



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

Lectio Divina

Saint Martin of Tours, Bishop

Lectionary: 673: Is 61:1-3abcd/Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 21-22, 25 and 27/Jn 13:34/Mt 25:31-40

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.

First Reading

Is 61:1-3abcd

The spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me, because the LORD has anointed me; He has sent me to bring good news to the afflicted, to bind up the brokenhearted, To proclaim liberty to the captives, release to the prisoners, To announce a year of favor from the LORD and a day of vindication by our God; To comfort all who mourn; to place on those who mourn in Zion a diadem instead of ashes, To give them oil of gladness instead of mourning, a glorious mantle instead of a faint spirit.



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Responsorial Psalm

Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 21-22, 25 and 27

R. For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.

I will sing of your mercy forever, LORD proclaim your faithfulness through all ages. For I said, "My mercy is established forever; my faithfulness will stand as long as the heavens.

R. For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.

I have made a covenant with my chosen one; I have sworn to David my servant: I will make your dynasty stand forever and establish your throne through all ages."

R. For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.

I have chosen David, my servant; with my holy oil I have anointed him. My hand will be with him; my arm will make him strong.

R. For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.

My faithfulness and mercy will be with him; through my name his horn will be exalted. He shall cry to me, 'You are my father, my God, the Rock of my salvation!'

R. For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.



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Alleluia

Jn 13:34

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

I give you a new commandment: love one another.

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

Gospel

Mt 25:31-40

Jesus said to his disciples:

"When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, he will sit upon his glorious throne, and all the nations will be assembled before him. And he will separate them one from another, as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. He will place the sheep on his right and the goats on his left. Then the king will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father. Inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world. For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, a stranger and you welcomed me, naked and you clothed me, ill and you cared for me, in prison and you visited me.' Then the righteous will answer him and say, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink? When did we see you a stranger and welcome you, or naked and clothe you? When did we see you ill or in prison, and visit you?' And the king will say to them in reply, 'Amen, I say to you, whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me.'