

Reading for 21st Sunday of Ordinary Time-A

Reading 1, *Isaiah 22:15, 19-23*

¹⁵ The Lord Yahweh Sabaoth says this: Go and find that steward, Shebna, the master of the palace: ¹⁹ I shall hound you from your office, I shall snatch you from your post ²⁰ and, when that day comes, I shall summon my servant Eliakim son of Hilkiah. ²¹ I shall dress him in your tunic, I shall put your sash round his waist, I shall invest him with your authority; and he will be a father to the inhabitants of Jerusalem and to the House of Judah. ²² I shall place the key of David's palace on his shoulder; when he opens, no one will close, when he closes, no one will open. ²³ I shall drive him like a nail into a firm place; and he will become a throne of glory for his family.

Responsorial Psalm, *Psalms 138:1-2, 2-3, 6, 8*

¹ [Of David] I thank you, Yahweh, with all my heart, for you have listened to the cry I uttered. In the presence of angels I sing to you, ² I bow down before your holy Temple.

I praise your name for your faithful love and your constancy; your promises surpass even your fame. ³ You heard me on the day when I called, and you gave new strength to my heart.

⁶ Sublime as he is, Yahweh looks on the humble, the proud he picks out from afar.

⁸ Yahweh will do all things for me. Yahweh, your faithful love endures for ever, do not abandon what you have made.

Reading 2, *Romans 11:33-36*

³³ How rich and deep are the wisdom and the knowledge of God! We cannot reach to the root of his decisions or his ways. ³⁴ Who has ever known the mind of the Lord? Who has ever been his adviser? ³⁵ Who has given anything to him, so that his presents come only as a debt returned? ³⁶ Everything there is comes from him and is caused by him and exists for him. To him be glory for ever! Amen.

Gospel, *Matthew 16:13-20*

¹³ When Jesus came to the region of Caesarea Philippi he put this question to his disciples, 'Who do people say the Son of man is?' ¹⁴ And they said, 'Some say John the Baptist, some Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.' ¹⁵ 'But you,' he said, 'who do you say I am?' ¹⁶ Then Simon Peter spoke up and said, 'You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.' ¹⁷ Jesus replied, 'Simon son of Jonah, you are a blessed man! Because it was no human agency that revealed this to you but my Father in heaven. ¹⁸ So I now say to you: You are Peter and on this rock I will build my community. And the gates of the underworld can never overpower it. ¹⁹ I will give you the keys of the kingdom of Heaven: whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven; whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.' ²⁰ Then he gave the disciples strict orders not to say to anyone that he was the Christ.