

**God himself will take us into his hands!**

Wisdom 11:22-12:2

Psalm 145:1-2, 8-9, 10-11, 13-14

2 Thessalonians 1:11-2:2

Luke 19:1-10

In the first reading Wisdom tells us that the Lord can do all things, has mercy on all, and loves all the things he has made. Offenders, on the other hand, are rebuked little by little with continual warnings that remind them of the sins they are committing in order that they abandon their wickedness.

The psalm reminds us that the Lord lifts up all who are falling. He is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, of great kindness, faithful in all his words, and holy in all his works. As the faithful we are to continually bless the Lord, speak of his might, and discourse of his glory.

Paul prays for the brothers and sisters in faith that they may be worthy of the calling they have received, and that their good purposes and efforts in faith all come to fulfillment. Jesus is to be glorified in them, as they are to be glorified in Jesus and not to be shaken when the day of the Lord comes to pass.

In the Gospel Jesus is passing through Jericho and calls upon Zacchaeus' hospitality. In repentance Zacchaeus promises to give half of all his possessions to the poor and to repay fourfold any one he has ever cheated. Jesus makes the point that he comes to seek and save what was lost and emphasizes salvation has come to this man's house this very day.

**One God in nature;****God the Father, God the co-eternal Son, God the Holy Spirit.**

Zacchaeus was a tax collector and considered a sinner by the community. Yet, Jesus saw something good in this little man who had to climb a tree in order to see him. Zacchaeus' generous response proved Jesus was right and many poor were helped by the change of heart that must surely have surprised many. Christ can bring radical change for the better to those who open their hearts to his words. We must not cling to reticence and stubbornness that hinder the work of Jesus' call for change

**We can instruct others by change in our personal behavior.**

- If they are angry, respond with meekness.
- If they have unwarranted pride, let your humility show.
- If they are blasphemous, keep them in your prayers.
- If they are in error, keep steadfast in faith.
- If they act badly, be gentle.
- If they are unaware of their hypocrisy, be sincere.
- If they are judgmental, exemplify understanding.
- If they are rude, be kind and considerate.