



*Psalm, continued*

Happy are they who have  
the God of Jacob <sup>1</sup> for their help,  
whose hope is in the <sup>1</sup> LORD their  
God;  
<sup>6</sup>who made heaven and earth, the seas,  
and all that <sup>1</sup> is in them;  
who keeps promis- <sup>1</sup> es forever;  
<sup>7</sup>who gives justice to those  
who are oppressed,  
and food to <sup>1</sup> those who hunger.  
The LORD sets the <sup>1</sup> captive free.

<sup>8</sup>The LORD opens the eyes of the blind;  
the LORD lifts up those  
who <sup>1</sup> are bowed down;  
the LORD <sup>1</sup> loves the righteous.  
<sup>9</sup>The LORD cares <sup>1</sup> for the stranger;  
the LORD sustains  
the orphan and widow,  
but frustrates the way <sup>1</sup> of the wicked.  
<sup>10</sup>The LORD shall <sup>1</sup> reign forever,  
your God, O Zion, throughout  
all generations. <sup>1</sup> Hallelujah!

*or Luke 1:46b-55 [not printed]*

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## Second Reading

James 5:7-10

Be patient, therefore, beloved, until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious crop from the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains. <sup>8</sup>You also must be patient. Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near. <sup>9</sup>Beloved, do

not grumble against one another, so that you may not be judged. See, the Judge is standing at the doors! <sup>10</sup>As an example of suffering and patience, beloved, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

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## Gospel

Matthew 11:2-11

When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples <sup>3</sup>and said to him, "Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?" <sup>4</sup>Jesus answered them, "Go and tell John what you hear and see: <sup>5</sup>the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. <sup>6</sup>And blessed is anyone who takes no offense at me."

<sup>7</sup>As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: "What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? <sup>8</sup>What

then did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. <sup>9</sup>What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. <sup>10</sup>This is the one about whom it is written,

'See, I am sending my messenger  
ahead of you,  
who will prepare your way  
before you.'

<sup>11</sup>Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he."

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**Next Sunday's Readings:** Isaiah 7:10-16; Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19; Romans 1:1-7; Matthew 1:18-25.

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