



**Archdiocese of St. Louis  
Office of Sacred Worship  
Lectio Divina**

**Friday of the Fourteenth Week in Ordinary Time Year II**

**Lectionary: 387: Hos 14:2-10/Ps 51:3-4, 8-9, 12-13, 14 and 17/Jn 16:13a; 14:26d/Mt 10:16-23**

Read the following passage four times.

- The first reading, simply read the scripture and pause for a minute.  
Listen to the passage with the ear of the heart. Don't get distracted by intellectual types of questions about the passage. Just listen to what the passage is saying to you, right now.
- The second reading, look for a key word or phrase that draws your attention.  
Notice if any phrase, sentence or word stands out and gently begin to repeat it to yourself, allowing it to touch you deeply. No elaboration. In a group setting, you can share that word/phrase or simply pass.
- The third reading, pause for 2-3 minutes reflecting on "*Where does the content of this reading touch my life today?*"  
Notice what thoughts, feelings, and reflections arise within you. Let the words resound in your heart. What might God be asking of you through the scripture? In a group setting, you can share your reflection or simply pass.
- The fourth reading, pause for 2-3 minutes reflecting on "*I believe that God wants me to . . . . . today/this week.*"  
Notice any prayerful response that arises within you, for example a small prayer of gratitude or praise. In a group setting, you can share your reflection or simply pass.

**Reading**

*Hos 14:2-10*

Thus says the Lord:

Return, Israel, to the LORD, your God; you have stumbled because of your iniquity. Take with you words, and return to the LORD; Say to him, "Forgive all iniquity, and take what is good. Let us offer the fruit of our lips. Assyria will not save us, nor will we mount horses; We will never again say, 'Our god,' to the work of our hands; for in you the orphan finds compassion." I will heal their apostasy, I will love them freely; for my anger is turned away from them. I will be like the dew for Israel: he will blossom like the lily; He will strike root like the Lebanon cedar, and his shoots will go forth. His splendor will be like the olive tree and his fragrance like Lebanon cedar. Again they will live in his shade; they will raise grain, They will blossom like the vine, and his renown will be like the wine of Lebanon.

Ephraim! What more have I to do with idols? I have humbled him, but I will take note of him. I am like a verdant cypress tree. From me fruit will be found for you!

Who is wise enough to understand these things? Who is intelligent enough to know them? Straight are the paths of the LORD, the just walk in them, but sinners stumble in them.



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**Responsorial Psalm**

*Ps 51:3-4, 8-9, 12-13, 14 and 17*

***R. My mouth will declare your praise.***

Have mercy on me, God, in accord with your merciful love; in your abundant compassion blot out my transgressions. Thoroughly wash away my guilt; and from my sin cleanse me.

***R. My mouth will declare your praise.***

Behold, you desire true sincerity; and secretly you teach me wisdom. Cleanse me with hyssop, that I may be pure; wash me, and I will be whiter than snow.

***R. My mouth will declare your praise.***

A clean heart create for me, God; renew within me a steadfast spirit. Do not drive me from before your face, nor take from me your holy spirit.

***R. My mouth will declare your praise.***

Restore to me the gladness of your salvation; uphold me with a willing spirit. Lord, you will open my lips; and my mouth will proclaim your praise.

***R. My mouth will declare your praise.***



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**Alleluia**

*Jn 16:13a; 14:26d*

**R. Alleluia, alleluia.**

When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you to all truth and remind you of all I told you.

**R. Alleluia, alleluia.**

**Gospel**

*Mt 10:16-23*

Jesus said to his Apostles: "Behold, I am sending you like sheep in the midst of wolves; so be shrewd as serpents and simple as doves. But beware of men, for they will hand you over to courts and scourge you in their synagogues, and you will be led before governors and kings for my sake as a witness before them and the pagans. When they hand you over, do not worry about how you are to speak or what you are to say. You will be given at that moment what you are to say. For it will not be you who speak but the Spirit of your Father speaking through you. Brother will hand over brother to death, and the father his child; children will rise up against parents and have them put to death. You will be hated by all because of my name, but whoever endures to the end will be saved. When they persecute you in one town, flee to another. Amen, I say to you, you will not finish the towns of Israel before the Son of Man comes."