

FIRST READING: Proverbs 25:6–7

A reading from Proverbs.

- ⁶Do not put yourself forward in the king's presence
or stand in the place of the great;
⁷for it is better to be told, "Come up here,"
than to be put lower in the presence of a noble.

PSALM: Psalm 112

*Cantor sings refrain. Assembly repeats refrain. Cantor sings verses.
Assembly sings refrain at R.*



- ¹Hallelujah! Happy are they who ¹fear the LORD
and have great delight in ¹God's commandments!
²Their descendants will be mighty ¹in the land;
the generation of the upright ¹will be blessed. **R**
³Wealth and riches will be ¹in their house,
and their righteousness will ¹last forever.
⁴Light shines in the darkness ¹for the upright;
the righteous are merciful and full ¹of compassion.
⁵It is good for them to be gener- ¹ous in lending
and to manage their af- ¹fairs with justice.
⁶For they will nev- ¹er be shaken;
the righteous will be kept in everlast- ¹ing remembrance. **R**
⁷They will not be afraid of any ¹evil rumors;
their heart is steadfast, trusting ¹in the LORD.
⁸Their heart is established and ¹will not shrink,
until they see their desire up- ¹on their enemies.
⁹They have given freely to the poor, and their righteousness stands ¹
fast forever;
they will hold up their ¹head with honor.
¹⁰The wicked will see it and be angry; they will gnash their teeth and ¹
pine away;
the desires of the wick- ¹ed will perish. **R**

SECOND READING: Hebrews 13:1–8, 15–16

A reading from Hebrews.

Let mutual love continue. ²Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it. ³Remember those who are in prison, as though you were in prison with them; those who are being tortured, as though you yourselves were being tortured. ⁴Let marriage be held in honor by all, and let the marriage bed be kept undefiled; for God will judge fornicators and adulterers. ⁵Keep your lives free from the love of money, and be content with what you have; for he has said, "I will never leave you or forsake you." ⁶So we can say with confidence,

"The Lord is my helper;

I will not be afraid.

What can anyone do to me?"

⁷Remember your leaders, those who spoke the word of God to you; consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith. ⁸Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever. ¹⁵Through him, then, let us continually offer a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that confess his name. ¹⁶Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

GOSPEL: Luke 14:1, 7–14

On one occasion when Jesus was going to the house of a leader of the Pharisees to eat a meal on the sabbath, they were watching him closely. ⁷When he noticed how the guests chose the places of honor, he told them a parable. ⁸When you are invited by someone to a wedding banquet, do not sit down at the place of honor, in case someone more distinguished than you has been invited by your host; ⁹and the host who invited both of you may come and say to you, 'Give this person your place,' and then in disgrace you would start to take the lowest place. ¹⁰But when you are invited, go and sit down at the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he may say to you, 'Friend, move up higher'; then you will be honored in the presence of all who sit at the table with you. ¹¹For all who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted."

¹²He said also to the one who had invited him, "When you give a luncheon or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or rich neighbors, in case they may invite you in return, and you would be repaid. ¹³But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. ¹⁴And you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you, for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous."

Daily Bible Readings:

These readings are related to the Lectionary readings for this Sunday. Try to take time each day to read the assigned Bible passage.

Sunday	Luke 14:1,7-14	Humility and hospitality
Monday	Luke 14:15-23	God's hospitality to the lowly
Tuesday	Genesis 18:1-8	Abraham shows hospitality
Wednesday	1 Kings 3:1-15	Solomon humbles himself
Thursday	Matthew 20:20-28	A request for seats of honor
Friday	1 Peter 4:7-11	Be hospitable to one another
Saturday	Psalms 10	Warnings against pride and arrogance
Sunday	Luke 14:25-33	The cost of being a disciple

Scripture Verse for the Week:

Jesus said: "If you put yourself above others, you will be put down. But if you humble yourself, you will be honored."

– Luke 14:11 (CEV)

- Cut out & carry with you.
- Say at each mealtime.
- Read at bedtime.
- Commit to memory.

Prayer for this Week:

Lord Jesus, teach me to be humble like you. Help me to welcome all people in your name. Amen. (Luke 14:7-14)

For Throughout the Day:

Lord God, help me to be content with what I have, trusting that you will never let me down. Amen. (Hebrews 13:5)

A Blessing to Share:

God be with you today, in all that you do and all that you say. Amen.

Mealtime Refrain:

God will never leave us:
He will never abandon us. (Hebrews 13:5)

Mealtime Prayer:

Lord, you care for the poor and lift up the humble. May we be thankful and never grumble. Amen.



SCRIPTURE

Faith Talk:

- What does it mean to be proud? What does it mean to be humble?
- Jesus says that if we put ourselves above others, we will be humbled; but if we humble ourselves, we will be honored. How do you understand Jesus' words?
- How has Jesus been a humble servant to us? In response, what are some ways we can show humble service to others?

Devotional Practices:

Hebrews 13:7 says "Don't forget about your leaders who taught you God's message. Remember what kind of lives they lived and try to have faith like theirs." In your home devotion times this week pray for Christian leaders who teach you about God – pastors, teachers, Sunday school leaders, youth leaders etc. Talk about what you see in them that you would like to imitate. Plan a way to express your thanks and appreciation to them.

Service:

When eating at the house of an important Pharisee, Jesus said: "When you put on a luncheon or a banquet don't invite your friends, brothers, relatives, and rich neighbors. For they will invite you back, and that will be your only reward." Make plans to invite someone you don't know very well to share a meal at your home. Think together about how you can work as a household to make them feel as welcome as possible.

Rituals and Traditions:

Allocate days during this week when different household members will be "honored" by others. Set a special place at your mealtable for the honored person and talk about acts of service that can be undertaken in their honor on their special day (e.g. make their bed, tidy their room, do chores on their behalf). At the end of the week share what it was like to be served by others and to serve them.

Parent Toolbox: Offering Hospitality to Others

Inviting others to be guests in our homes is an excellent way to teach our children about offering hospitality to others. But remember that hospitality is not about putting on a special meal or having a spotless home to show off. It's about welcoming people into our lives as we are and them as they are. Good hospitality focuses on giving not just food but our true selves to the guest. It treats the guest as a member of the household and allows them to see the "real us". In so doing it invites them to show us the "real them". Some of the best hospitality can happen in a messy home and around a dinner table where the main dish is canned soup. The key is to be genuine and genuinely welcoming!