

Reading for Weekday in Ordinary Time

23rd October 2026

First reading

Ephesians 4:1-6

‘One body, one Lord, one faith, one baptism.’

Brothers and Sisters: I, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. There is one body and one Spirit — just as you were called to the one hope that belongs to your call — one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 24(23):1-2. 3-4b. 5-6. R cf. 6

Such are the people who seek your face, O Lord.

The Lord's is the earth and its fullness, the world, and those who dwell in it.

It is he who set it on the seas; on the rivers he made it firm.

Who shall climb the mountain of the Lord? Who shall stand in his holy place?

The clean of hands and pure of heart, whose soul is not set on vain things.

Blessings from the Lord shall he receive, and right reward from the God who saves him.

Such are the people who seek him, who seek the face of the God of Jacob.

Gospel Acclamation

Cf. Matthew 11:25

Alleluia, alleluia.

I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth,

you have revealed the secrets of the kingdom to little children.

Alleluia.

Gospel

Luke 12:54-59

**‘You know how to interpret the appearance of earth and sky,
but why do you not know how to interpret the present time?’**

At that time: Jesus said to the crowds, ‘When you see a cloud rising in the west, you say at once, “A shower is coming.” And so it happens. And when you see the south wind blowing, you say, “There will be scorching heat”, and it happens. You hypocrites! You know how to interpret the appearance of earth and sky, but why do you not know how to interpret the present time?

‘And why do you not judge for yourselves what is right? As you go with your accuser before the magistrate, make an effort to settle with him on the way, lest he drag you to the judge, and the judge hand you over to the officer, and the officer put you in prison. I tell you, you will never get out until you have paid the very last penny.’

Short reflection on the reading for today

We often talk about the weather. It's a useful topic of conversation when we have nothing much else to say. Our weather is so changeable that it varies from day to day, so there is always something to say about it. It has either been raining a while back, or it is still raining or will be raining before long. A whole week without rain considered worthy of special mention.

The people in Jesus's time noticed the weather too. They knew what to expect from the direction of the wind, and so could "read the face of the earth and the sky." Sadly they were unable to read signs of the times. They failed to recognize that God was among them in a special way.

We too can be very aware of the weather but not so aware of how God is present to us. Jesus will be with us always until the end of time. The signs of his presence can be subtle and non-dramatic, but true and real. We pray for sight to see how the Lord is present to us, especially in and through those whom we meet in the course of our day.