

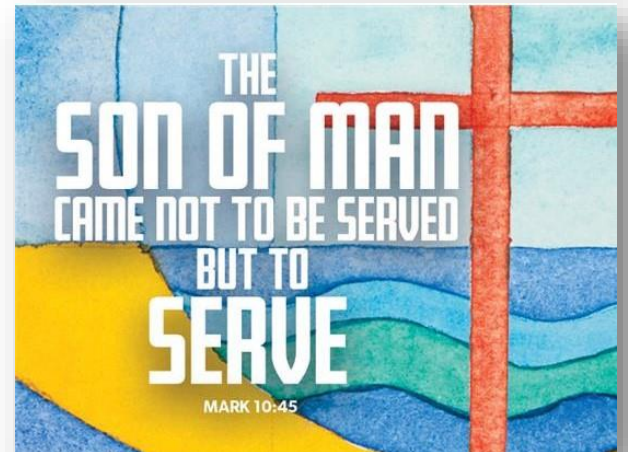
About the Readings on October 20, 2024

****Click on the links for the Bible Verse(s)*

Sunday, October 16–22

Lectionary 29

Each Sunday we assemble around the cross. This Sunday this Christian movement is evident in all the readings. In the Spirit we celebrate Christ's resurrection, for God has saved Jesus and us all from death.



Isaiah 53:4-12

The passage from Isaiah, most well-known as the first reading on Good Friday, is set next to Mark's words about the cross since the Old Testament passages such as the fourth Servant Song were essential material for early Christian interpretation of the death of Christ. Evangelists who were not present at Jesus' death describe the crucifixion in language taken from Isaiah 53.

The Psalm for the Day

Having heard from Isaiah 53 about the suffering of the Servant, we respond by joining in [Psalm 91:9-16](#), in which we beg God for protection from all evil. The prayer is marked by confidence that God will indeed guard us in all our ways. In the resurrection, Jesus too was rescued from "the lion and the serpent."

Hebrews 5:1-10

Jesus Christ, the source of eternal salvation, sacrificed himself for the people, and we follow him by living as servants of one another. Hebrews stresses not Jesus' victimization, but his authority as high priest and his willingness to suffer. We speak about this as the mystery of Christ.

Mark 10:35-45

The cup we share and the baptism we undergo are signs of the death of Christ, whose glory is the cross. Yet our confidence in the victory of Christ leads us away from domineering attitudes and into lives of service.