission. God doesn't make light of what Jeremiah already knows – that what God is asking him to do will be fraught with hardship. He merely insists that Jeremiah's faith in Him will not be overcome. In a word, Jeremiah must know that God is with him and will be by his side no matter what.

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Jeremiah

The word of the LORD came to me, saying:
Before I formed you in the womb
I knew you,
before you were born
I dedicated you,
a prophet to the nations
I appointed you.

(short pause)
(emphatic)
(confident) (very short pause)
(emphatic)
(very short pause)
{ commanding
{ "

But do you gird your loins;
stand up
and tell them all that I command you.

(very short pause)
(commanding)

Be not crushed on their account,
as though I would leave you crushed, before them;
for it is I
this day
who have made you a fortified city,
a pillar of iron,
a wall of brass,
against the whole land:
against Judah's kings and princes,
against its priests and people.

(parenthetical expression)
(insistent)
{ insistent
{ "
{ insistent (Pause)

They will fight against you
but not prevail over you,
for I am with you
to deliver you,
says the LORD.

(parenthetical expression?)
(complete assurance)
(insistent)

The word of the Lord.

4th Sunday in Ordinary Time
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Reading 2
LONGER FORM

Citation: 1 Corinthians, Chap. 12, Verse 13, Chap. 13, Verse 13
1 Corinthians 12:13, 13:13

Paul is exhorting his new followers to keep ever in their minds that their belief in Jesus is leading them to become ever more complete (mature) human beings. He insists on the role that Love must now play in their lives since it defines the basis of all positive relationships, particularly theirs with God. There are many "lists" in this passage. Take your time. You are teaching, insisting, loving your listeners.

A reading from the first Letter of Saint Paul to the Corinthians

Brothers and sisters:

Strive eagerly for the greatest spiritual gifts.

(very short pause)

But I shall show you

a still more excellent way.

(short pause)

If I speak in human and angelic tongues,

but do not have love,

(very short pause)

I am a resounding gong

or a clashing cymbal.

(drag out "clashing") (Pause)

And if I have the gift of prophecy,

and comprehend all mysteries and all knowledge;

if I have all faith

so as to move mountains,

(parenthetical expression?)

but do not have love,

(voice goes up)

I am nothing.

(voice goes down) (Pause)

If I give away everything I own,

(pleading?)

and if I hand my body over

so that I may boast,

(parenthetical expression)

but do not have love,

I gain nothing.

(short pause)

Love is patient,

(very short pause)

love is kind.

(very short pause)

It is not jealous,

it is not pompous, it is not inflated,

(very short pause)

it is not rude,

(very short pause)

it does not seek its own interests,

(very short pause)

it is not quick-tempered, it does not brood over injury,

(emphasize "brood")

it does not rejoice over wrongdoing

(accusatory?)

but rejoices with the truth.

(triumph!)

Proclamation Format

It bears all things,
believes all things,
hopes all things,
endures all things.

{each of these lines separately
{ "
{ "
(voice goes down a bit) (Pause)

Love never fails.

(Emphasize each word!!)

If there are prophecies,
they will be brought to nothing;
if tongues,
they will cease;
if knowledge,
it will be brought to nothing.

(voice goes up)
(disdain; voice goes down)
(voice goes up)
(voice goes down)
(voice goes up)
(voice goes down)

For we know partially
and we prophesy partially,
but when the perfect comes,
the partial will pass away.

(short pause)
(voice goes up)
(voice goes down slightly)

When I was a child,
I used to talk as a child,
think as a child,
reason as a child;
when I became a man,
I put aside childish things.

(matter-of-factly)

(short pause)
(confident)
(slowly)

At present
we see indistinctly,
as in a mirror,
but then
face to face.

(parenthetical expression)

(confident, firm)

At present
I know partially;
then
I shall know fully,
as I am fully known.

(very short pause)

(short pause)

So
faith,
hope,
love remain,
these three;
but the greatest of these
is love.

(very short pause)

(very short pause)
(very short pause)
(Pause!)

The word of the Lord.

4th Sunday in Ordinary Time
(Yr C)

Reading 2
SHORTER FORM

Citation: 1 Corinthians, Chap. 13, Verses 4-13
1 Corinthians 13: 4-13

A reading from the first Letter of Saint Paul to the Corinthians

Brothers and sisters:

Love is patient, (very short pause)
love is kind. (very short pause)
It is not jealous, (very short pause)
it is not pompous, it is not inflated, (two phrases almost as one)
it is not rude,
it does not seek its own interests, (very short pause)
it is not quick-tempered, it does not brood over injury,
it does not rejoice over wrongdoing (slow down
but rejoices with the truth (“

It bears all things, (emphasis builds phrase-to-phrase)
believes all things, "
hopes all things, "
endures all things. " (slow down)

Love never fails. (emphasize each word) (very short pause)
If there are prophecies, (voice goes up)
they will be brought to nothing; (voice goes down)
if tongues, they will cease;
if knowledge, (voice goes up)
it will be brought to nothing. (voice goes down)

For we know partially
and we prophesy partially, (very short pause)
but when the perfect comes,
the partial will pass away.

When I was a child,
I used to talk as a child,
think as a child, reason as a child; (two phrases almost together)
when I became a man,
I put aside childish things. (slow down)

At present we see indistinctly, as in a mirror,
but then
face to face. (very short pause)

Proclamation Format

At present
I know partially;
then
I shall know fully,
as I am fully known.

(very short pause)

So
faith,
hope,
love remain,
these three;
but the greatest of these
is love.

(Take your time

(“

(“

(“

(“ very short pause)

(“

(“

The word of the Lord.

4th Sunday in Ordinary Time
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GOSPEL

Citation: Luke, Chap. 4, Verses 21-30
Luke 4: 21-30

No one is a prophet in his own town. In addition, Jesus is pointing out to the Jews that God expects reciprocation for His promises. When He doesn't get it He chooses others to be His beneficiaries. The Jews don't like this reminder at all! Jesus' purpose is not accusatory but prophetic – reminding the Jews of their obligations to their God.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

Jesus began speaking in the synagogue, saying:

"Today
this Scripture passage is fulfilled in your hearing." (short pause)

And all spoke highly of him
and were amazed at the gracious words that came from his mouth. (short pause)

They also asked,
"Isn't this the son of Joseph?" (very short pause)

He said to them,
"Surely you will quote me this proverb,
'Physician, cure yourself,' (mimicking their insistence)
and say,
'Do here in your native place
the things that we heard were done in Capernaum.'" (very short pause)

And he said,
"Amen, I say to you,
no prophet is accepted in his own native place. (very short pause)

Indeed, I tell you,
there were many widows in Israel in the days of Elijah
when the sky was closed for three and a half years
and a severe famine spread over the entire land. (very short pause)

It was to none of these that Elijah was sent,
but only to a widow in Zarephath in the land of Sidon. (very short pause)

Again,
there were many lepers in Israel during the time of Elisha the prophet;
yet not one of them was cleansed,
but only Naaman
the Syrian." (very short pause)

When the people in the synagogue heard this,
they were all filled with fury. (staccato lines)
They rose up, "

Proclamation Format

drove him out of the town,
and led him to the brow of the hill on which their town had been built,
to hurl him down headlong.

"
"
(very short pause)

But Jesus passed through the midst of them
and went away.

(quiet tone)

The Gospel of the Lord.