

**CALL TO PRAYER**

*Begin by calling upon God:* In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, Amen.

Let us pause for a moment, and listen attentively to this week's passage.



**THE WORD OF GOD**

**Matthew 21:33-43**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Jesus said to the chief priests and the elders of the people: "Hear another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a hedge around it, dug a wine press in it, and built a tower. Then he **leased** it to **tenants** and went on a journey. When **vintage time** drew near, he sent his servants to the tenants to obtain his produce. But the tenants seized the servants and one they beat, another they killed, and a third they **stoned**. Again he sent other servants, more numerous than the first ones, but they treated them in the same way. Finally, he sent his son to them, thinking, 'They will respect my son.' But when the tenants saw the son, they said to one another, 'This is the heir. Come, let us kill him and acquire his **inheritance**.' They seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. What will the owner of the vineyard do to those tenants when he comes?" They answered him, "He will put those wretched men to a wretched death and lease his vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the proper times." Jesus said to them, "Did you never read in the Scriptures: *The stone that the builders rejected has become the **cornerstone**; by the Lord has this been done, and it is wonderful in our eyes?* Therefore, I say to you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that will produce its fruit."

The Gospel of the Lord

**FAITH SHARING**

**Questions of the Week**

*Choose one*

1. What makes you feel peaceful inside? What makes you feel restless?
2. How do you thank God for the talents that you have? How do you give back to God through the use of your talent?
3. What steps do you take each week to make sure you are doing as Paul directs: "Live according to what you have learned and accepted."?



**CLOSING PRAYER**

Loving God, your love for us surpasses all our hopes and desires. Forgive our failings, keep us in your peace and lead us in the way of salvation. We ask this, as we ask all things, through Christ our Lord, Amen.

**GOSPEL WORD SEARCH**

R S E I Z E D D S E  
 A J U N T I N E T N  
 W T G H H J S N O I  
 S T S E I R P O N W  
 F A M R N H W T E R  
 W I Z I K E L S E E  
 T T B T I I G J L S  
 E C T A N R E D E D  
 V J P N G C E R N E  
 V I Z C T R U R O T  
 E Y N E S T F S T N  
 T L D E P T T T S A  
 T S B I Y N L P R L  
 Y I R A A A M R E P  
 C C U N R U R O N W  
 S K E R C A R D R N  
 O T Q X F H P U O A  
 D E S A E L I C C R  
 L A N D O W N E R U  
 V I N T A G E I F O

- |             |            |
|-------------|------------|
| CHIEF       | REJECTED   |
| CORNERSTONE | SCRIPTURES |
| ELDERS      | SEIZED     |
| FRUIT       | STONE      |
| HEIR        | STONED     |
| INHERITANCE | TENANTS    |
| LANDOWNER   | THINKING   |
| LEASED      | TIME       |
| PARABLE     | VINEYARD   |
| PLANTED     | VINTAGE    |
| PRIESTS     | WINE       |
| PRODUCE     |            |

**GOSPEL GLOSSARY**

- To lease** means to rent. An **inheritance** is a gift left for you by someone who has died.
- A **tenant** is someone who rents a piece of land. A **cornerstone** is a foundation block on the bottom corner of a building. It is the most important block because it holds the walls together.
- Vintage time** is when the grapes are ready for harvest.
- To stone** is to kill someone by throwing stones at him.