

2nd Sunday Ordinary Time

The common thread binding today's readings is a celebration of relationships. They speak of the relationships between Yahweh and the people as well as that which binds God's people to one another.

In the 1st reading, Isaiah describes the relationship between Yahweh and the chosen people. At this time the people were returning from the Babylonian exile. Prophets promised vindication and proclaimed hope. Jerusalem would rise again if the people would remain faithful to the covenant. All the tribes would be united again. They would worship Yahweh as one human family.

The 2nd reading describes the practice of the early Christian community. Goods were held in common. Child care and support of the elderly was a shared responsibility. "There are varieties of gifts, but the same spirit." The talents gifted were needed by the whole community. No talent was greater than any other.

The Gospel celebrates the relationship between bridegroom and bride. In Jesus' time people gathered from near and far to add blessings to the union. The ancient near east concept of family and the responsibility each person had for another is an idea that is somewhat foreign to our contemporary culture