

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

*Give me justice, O God,
and plead my cause against a nation that is faithless.
From the deceitful and cunning rescue me,
for you, O God, are my strength.*

COLLECT

By your help, we beseech you, Lord our God,
may we walk eagerly in that same charity
with which, out of love for the world,
your Son handed himself over to death.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever.

Amen.

FIRST READING Isaiah 43:16-21

A reading from the prophet Isaiah.

Thus says the Lord,
who made a way through the sea,
a path in the great waters;
who put chariots and horse in the field
and a powerful army,
which lay there never to rise again,
snuffed out, put out like a wick:

No need to recall the past,
no need to think about what was done before.
See, I am doing a new deed,
even now it comes to light; can you not see it?
Yes, I am making a road in the wilderness,
paths in the wilds.

The wild beasts will honour me,
jackals and ostriches,
because I am putting water in the wilderness
(rivers in the wild)
to give my chosen people drink.
The people I have formed for myself
will sing my praises.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM Psalm 125

RESPONSE: *What marvels the Lord worked for us!
Indeed we were glad.*

1. When the Lord delivered Zion from bondage,
it seemed like a dream.
Then was our mouth filled with laughter,
on our lips there were songs. **R.**
2. The heathens themselves said: "What marvels
the Lord worked for them!"
What marvels the Lord worked for us!
Indeed we were glad. **R.**
3. Deliver us, O Lord, from our bondage
as streams in dry land.
Those who are sowing in tears
will sing when they reap. **R.**
4. They go out, they go out, full of tears,
carrying seed for the sowing;
they come back, they come back, full of song,
carrying their sheaves. **R.**

SECOND READING Philippians 3:8-14

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians.

I believe nothing can happen that will outweigh the supreme
advantage of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For him I have
accepted the loss of everything, and I look on everything as so
much rubbish if only I can have Christ and be given a place in
him. I am no longer trying for perfection by my own efforts, the

perfection that comes from the Law, but I want only the perfection
that comes through faith in Christ, and is from God and based on
faith. All I want is to know Christ and the power of his resurrection
and to share his sufferings by reproducing the pattern of his death.
That is the way I can hope to take my place in the resurrection of
the dead. Not that I have become perfect yet: I have not yet won,
but I am still running, trying to capture the prize for which Christ
Jesus captured me. I can assure you my brothers, I am far from
thinking that I have already won. All I can say is that I forget the
past and I strain ahead for what is still to come; I am racing for
the finish, for the prize to which God calls us upwards to receive
in Christ Jesus.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory!
Seek good and not evil so that you may live,
and that the Lord God of hosts may really be with you.
Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory!*

Or

*Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory!
Now, now – it is the Lord who speaks –
come back to me with all your heart,
for I am all tenderness and compassion.
Praise to you, O Christ, king of eternal glory!*

GOSPEL John 8:1-11

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

Jesus went to the Mount of Olives. At daybreak he appeared in
the Temple again; and as all the people came to him, he sat down
and began to teach them.

The scribes and Pharisees brought a woman along who had
been caught committing adultery; and making her stand there in
full view of everybody, they said to Jesus, "Master, this woman
was caught in the very act of committing adultery, and Moses has
ordered us in the Law to condemn women like this to death by
stoning. What have you to say?" They asked him this as a test,
looking for something to use against him. But Jesus bent down
and started writing on the ground with his finger. As they persisted
with their question, he looked up and said, "If there is one of you
who has not sinned, let him be the first to throw a stone at her."
Then he bent down and wrote on the ground again. When they
heard this they went away one by one, beginning with the eldest,
until Jesus was left alone with the woman, who remained standing
there. He looked up and said, "Woman, where are they? Has no
one condemned you?" "No one, sir," she replied. "Neither do I
condemn you," said Jesus "go away, and don't sin any more."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

Hear us, almighty God,
and, having instilled in your servants
the teachings of the Christian faith,
graciously purify them
by the working of this sacrifice.
Through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

*Has no one condemned you, woman? No one, Lord.
Neither shall I condemn you. From now on, sin no more.*

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

We pray, almighty God,
that we may always be counted among the members of Christ,
in whose Body and Blood we have communion.
Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

Amen.