

**TWENTY-NINTH SUNDAY
IN ORDINARY TIME**

YEAR B

PRAYER OF THE DAY:

Patient God,
you wait on us
as we struggle,
and often fail to do your will.
Turn us from our selfish ways
to serve each other.
May we be alive to the needs
of our families and friends,
and so be like Jesus,
the servant of us all.
We make this prayer
through Christ, our Lord.

FOCUS OF THE READINGS:

The focus of the readings is the difficult message that suffering, willingly accepted in an attitude of service, can be a means of salvation. The "servant" in Isaiah gives his life for sins of others and "his suffering will save many people." Jesus presents the same challenge. It is the servant, not the power-loving rulers, who image the life of Jesus. It is the servant, whose life is given willingly, who saves many people. Both readings present the profound mystery of salvation through suffering.

FIRST READING: Isaiah 53:10-11

This is a reading from the prophet Isaiah.

If my servant gives his life
to make up for the sins of others,
he will live to see his family for many years.
He will be doing what God wants him to do.
Because he suffers, he will be given light
and his suffering will save many people.

This is the Word of God.

RESPONSE: Psalm 16 and Psalm 27

RESPONSE:



Have mer-cy God, have mer-cy God. I trust in
you for my safe-ty. safe-ty.

VERSE:

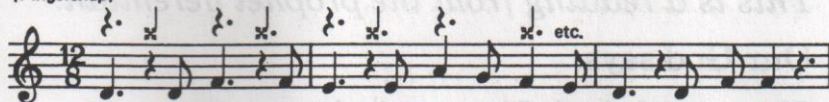


1. You are my light my sav-ior; with your help I shall not be a-fraid.
2. When it is dark a-round me, noth-ing takes me a-way from your love.

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GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:

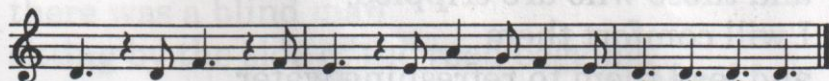
(Fingersnap)



"If you want to be the great-est you must serve my bro-thers



serve my sis-ters." Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.



"If you want to be the great-est you must serve."

GOSPEL: *Mark 10:42-45*

This is a reading from the Gospel of Mark.

Jesus said to his disciples,

You know that rulers of the gentiles
(who don't believe in God) use their power
to take advantage of the people.
Those rulers love to feel very important
and to have other people serve them.

But you must not be like that.

If you want to be truly great,
you must serve others.

And if you want to be the most important,
you must serve everyone.

I did not come so that others could serve me.

I came so that I could serve everyone.

I came to give my life to save all people.

This is the Good News of the Lord.

REFLECTING ON THE READINGS WITH CHILDREN:

Ask the children if they have ever played in games where one or two children take charge and bully the rest of the children. Ask them how they feel when this happens and why the other children continue to play with these bullies.

- How did Jesus describe the leaders who don't believe in God?
- What did he say about being leaders among Christians?
- How did he describe Christian leaders?
- Who did Jesus say are the truly great people in Christianity?
- Do you know anyone who serves others:
 - in our parish?
 - in your school?
 - in your family?
- How are they like Jesus?

Help the children see that Jesus gave his life for others by dying, yes, but also by the way he lived.

- How can we be like him?

As always, it is important to keep the children focused on ideas appropriate and reasonable for their age level.