

[James Theodore Holly, Bishop of Haiti, and of the Dominican Republic, 1911]

Transferred from Tuesday, March 13, 2018 for Wed 3/14

**Collect of the Day**

*Celebrant*           The Lord be with you.

*People*               ***And also with you.***

*Celebrant*           Let us pray.

Almighty God, who gave to your servant *N.* boldness to confess the Name of our Savior Jesus Christ before the rulers of this world, and courage to die for this faith: Grant that we may always be ready to give a reason for the hope that is in us, and to suffer gladly for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

**First Reading**

Deuteronomy 6:20-25

A Reading from the book of Deuteronomy.

Moses said: When your children ask you in time to come, "What is the meaning of the decrees and the statutes and the ordinances that the LORD our God has commanded you?" then you shall say to your children, "We were Pharaoh's slaves in Egypt, but the LORD brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand. The LORD displayed before our eyes great and awesome signs and wonders against Egypt, against Pharaoh and all his household. He brought us out from there in order to bring us in, to give us the land that he promised on oath to our ancestors. Then the LORD commanded us to observe all these statutes, to fear the LORD our God, for our lasting good, so as to keep us alive, as is now the case. If we diligently observe this entire commandment before the LORD our God, as he has commanded us, we will be in the right."

*Reader*               The Word of the Lord.

*People*               ***Thanks be to God.***

**Psalm 86:11-17**

11 Teach me your way, O LORD,  
and I will walk in your truth; \*  
***knit my heart to you that I may fear your Name.***

12 I will thank you, O LORD my God, with all my heart, \*  
***and glorify your Name for evermore.***

13 For great is your love toward me; \*  
***you have delivered me from the nethermost Pit.***

14 The arrogant rise up against me, O God,  
and a band of violent men seeks my life; \*  
***they have not set you before their eyes.***

15 But you, O LORD, are gracious and full of compassion, \*  
***slow to anger, and full of kindness and truth.***

16 Turn to me and have mercy upon me; \*  
***give your strength to your servant;  
and save the child of your handmaid.***

17 Show me a sign of your favor,  
so that those who hate me may see it and be ashamed; \*  
***because you, O LORD, have helped me and comforted me.***

## Second Reading

Acts 8:26-39

A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

Then an angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Get up and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." (This is a wilderness road.) So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. Then the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over to this chariot and join it." So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" He replied, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this: "Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter, and like a lamb silent before its shearer, so he does not open his mouth. In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken away from the earth." The eunuch asked Philip, "About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?" Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, "Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?" He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing.

*Reader*            The Word of the Lord.  
*People*            ***Thanks be to God.***

## Holy Gospel

John 4:31-38

*All stand.*

*Deacon*            The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.  
*People*            Glory to you, Lord Christ.

The disciples were urging Jesus, "Rabbi, eat something." But he said to them, "I have food to eat that you do not know about." So the disciples said to one another, "Surely no one has brought him something to eat?" Jesus said to them, "My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to complete his work. Do you not say, 'Four months more, then comes the harvest'? But I tell you, look around you, and see how the fields are ripe for harvesting. The reaper is already receiving wages and is gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together. For here the saying holds true, 'One sows and another reaps.' I sent you to reap that for which you did not labor. Others have labored, and you have entered into their labor."

*Deacon*            The Gospel of the Lord.  
*People*            ***Praise to you, Lord Christ.***