

First Reader: **A Reading From Sirach**

Give to the Most High as he has given to you,
and as generously as you can afford.

For the Lord is the one who repays,
and he will repay you sevenfold.

Do not offer him a bribe, for he will not accept it
and do not rely on a dishonest sacrifice;

for the Lord is the judge,
and with him there is no partiality.

He will not show partiality to the poor;
but he will listen to the prayer of one who is wronged.

He will not ignore the supplication of the orphan,
or the widow when she pours out her complaint.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Leader: **Our Responsorial Psalm for today is Psalm 84, verses 1-6**
We will recite the psalm responsively by half-verse.

- 1 How dear to me is your dwelling, O Lord of hosts! *
My soul has a desire and longing for the courts of the Lord;
my heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God.
- 2 The sparrow has found her a house
and the swallow a nest where she may lay her young; *
by the side of your altars, O Lord of hosts,
my King and my God.
- 3 Happy are they who dwell in your house! *
they will always be praising you.
- 4 Happy are the people whose strength is in you! *
whose hearts are set on the pilgrims' way.
- 5 Those who go through the desolate valley will find it a place of springs, *
for the early rains have covered it with pools of water.
- 6 They will climb from height to height, *
and the God of gods will reveal himself in Zion.

Second Reader: **A Reading from 2 Timothy**

I am already being poured out as a libation, and the time of my departure has come. I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. From now on there is reserved for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will give me on that day, and not only to me but also to all who have longed for his appearing.

At my first defense no one came to my support, but all deserted me. May it not be counted against them! But the Lord stood by me and gave me strength, so that through me the message might be fully proclaimed and all the Gentiles might hear it. So I was rescued from the lion's mouth. The Lord will rescue me from every evil attack and save me for his heavenly kingdom. To him be the glory forever and ever. Amen.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE: Form VI

Leader: In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

Hold Silence for a moment

Leader: For all people in their daily life and work;

People: For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.

For this community, the nation, and the world;

For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.

For the just and proper use of your creation;

For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;

For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.

In our Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, we pray for: Calvary, Richmond; Christ Church, Eagle Lake; and Christ Church, Matagorda. For the peace and unity of the Church of God;

For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.

For Andy, our Diocesan Bishop; Kai, Jeff, Hector, and Brian, our bishops; For all bishops and other ministers;

For all who serve God in his church.

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation.

Hold brief silence

Hear us, Lord;

For your mercy is great.

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.

Hold brief silence.

We exalt you, O God our King;

And praise your Name for ever and ever.

We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.

Hold brief silence.

Lord, let your loving kindness be upon them;

Who put their trust in you.

The Celebrant will say a concluding Collect.