

October 2, 2016 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time

**Let everything that lives and breathes give praise to the Lord!**

Habakkuk 1:2-3, 2:2-4 Psalm 95:1-2, 6-9 2 Timothy 1:6-8, 13-14 Luke 17:5-10



In the first reading Habakkuk's prayer is emphatic in describing the ruin, misery, strife, destruction, and violence that surrounds the people. God's response is a vision that will not disappoint indicating patience is necessary since its fulfillment will surely come. Those who are rash lack integrity but the faithful just man shall live.

The psalmist praise is for the God that shepherds us. We need to be thankful and joyful and careful in not hardening our hearts in difficult situations. Enter your prayer with thanksgiving and confidence.

The second reading encourages us to build upon God's gift given us. The Spirit gives us power, love, and self-control in order to bear hardships for the sake of the gospel.

In the Gospel the apostles ask Jesus to increase their faith and they are told of the great potential in the seed of faith. Our faith, and its power, is to be used by us to serve those around us and we should not expect recognition for doing what we are obliged to do.



In the midst of our daily work we can prayerfully look  
to our heavenly Father.

In the midst of our daily work we can reach out to neighbor  
and accomplish the common good  
with guidance from Jesus.

In the midst of our daily work we can visualize our life's labors  
with the hope of immortality  
that is kindled by the Holy Spirit.

All things are from the Father, through the Son, in the Holy Spirit.

Habakkuk lived when the reality of the times was quite discouraging. The Lord answers his prayers with a vision that encourages a positive outlook. Even the disciples who walked with the Lord had to ask Him to increase their faith. Jesus points to a mustard seed, the smallest of seeds, in order to emphasize that our continuing faith, small as it may be, has tremendous potential for growth and accomplishment. Pray that your faith grows strong and sends out branches to shelter another seeking God's truth.

<http://melkaplace.com>