

First Scripture Reading  
**Acts 1:15-17, 21-26**  
from the Common English Bible

<sup>15</sup>During this time, the family of believers was a company of about one hundred twenty persons. Peter stood among them and said, <sup>16</sup>“Brothers and sisters, the scripture that the Holy Spirit announced beforehand through David had to be fulfilled. This was the scripture concerning Judas, who became a guide for those who arrested Jesus. <sup>17</sup>This happened even though he was one of us and received a share of this ministry.” <sup>21</sup>“Therefore, we must select one of those who have accompanied us during the whole time the Lord Jesus lived among us, <sup>22</sup>beginning from the baptism of John until the day when Jesus was taken from us. This person must become along with us a witness to his resurrection.” <sup>23</sup>So they nominated two: Joseph called Barsabbas, who was also known as Justus, and Matthias. <sup>24</sup>They prayed, “Lord, you know everyone’s deepest thoughts and desires. Show us clearly which one you have chosen from among these two <sup>25</sup>to take the place of this ministry and apostleship, from which Judas turned away to go to his own place.” <sup>26</sup>When they cast lots, the lot fell on Matthias. He was added to the eleven apostles.

This is the word of God for the people of God.

**Thanks be to God.**

Psalm Reading  
**1**  
from the Common English Bible

- <sup>1</sup>The truly happy person doesn’t follow wicked advice...  
**doesn’t stand on the road of sinners, and doesn’t sit with the disrespectful.**
- <sup>2</sup>Instead of doing those things, these persons love the Lord’s Instruction...  
**and they recite God’s Instruction day and night!**
- <sup>3</sup>They are like a tree replanted by streams of water, which bears fruit at just the right time and whose leaves don’t fade.  
**Whatever they do succeeds.**
- <sup>4</sup>That’s not true for the wicked! They are like dust that the wind blows away.  
<sup>5</sup>**And that’s why the wicked will have no standing in the court of justice - neither will sinners in the assembly of the righteous.**
- <sup>6</sup>The Lord is intimately acquainted with the way of the righteous...  
**but the way of the wicked is destroyed.**

Second Scripture Reading

**John 14:1-4, 6b-7, 27-31a**

from the Common English Bible

<sup>1</sup>“Don’t be troubled. Trust in God. Trust also in me. <sup>2</sup>My Father’s house has room to spare. If that weren’t the case, would I have told you that I’m going to prepare a place for you? <sup>3</sup>When I go to prepare a place for you, I will return and take you to be with me so that where I am you will be too. <sup>4</sup>You know the way to the place I’m going.” <sup>6b</sup>“I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. <sup>7</sup>If you have really known me, you will also know the Father. From now on you know him and have seen him.” <sup>27</sup>“Peace I leave with you. My peace I give you. I give to you not as the world gives. Don’t be troubled or afraid. <sup>28</sup>You have heard me tell you, ‘I’m going away and returning to you.’ If you loved me, you would be happy that I am going to the Father, because the Father is greater than me. <sup>29</sup>I have told you before it happens so that when it happens you will believe. <sup>30</sup>I won’t say much more to you because this world’s ruler is coming. He has nothing on me. <sup>31a</sup>Rather, he comes so that the world will know that I love the Father and do just as the Father has commanded me.