

FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

February 2, 2020

Year A, Revised Common Lectionary

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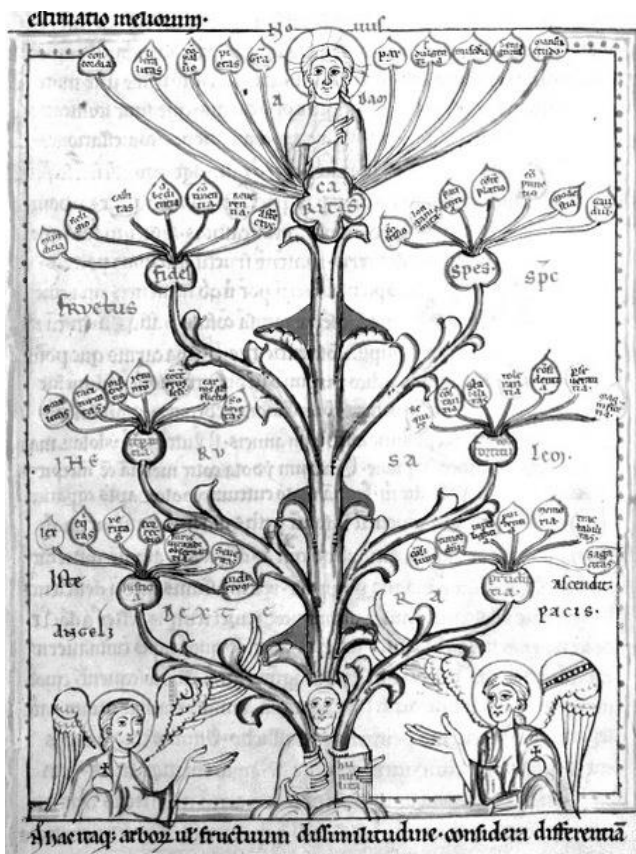
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Tree of Virtues (with Humility at the root of it all.) Speculum Virginum manuscript, Cistercian abbey of Himmerode, Germany, early 13th century.

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Psalm 15

- ✘ LORD, who may abide in your tent? Who may dwell on your holy hill?
- ✘ Those who walk blamelessly, and do what is right, and speak the truth from their heart;
- ✘ who do not slander with their tongue, and do no evil to their friends, nor take up a reproach against their neighbors;
- ✘ in whose eyes the wicked are despised, but who honor those who fear the LORD; who stand by their oath even to their hurt;
- ✘ who do not lend money at interest, and do not take a bribe against the innocent. Those who do these things shall never be moved.

1 Corinthians 1:18-31 For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written, "I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart." Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength. Consider your own call, brothers and sisters not many of you were wise by human standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; God chose what is low and despised in the world, things that are not, to reduce to nothing things that are, so that no one might boast in the presence of God. He is the source of your life in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification and redemption, in order that, as it is written, "Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord."

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