

FIRST READING: Acts 16:9-15 Paul takes the good news to Philippi (*MEV*, alt)

⁹ During the night a vision appeared to Paul: A man of Macedonia stood and pleaded with him, saying, "Come over to Macedonia and help us."

¹⁰ After he had seen the vision, immediately we sought to go into Macedonia, concluding that the Lord had called us to preach the gospel to them. ¹¹ From Troas we set sail on a straight course to Samothrace and

the next day to Neapolis, ¹² and from there to Philippi, which is the main city of that part of Macedonia, and a Roman colony. We stayed in this city several days. ¹³ On the Sabbath we went out of the city to a riverside,

where prayer was customarily offered. And we sat down and spoke to the women who had assembled. ¹⁴ A woman named Lydia, a seller of purple fabric of the city of Thyatira, who worshipped God, heard us. The Lord

opened her heart to acknowledge what Paul said. ¹⁵ When she and her household were baptised, she entreated us, saying, "If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come to my house and remain there." And she persuaded us.

PSALM: Psalm 67 (*MEV*)

¹ May God be gracious to us, and bless us, and cause His face to shine on us; Selah ² that Your way may be known on earth, Your salvation among all nations. ³ Let the peoples praise You, O God; let all the peoples praise You. ⁴ Oh, let the nations be glad and sing for joy; for You will judge the

people uprightly, and lead the nations on earth. Selah ⁵ Let the peoples praise You, O God; let all the peoples praise You. ⁶ Then will the earth yield its produce, and God, our God, will bless us. ⁷ God will bless us, and all the

ends of the earth will fear Him.

SECOND READING: Revelation 21:10,22 - 22:5 The new Jerusalem (*NET*)

^{21:10} And he [one of the seven angels] carried me away in the Spirit to a mountain great and high, and showed me the Holy City, Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God. ^{21:22} I did not see a temple in the city,

because the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are its temple. ²³ The city does not need the sun or the moon to shine on it, for the glory of God gives it light, and the Lamb is its lamp. ²⁴ The nations will walk by its light,

and the kings of the earth will bring their splendour into it. ²⁵ On no day will its gates ever be shut, for there will be no night there. ²⁶ The glory and honour of the nations will be brought into it. ²⁷ Nothing impure will ever enter it, nor will anyone who does what is shameful or deceitful, but only those whose names are written in the Lamb's book of life. ^{22:1} Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, as clear as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb ² down the middle of the great street of the city. On each side of the river stood the tree of life, bearing twelve crops of fruit, yielding its fruit every month. And the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations. ³ No longer will there be any curse. The throne of God and of the Lamb will be in the city, and His servants will serve Him. ⁴ They will see His face, and His name will be on their foreheads. ⁵ There will be no more night. They will not need the light of a lamp or the light of the sun, for the Lord God will give them light. And they will reign for ever and ever.

GOSPEL: John 14:23-29 'I am going to the Father' (NRSV)

²³ Jesus answered him [Judas, not Iscariot], 'Those who love Me will keep My word, and My Father will love them, and We will come to them and make our home with them. ²⁴ Whoever does not love Me does not keep My words; and the word that you hear is not Mine, but is from the Father who sent Me. ²⁵ 'I have said these things to you while I am still with you. ²⁶ But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you. ²⁷ Peace I leave with you; My peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid. ²⁸ You heard Me say to you, "I am going away, and I am coming to you." If you loved Me, you would rejoice that I am going to the Father, because the Father is greater than I. ²⁹ And now I have told you this before it occurs, so that when it does occur, you may believe.