

February 12 / Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time

WE COME TO a section of Matthew’s Sermon on the Mount that scholars call the “antitheses,” marked by the rhetorical pattern, “You have heard that it was said ... But I say to you....” It may seem that Jesus is replacing the law and tradition with a new teaching. But his introduction to these antitheses is important. Jesus does not abolish the law but calls us to follow it to its letter, striving even to surpass the scribes and Pharisees in observing it.

I can hear liturgical rubricists and proponents of “do the red, say the black” rejoicing! But before we get too carried away, let’s go deeper—which is exactly Jesus’s point. Following the rules is essential. However, true righteousness must go even

further—much further, to the relationships underlying the law.

As disciples of Christ, we are called to do more than just follow the law, whether liturgical, moral, or civil. We can’t just avoid breaking them or going over a line. We must look at the people affected by these laws, rubrics, and guidelines and discern if our entire being and orientation of life—our thoughts, words, choices, and actions—reflect how God sees them. If not, then we need to put down our hymnals and well-crafted homilies and go and repair those relationships. Then come back and praise God as best we can. —DM

Hymnals

	W4	G4	G3	LM2	RS2	OC	VCS	OIF
<i>All Glory Is Yours</i>		672	605					
<i>All of Me</i>		923						
<i>Be God's</i>							25	
<i>Caminemos con Jesus / Let Us Walk with Jesus</i>		881						
<i>Christ Has No Body Now But Yours (Lawton)</i>		860						
<i>Christ Has No Body Now But Yours (Warner)</i>			760		882			691
<i>Eye Has Not Seen</i>	713	785	728		819	595		
<i>Follow Me</i>		880						
<i>Forgive Our Sins</i>	967	1054	965		1062	779		
<i>God of Abraham</i>		858						
<i>God, Whose Purpose Is to Kindle</i>	797	885	813		905			
<i>Grant to Us, O Lord</i>								579
<i>Guide My Feet</i>		864	780	537	896			
<i>He Had a Dream</i>				658				
<i>In God's Time</i>		946						869
<i>O Lord, the Guardian of My Heart</i>			654					
<i>Praise and Thanksgiving</i>	856	699	861		753	700		
<i>Table of the World</i>		861						
<i>The Joy of the Gospel</i>		859			875			
<i>The Kingdom of God</i>	720	805	736		840	602		883
<i>The Kingdom of God (Taizé)</i>		810	740		846			
<i>The Rock of Faith</i>							265	
<i>We Will Serve the Lord</i>							295	
<i>What is the Pattern</i>								731
<i>Were I the Perfect Child of God</i>		877						
<i>Wisdom, My Road</i>			583					768
<i>Woke Up This Morning</i>				2				

W4
Worship
4th Edition

G4
Gather
4th Edition

G3
Gather
3rd Edition

LM2
Lead Me, Guide Me
2nd Edition

RS2
Ritual Song
Second Edition

OC
Oramos
Cantando

VCS
Voices

OIF
One in Faith