

MONDAY *≈* Third Week of Easter

≈ FIRST READING *Acts 6:8-15*

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

Stephen was a man full of God's grace and power. He worked wonders and miracles among the people. Some Jews from different synagogues were against him. They argued with Stephen, but they could not match his wisdom or the Spirit who moved him to speak. Then they secretly got some men to spread lies: "We heard Stephen say things against Moses and against God!" They stirred up the people, the elders and teachers of the law. They seized Stephen and made him face the Jewish leaders. They brought in more men to tell lies: "This man is always saying things against this holy place and against the law. We heard him say that this Jesus of Nazareth will destroy this place. He also said he would change what Moses told us to do." Everyone at the meeting was watching Stephen closely. They saw that his face was like the face of an angel.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

≈ PSALM RESPONSE *Psalms 119:23-24, 26-27, 29-30*

REFRAIN: Happy are those who always do what God says. (Or: Alleluia!)

Even if princes speak against me, O Lord, I will follow your way.

Your rules bring me joy; you give me good advice. *(Refrain.)*

I told about my life, and you answered me. Teach me what you expect of me.

Help me understand your rules, and I will think about your wonderful works. *(Refrain.)*

Keep me honest; be kind to me as you teach me to obey.

I want to obey you; I want to be faithful to you. *(Refrain.)*

≈ GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia! My sheep listen to my voice, says the Lord. I know them and they follow me. Alleluia!

≈ GOSPEL *John 6:22-29*

A reading from the Gospel according to John.

The crowd stayed on the other side of the lake. The next day, they found the one boat on shore that was there the day before. But Jesus and his followers were gone. Then some boats came from Tiberias. They landed near the place where the people had eaten the bread after the Lord had given thanks. Once they saw that Jesus and his followers were not there, they got into the boats to go look for Jesus. They found him on the other side of the lake. "Rabbi," they asked, "when did you get here?" Jesus answered, "You are not looking for me because you saw my power in miracles. No, you are looking for me because you ate all the bread you wanted. Do not spend your lives working for such food. It doesn't last. Work for the kind of food that lasts and that will make you live forever. The One sent by God — the Son of Man — gives you that kind of food. God the Father has placed on him his seal of approval." Then they asked him, "Rabbi, what is the work of God? What does God want us to do?" Jesus answered, "The work that God wants you to do is this: to believe in the One sent by God."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.