

For Our Household Church: Prophets Among the People

4th SUNDAY in Ordinary Time: 2022 January 30th

CALL TO THE FEAST

All: In the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen!

(You may begin by singing a song together.)

Leader: It is our desire and response to your love that brings us to give you thanks today. Creator God, your bountiful gifts we come to know both on earth and in the heavens. Your gifts sustain us both physically and spiritually, as individuals and in community

Leader: Your Word created the world. **All:** Thank you, Source of Life!

Leader: The design and harmony we see in Creation is the fruit of your Word.

All: Thank you, Incarnating Word!

Leader: You gave us the same Word made flesh as Mediator. **All:** Thank you, Word Made Flesh!

Leader: Jesus has spoken your words to us and called us to follow him. **All:** Thank you for your call!

Leader: Jesus is the way that leads us to you. **All:** Thank you for walking with us!

Leader: Jesus is the truth that sets us free. **All:** Thank you for opening our eyes to see you!

Leader: Jesus is the life that fills us with gladness. **All:** Thank you, Source of Life!

Leader: Through Jesus you continue to gather people of every nation, race, tribe and culture.

All: Open our eyes to see your face in everyone we encounter!

Leader: You made all of us into one family for the glory of your name. **All:** Thank you for our family!

Leader: You redeemed all of us by the Blood of his Cross. **All:** May our witness heal others!

Leader: You signed us with the seal of the Spirit in Baptism and Confirmation

All: as well as in every moment you break into our awareness and we are inspired to respond to other people's needs as you would. Amen!

READING AND FAITH SHARING FOR THE DAY:

Today's Gospel is found in [Lk 4:21-30](#) The complete Readings. Each of the Readings can be read or simply the Gospel. While someone reads the Scripture(s), listen well. Be aware of the image being painted, or the story being told. Does the story or the image call to mind anything similar in your own life or experience? After reading, share your impressions of the Reading(s) with each other:

In order to dig into the Readings today, take a moment to reflect on the word and idea: prophet.

✓ Name some of the prophets of the Hebrew Scriptures (the Old Testament). Do you have a favorite?

✓ Can you identify the message of any of the prophets?

Jeremiah is the prophet in the 1st Reading. His message is one of JUDGEMENT against the land, the kings, the priests and a call to return to G-d's teaching, commandments, attentiveness!!

✓ How did that message work in the history of the dance with Judah/Israel/Zion and the prophets?

✓ Can you recall any prophet having a message that was adhered to?

Luke has Jesus play the paradox of Word Proclaimed and Word in Action. Jesus' notoriety at Nazareth for "curing" and "wonder working" (who wouldn't want a winemaker at a wedding) was a "Come here and do that for us!" Jesus' message was, "Come walk with me and we can change the way things are done – together." The paisanos reacted with, "who do you think you are?" They attempted to do away with him as was done with prophets before him – eliminate the "conscience one."

✓ Who were the people that heard Jesus' message of accompaniment and mentoring?

✓ What was their impetus to accompany him in return? [his witness, compassion, being present...]

Prayer text based on EP VN III

Charles McCarthy, franciscan: <https://swfranciscans.org/fr-charles-mccarthy-sunday-agape-reflections>

Paul, in writing to the Corinthians (2nd Reading), defines the prophetic message with a new tack – Gospel, Good News: from standing in judgement to modeling by accompanying and mentoring the desired relationship.

- ✓ *How does the message of modeling/mentoring, expressed in defining the early community, as read about in the Acts of the Apostles and Paul's letters, impact people's lives?*
- ✓ *How has a Prophetic message (judgement of the OT or accompaniment/mentoring of the NT) impacted your life?*
- ✓ *In what moments have you seen either or both of these active in the ministry of the community of Faith where you identify? ...in the model of Faith practiced in your family? ...by yourself?*

Prophets in the Hebrew Scriptures (Old Testament), as well as disciples of Jesus, were drawn, in large part, from the "laity."

- ✓ *Who are the prophets of our own time? Which approach is obvious in their action?*

If you have ever participated in a Liturgical Church's Baptism Ritual, you will have heard words to the effect that the person is Baptized and anointed as "Priest, Prophet and King." The office of Prophet resides in each of us – the Baptized.

- ✓ *When have you acted prophetically in your life?*
- ✓ *Was it more in the model expressed by Jeremiah or that defined by Paul in Corinthians? Which has been most effective in your action to personal conversion?*

Consider rereading/re-praying the part of this agape, Call to the Feast.

- ✓ *Which aspects of the ministry of Jesus have been impactful for you? ...by whom?*
- ✓ *How have you been able to incarnate aspects of Jesus' ministry expressed there? Which ones?*

SHARING THE FEAST

Creator God, Source of All Life, we gather in our household (*present to each other as well as at a distance*) to remember and celebrate the Life, Teaching, Death and Resurrection of Jesus, your Son.

We long to gather with our parish community and to share the Bread of Life and the Cup of Salvation. But since we are separate from the community now, know of our desire to receive you in the Sacrament. Recognize our desire as we break the bread of your Word and the bread of our table (*Take bread (rice-cakes, chapati, naan, pita, tortilla, oatcakes, sweet bread, baguette, etc.), break/tear it and share it with one another.*) As we drink (*Distribute glasses of water, wine, other*), we seek to quench our spiritual thirst by opening ourselves to your presence in one another.

PRAYER OF THANKS AND PRIASE

All: We thank you for the leadership of Francisco our pope and for the pastoral ministry of (Arch)Bishop *N*. **Leader:** Keep him safe and healthy.

All: We ask your animation in the life and ministry of our pastor *N*, and the Deacon(s) *N, N*, who serve our larger faith community.

All: We recognize you in and thank you for our family, **Leader:** both near and far.

Leader: You teach us the value of community and mutuality **All:** in our friends and neighbors.

All: May we learn to understand and respond to the signs of the times and live in the light of faith,

Leader: being devoted in serving the Gospel.

All: Open our eyes to the needs of all. **Leader:** By accompanying others in their grief and sharing their pain **All:** may we help heal division and strife.

Leader: By sharing their joy and hope, **All:** may we bring the good news of salvation.

All: We remember the people who have died in this pandemic. **Leader** Bring them to your Peace.

Leader: For what else do we pray:

Conclude with the Our Father.

Leader: Peace be with you all!

All: In the Name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen!
(You may end by singing a song together.)