

**FIRST READING: Micah 6:1-8**

Hear what the LORD says:

Rise, plead your case before the mountains,  
and let the hills hear your voice.

<sup>2</sup>Hear, you mountains, the controversy of the LORD,  
and you enduring foundations of the earth;  
for the LORD has a controversy with his people,  
and he will contend with Israel.

<sup>3</sup>“O my people, what have I done to you?

In what have I wearied you? Answer me!

<sup>4</sup>For I brought you up from the land of Egypt,  
and redeemed you from the house of slavery;  
and I sent before you Moses, Aaron, and Miriam.

<sup>5</sup>O my people, remember now what King Balak of  
Moab devised,  
what Balaam son of Beor answered him,  
and what happened from Shittim to Gilgal,  
that you may know the saving acts of the LORD.”

<sup>6</sup>“With what shall I come before the LORD,  
and bow myself before God on high?  
Shall I come before him with burnt offerings,  
with calves a year old?

<sup>7</sup>Will the LORD be pleased with thousands of rams,  
with ten thousands of rivers of oil?  
Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression,  
the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?”

<sup>8</sup>He has told you, O mortal, what is good;  
and what does the LORD require of you  
but to do justice, and to love kindness,  
and to walk humbly with your God?

**Psalm 15****SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 1:18-31**

The message about the cross is foolishness to those  
who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is  
the power of God. <sup>19</sup>For it is written,

“I will destroy the wisdom of the wise,  
and the discernment of the discerning I will  
thwart.”

<sup>20</sup>Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe?  
Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made  
foolish the wisdom of the world? <sup>21</sup>For since, in the  
wisdom of God, the world did not know God through  
wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our

proclamation, to save those who believe. <sup>22</sup>For Jews  
demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, <sup>23</sup>but we  
proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews  
and foolishness to Gentiles, <sup>24</sup>but to those who are  
the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of  
God and the wisdom of God. <sup>25</sup>For God’s foolishness  
is wiser than human wisdom, and God’s weakness is  
stronger than human strength.

<sup>26</sup>Consider your own call, brothers and sisters: not  
many of you were wise by human standards, not many  
were powerful, not many were of noble birth. <sup>27</sup>But  
God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the  
wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame  
the strong; <sup>28</sup>God chose what is low and despised in the  
world, things that are not, to reduce to nothing things  
that are, <sup>29</sup>so that no one might boast in the presence  
of God. <sup>30</sup>He is the source of your life in Christ Jesus,  
who became for us wisdom from God, and righteous-  
ness and sanctification and redemption, <sup>31</sup>in order  
that, as it is written, “Let the one who boasts, boast in  
the Lord.”

**GOSPEL: Matthew 5:1-12**

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the moun-  
tain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him.  
<sup>2</sup>Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

<sup>3</sup>“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the  
kingdom of heaven.

<sup>4</sup>“Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be  
comforted.

<sup>5</sup>“Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the  
earth.

<sup>6</sup>“Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righ-  
teousness, for they will be filled.

<sup>7</sup>“Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive  
mercy.

<sup>8</sup>“Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see  
God.

<sup>9</sup>“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be  
called children of God.

<sup>10</sup>“Blessed are those who are persecuted for righ-  
teousness’ sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

<sup>11</sup>“Blessed are you when people revile you and per-  
secute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely  
on my account. <sup>12</sup>Rejoice and be glad, for your reward  
is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted  
the prophets who were before you.”

**Next Sunday’s Readings:** Isaiah 58:1-9a [9b-12]; Psalm 112:1-9 [10]; 1 Corinthians 2:1-12 [13-16]; Matthew 5:13-20.

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