

# SERIES A TEXTS

## Lectionary 18

### Isaiah 55:1-5

<sup>1</sup> Ho, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and **you** that have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. <sup>2</sup> Why do **you** spend **your** money for that which is not bread, and **your** labor for that which does not satisfy? Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good, and delight **yourselves** in rich food. <sup>3</sup> Incline **your** ear, and come to me; listen, so that **you** may live. I will make with **you** an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David. <sup>4</sup> See, I made him a witness to the peoples, a leader and commander for the peoples. <sup>5</sup> See, you shall call nations that you do not know, and nations that do not know you shall run to you, because of the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, for he has glorified you.

### Psalm 145:8-9, 14-21

<sup>8</sup> The LORD is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. <sup>9</sup> The LORD is good to all, and his compassion is over all that he has made. <sup>14</sup> The LORD upholds all who are falling, and raises up all who are bowed down. <sup>15</sup> The eyes of all look to you, and you give them their food in due season. <sup>16</sup> You open your hand, satisfying the desire of every living thing. <sup>17</sup> The LORD is just in all his ways, and kind in all his doings. <sup>18</sup> The LORD is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth. <sup>19</sup> He fulfills the desire of all who fear him; he also hears their cry, and saves them. <sup>20</sup> The LORD watches over all who love him, but all the wicked he will destroy. <sup>21</sup> My mouth will speak the praise of the LORD, and all flesh will bless his holy name forever and ever.

### Romans 9:1-5

<sup>1</sup> I am speaking the truth in Christ-- I am not lying; my conscience confirms it by the Holy Spirit-- <sup>2</sup> I have great sorrow and unceasing anguish in my heart. <sup>3</sup> For I could wish that I myself were accursed and cut off from Christ for the sake of my own people, my kindred according to the flesh. <sup>4</sup> They are Israelites, and to them belong the adoption, the glory, the covenants, the giving of the law, the worship, and the promises; <sup>5</sup> to them belong the patriarchs, and from them, according to the flesh, comes the Messiah, who is over all, God blessed forever. Amen.

### Matthew 14:13-21

<sup>13</sup> Now when Jesus heard this, he withdrew from there in a boat to a deserted place by himself. But when the crowds heard it, they followed him on foot from the towns. <sup>14</sup> When he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had compassion for them and cured their sick. <sup>15</sup> When it was evening, the disciples came to him and said, "This is a deserted place, and the hour is now late; send the crowds away so that they may go into the villages and buy food for themselves." <sup>16</sup> Jesus said to them, "They need not go away; **you** give them something to eat." <sup>17</sup> They replied, "We have nothing here but five loaves and two fish." <sup>18</sup> And he said, "Bring them here to me." <sup>19</sup> Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven, and blessed and broke the loaves, and gave them to the

## **SERIES A TEXTS**

disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds. <sup>20</sup> And all ate and were filled; and they took up what was left over of the broken pieces, twelve baskets full. <sup>21</sup> And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children.