

The Feast of Saint Augustine August 28

Reading 1 —Acts 2:42-47

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

All those who believed were equal and held everything in common. The brethren devoted themselves to the apostles' instruction and the communal life, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. A reverent fear overtook them all, for many wonders and signs were performed by the apostles.

They shared all things in common; they would sell their property and goods, dividing everything on the basis of each one's need. They went to the temple area together every day, while in their homes they broke bread. With exultant and sincere hearts they took their meals in common, praising God and winning the approval of all the people. Day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

The Word of the Lord.

Psalm —Ps 84:1-5, 10

R. Happy is the one who dwells in your house, O Lord

How lovely is your dwelling place, O LORD of hosts!
My soul yearns and pines for the courts of the LORD.
My heart and my flesh cry out for the living God.

R. Happy is the one who dwells in your house, O Lord

Even the sparrow has found a home, and the swallow a nest for in which she puts her young
Your altars, O Lord of hosts, my king of my God.

R. Happy is the one who dwells in your house, O Lord

Blessed are those who dwell in your house; they are ever praising you.

R. Happy is the one who dwells in your house, O Lord

Blessed are those whose strength is in you, whose hearts are set on pilgrimage.

R. Happy is the one who dwells in your house, O Lord

Better is one day in your courts than a thousand elsewhere;
I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God
than dwell in the tents of the wicked.

R. Happy is the one who dwells in your house, O Lord

Reading 2 —2Tim 4:1-8

A reading from the second letter of Paul to Timothy
Preach the word; stay with this task whether convenient or inconvenient.
In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is coming to judge the living and the dead, and by his appearing and his kingly power, I charge you to preach the word, to stay with this task whether convenient or inconvenient--correcting, reproving, appealing--constantly teaching and never losing patience. For the time will come when people will not tolerate sound doctrine, but, following their own desires, will surround themselves with teachers who tickle their ears. They will stop listening to the truth and will wander off to fables. As for you, be steady and self-possessed; put up with hardship, perform your work as an evangelist, fulfill your ministry.

For my part I am already being poured out like a libation. The time of my dissolution is near. I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. From now on a merited crown awaits me; on that Day the Lord, just judge that he is, will award it to me--and not only to me but to all who have looked for his appearing with eager longing.

The Word of the Lord.

Gospel—John 10: 7-18

Jesus said:

"My solemn word is this: I am the sheepgate.

All who came before me
were thieves and marauders
whom the sheep did not heed.

"I am the gate.
Whoever enters through me will be safe.
He will go in and out, and find pasture.
The thief comes
only to steal and slaughter and destroy.
I came
that they might have life
and have it to the full."

"I am the good shepherd;
the good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.
The hired hand, who is no shepherd
nor owner of the sheep,
catches sight of the wolf coming
and runs away, leaving the sheep
to be snatched and scattered by the wolf.
That is because he works for pay;
he has no concern for the sheep.

"I am the good shepherd.
I know my sheep
and my sheep know me
in the same way that the Father knows me
and I know the Father;
for these sheep I will give my life.
"I have other sheep
that do not belong to this fold.
I must lead them, too,
and they shall hear my voice.
There shall be one flock then, one shepherd.
The Father loves me for this:
that I lay down my life
to take it up again.
No one takes it from me;
I lay down freely.
I have power to lay it down,
and I have power to take it up again.
"This command I received from my Father."

This is the gospel of the Lord.