

FIRST READING

Samuel 26:2, 7–9,
12–13, 22–23

A reading from the book of Samuel

One day Saul took three thousand of his best soldiers
and went to look for David in the desert near Ziph.

That night David and Abishai went into the camp.
Saul was sleeping with his spear stuck in the ground near his head,
while Abner and the soldiers were sleeping all around him.

Abishai whispered to David,
“This time God has given you the chance to kill your enemy.
I’ll pin him to the ground with his own sword,
and I won’t have to try but once.”

David whispered back, “Don’t kill him!
The LORD will punish anyone who kills his chosen king.”

David took the spear and the water jar,
and then the two men left.
None of Saul’s soldiers knew what had happened or even woke up,
because the LORD had made them all fall sound asleep.

David and Abishai crossed the valley and went to the top of the hill,
where they were at a safe distance.

David said, “Your majesty, here is your spear.
Have one of your young men come and get it.
The LORD put you in my power today.
But you are his chosen king,
and I refused to harm you,
because the LORD rewards people who are honest and faithful.”

The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

Psalm 103:1–2, 3, 13

All: *The Lord is kind and merciful.*

*With all my heart
I praise the LORD,
and with all that I am
I praise his holy name!
With all my heart
I praise the LORD!
I will never forget
how kind he has been.*

All: *The Lord is kind and merciful.*

*The LORD forgives our sins, heals
us when we are sick.
Just as parents are kind
to their children,
the LORD is kind
to all who worship him.*

All: *The Lord is kind and merciful.*

GOSPEL
Luke 6:27–37

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

Jesus said to his disciples:

“This is what I say to all who will listen to me:

Love your enemies,

and be good to everyone who hates you.

Ask God to bless anyone who curses you,

and pray for everyone who is cruel to you.

If someone slaps you on one cheek,

don't stop that person from slapping you on the other cheek.

If someone wants to take your coat,

don't try to keep back your shirt.

Give to everyone who asks

and don't ask people to return what they have taken from one.

Treat others just as you want to be treated.

“If you love only someone who loves you,
will God praise you for that?

Even sinners love people who love them.

If you are kind only to someone who is kind to you,

will God be pleased with you for that?

Even sinners are kind to people who are kind to them.

If you lend money only to someone you think will pay you back,

will God be pleased with you for that?

Even sinners lend to sinners

because they think they will get it all back.

“But love your enemies and be good to them.

“Lend without expecting to be paid back.

Then you will get a great reward,

and you will be the true children of God in heaven.

He is good even to people who are unthankful and cruel.

Have pity on others.

just as your Father has pity on you.

GOSPEL
Luke 6:27–37

(continued)

“Don’t judge others,
and God will not judge you.
Don’t be hard on others,
and God will not be hard on you.
Forgive others,
and God will forgive you.”

The Gospel of the Lord.