

Lectio Divina



Lectio Divina for the Twenty-seventh Week in Ordinary Time

We begin our prayer:

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Almighty ever-living God,
who in the abundance of your kindness
surpass the merits and the desires of those who
entreat you,
pour out your mercy upon us
to pardon what conscience dreads
and to give what prayer does not dare to ask.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the
Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever.

Collect, Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

Reading (*Lectio*)

Read the following Scripture two or three times.
Luke 17:5-10

The apostles said to the Lord, "Increase our faith." The Lord replied, "If you have faith the size of a mustard seed, you would say to this mulberry tree, 'Be uprooted and planted in the sea,' and it would obey you.

"Who among you would say to your servant who has just come in from plowing or tending sheep in the field, 'Come here immediately and take your place at table'? Would he not rather say to him, 'Prepare something for me to eat. Put on your apron and wait on me while I eat and drink. You may eat and drink when I am finished'? Is he grateful to that servant because he did what was commanded? So should it be with you. When you have done all you have been commanded, say, 'We are unprofitable servants; we have done what we were obliged to do.'"

Meditation (*Meditatio*)

After the reading, take some time to reflect in silence on one or more of the following questions:

- What word or words in this passage caught your attention?
- What in this passage comforted you?
- What in this passage challenged you?

If practicing lectio divina as a family or in a group, after the reflection time, invite the participants to share their responses.

Prayer (*Oratio*)



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Read the Scripture passage one more time. Bring to the Lord the praise, petition, or thanksgiving that the Word inspires in you.

Oh, that today you would hear his voice:
"Harden not your hearts as at Meribah,
as in the day of Massah in the desert,
Where your fathers tempted me;
they tested me though they had seen my works."

Contemplation (*Contemplatio*)

From Psalm 95

Read the Scripture again, followed by this reflection:

What conversion of mind, heart, and life is the Lord asking of me?

If you have faith the size of a mustard seed.... How am I nurturing the seed of my faith? What resources do I have that can strengthen my faith?

Come here immediately and take your place at table. To what is God calling me? Who needs to be invited to the table?

When you have done all you have been commanded.... How faithfully do I live the commandments? What sinful behavior do I need to bring to God for healing?

After a period of silent reflection and/or discussion, all recite the Lord's Prayer and the following:

Closing Prayer:

Come, let us sing joyfully to the LORD;
let us acclaim the Rock of our salvation.
Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving;
let us joyfully sing psalms to him.

Come, let us bow down in worship;
let us kneel before the LORD who made us.
For he is our God,
and we are the people he shepherds,
the flock he guides.

Living the Word This Week

How can I make my life a gift for others in charity?

Before bed each night, review your day to discern how faithfully you followed the commandments and lived your faith and to recognize when God was present.

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