

Scripture Readings March 11/12, 2023

First Reading: Exodus 17:1-7

¹From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the LORD commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. ²The people quarreled with Moses, and said, "Give us water to drink." Moses said to them, "Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the LORD?" ³But the people thirsted there for water; and the people complained against Moses and said, "Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?" ⁴So Moses cried out to the LORD, "What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me." ⁵The LORD said to Moses, "Go on ahead of the people, and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. ⁶I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink." Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. ⁷He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarreled and tested the LORD, saying, "Is the LORD among us or not?"

The Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

Psalm: 95

¹Come, let us sing to the LORD; let us shout for joy to the rock of our salvation.
²**Let us come before God's presence with thanksgiving and raise a loud shout to the LORD with psalms.**
³For you, LORD, are a great God, and a great ruler above all gods.
⁴**In your hand are the caverns of the earth; the heights of the hills are also yours.**
⁵The sea is yours, for you made it, and your hands have molded the dry land.
⁶**Come, let us worship and bow down, let us kneel before the LORD our maker.**
⁷For the LORD is our God, and we are the people of God's pasture and the sheep of God's hand. Oh, that today you would hear God's voice!
⁸**"Harden not your hearts, as at Meribah, as on that day at Massah in the desert.**
⁹There your ancestors tested me, they put me to the test, though they had seen my works.
¹⁰**Forty years I loathed that generation, saying, 'The heart of this people goes astray; they do not know my ways.'**
¹¹Indeed I swore in my anger, 'They shall never come to my rest.' "