Jesus said, “The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. After agreeing with the laborers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard.

When he went out about nine o’clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace; and he said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.’ So they went.

When he went out again about noon and about three o’clock, he did the same. And about five o’clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, ‘Why are you standing here idle all day?’ They said to him, ‘Because no one has hired us.’ He said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard.’

When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager,
‘Call the labor-ers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.’ 9 When those hired a-bout five o’-clock came, each of them received the usual dai-ly wage. 10 Now when the first came, they thought they would re-ceive more; but each of them also received the usual dai-ly wage. 11 And when they re-ceived it, they grumbled against the landowner, 12 saying, ‘These last worked on-ly one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorch-ing heat.’ 13 But he replied to one of them, ‘Friend, I am do-ing you no wrong; did you not a-gree with me for the us-u-al dai-ly wage? 14 Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. 15 Am I not al-low-ed to do what I choose with what be-longs to me? Or are you en-vi-ous be-cause I am gen-er-ous?’ 16 So the last will be first, and the first will be last.” The Gospel of the Lord.