

**FIRST READING**

8:4-6,9-12

**A reading from the prophet Amos***I will bring famine on the country, a famine not of bread but of hearing the word of the Lord*

**Listen to this, you who trample on the needy  
and try to suppress the poor people of the country,  
you who say, ‘When will New Moon be over  
so that we can sell our corn,  
and sabbath, so that we can market our wheat?  
Then by lowering the bushel, raising the shekel,  
by swindling and tampering with the scales,  
we can buy up the poor for money,  
and the needy for a pair of sandals,  
and get a price even for the sweepings of the wheat.’  
That day – it is the Lord who speaks –  
I will make the sun go down at noon,  
and darken the earth in broad daylight.  
I am going to turn your feasts into funerals,  
all your singing into lamentation;  
I will have your loins all in sackcloth,  
your heads all shaved.  
I will make it a mourning  
like the mourning for an only son,  
as long as it lasts it will be like a day of bitterness.  
See what days are coming – it is the Lord who speaks –  
days when I will bring famine on the country,  
a famine not of bread, a drought not of water,  
but of hearing the word of the Lord.  
They will stagger from sea to sea,  
wander from north to east,  
seeking the word of the Lord and failing to find it.**

**The Word of the Lord.**

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

Psalm 118(119):2,10,20,30,40,131

**R.** Man does not live on bread alone  
but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.

**They are happy those who do his will,  
seeking him with all their hearts,  
I have sought you with all my heart;  
let me not stray from your commands. R.**

**My soul is ever consumed  
in longing for your decrees.  
I have chosen the way of truth  
with your decrees before me. R.**

**See, I long for your precepts;  
then in your justice, give me life.  
I open my mouth and I sigh  
as I yearn for your commands. R.**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

*Lector:* Alleluia *All:* Alleluia!

Psalm 24:4,5

**Teach me your paths, my God,  
make me walk in your truth.**

Alleluia!

*Or:*

*Lector:* Alleluia *All:* Alleluia!

Matthew 11:28

**Come to me, all you who labour and are overburdened,  
and I will give you rest, says the Lord.**

Alleluia!

**FIRST READING**

9:11-15

**A reading from the prophet Amos***I meant to restore the fortunes of my captive people, and I will plant them in their own country.***It is the Lord who speaks:**

**‘That day I will re-erect the tottering hut of David,  
make good the gaps in it, restore its ruins  
and rebuild it as it was in the days of old,  
so that they can conquer the remnant of Edom  
and all the nations that belonged to me.’**

**It is the Lord who speaks, and he will carry this out.**

**‘The days are coming now – it is the Lord who speaks –  
when harvest will follow directly after ploughing,  
the treading of grapes soon after sowing,  
when the mountains will run with new wine  
and the hills all flow with it.**

**I mean to restore the fortunes of my people Israel;  
they will rebuild the ruined cities and live in them,  
plant vineyards and drink their wine,  
dig gardens and eat their produce.**

**I will plant them in their own country,  
never to be rooted up again  
out of the land I have given them,  
says the Lord, your God.’**

**The Word of the Lord.**

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

Psalm 84(85): 9,11-14

**R.** The Lord speaks peace to his people.

**I will hear what the Lord God has to say,  
a voice that speaks of peace,  
peace for his people and his friends  
and those who turn to him in their hearts.**

**R.**

**Mercy and faithfulness have met;  
justice and peace have embraced.  
Faithfulness shall spring from the earth  
and justice look down from heaven.**

**R.**

**R.** The Lord speaks peace to his people.

**The Lord will make us prosper  
and our earth shall yield its fruit.  
Justice shall march before him  
and peace shall follow his steps.**

**R.**

### **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

*Lector:* Alleluia *All:* Alleluia!

Psalm 118:135

**Let your face shine on your servant,  
and teach me your decrees.**

Alleluia!

*Or:*

*Lector:* Alleluia *All:* Alleluia!

John 10:27

**The sheep that belong to me listen to my voice,  
says the Lord,  
I know them and they follow me.**

Alleluia!

**FIRST READING**

2:16,17-18,21-22

**A reading from the prophet Hosea***I will betroth you to myself forever***It is the Lord who speaks:**

**I am going to lure her  
and lead her out into the wilderness  
and speak to her heart.  
There she will respond to me as she did when she was young,  
as she did when she came out of the land of Egypt.  
When that day comes – it is the Lord who speaks –  
she will call me, ‘My husband’,  
no longer will she call me, ‘My Baal.’  
I will betroth you to myself for ever,  
betroth you with integrity and justice,  
with tenderness and love;  
I will betroth you to myself with faithfulness,  
and you will come to know the Lord.**

**The Word of the Lord.****RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

Psalm 144(145):2-9

**R.** The Lord is kind and full of compassion.

**I will bless you day after day  
and praise your name for ever.  
The Lord is great, highly to be praised,  
his greatness cannot be measured.      R.**

**Age to age shall proclaim your works,  
shall declare your mighty deeds,  
shall speak of your splendour and glory,  
tell the tale of your wonderful works.      R.**

**They will speak of your terrible deeds,  
recount your greatness and might.  
They will recall your abundant goodness;  
age to age shall ring out your justice.      R.**

**The Lord is kind and full of compassion,  
slow to anger, abounding in love.  
How good is the Lord to all,  
compassionate to all his creatures.           R.**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

*Lector:* Alleluia *All:* Alleluia!

*cf. 2 Timothy 1:10*

**Our Saviour Jesus Christ abolished death  
and he has proclaimed life through the Good News.**

Alleluia!

*Or:*

*Lector:* Alleluia *All:* Alleluia!

*cf. John 6:63,68*

**Your words are spirit, Lord, and they are life;  
you have the message of eternal life.**

Alleluia!

**FIRST READING**

8:4-7,11-13

**A reading from the prophet Hosea***They sow the wind; they will reap the whirlwind***Thus says the Lord:**

**They have set up kings, but not with my consent,  
and appointed princes, but without my knowledge.  
Out of their own silver and gold they have made idols,  
which are doomed to destruction.**

**I spurn your calf, Samaria, my anger blazes against it.  
(How long will it be before they purge themselves of this,  
the sons of Israel?)**

**A workman made the thing, this cannot be God!**

**Yes, the calf of Samaria shall go up in flames.**

**They sow the wind, they will reap the whirlwind;  
their wheat will yield no ear,  
the ear will yield no flour,  
or, if it does, foreigners will swallow it.**

**Ephraim has built altar after altar,  
they have only served him as occasion for sin.**

**Were I to write out the thousand precepts of my Law for him,  
they would be paid no more attention than those of a stranger.**

**They love sacrificing; right, let them sacrifice!**

**They love meat; right, let them eat it!**

**The Lord takes no pleasure in these.**

**He is now going to remember their iniquity  
and punish their sins;  
they will have to go back to Egypt.**

**The Word of the Lord.**

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

Psalm 113B(115):3-10

**R.** Sons of Israel, trust in the Lord.

**Our God, he is in the heavens;**

**he does whatever he wills.**

**The idols of the heathen are silver and gold,  
the work of human hands.**

**R.**

**They have mouths but they cannot speak;**

**they have eyes but they cannot see;**

**they have ears but they cannot hear;**

**they have nostrils but they cannot smell.**

**R.**

**With their hands they cannot feel;**

**with their feet they cannot walk.**

**Their makers will become like them  
and so will all who trust in them.**

**R.**

**Sons of Israel, trust in the Lord;**

**he is their help and their shield.**

**Sons of Aaron, trust in the Lord;**

**he is their help and their shield.**

**R.**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

*Lector:* Alleluia *All:* Alleluia!

*cf. Ephesians 1:17,18*

**May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ  
enlighten the eyes of our mind,  
so that we can see what hope his call holds for us.**

Alleluia!

*Or:*

*Lector:* Alleluia *All:* Alleluia!

*John 10:14*

**I am the good shepherd, says the Lord;  
I know my own sheep and my own know me.**

Alleluia!

**FIRST READING**

10:1-3,7-8,12

**A reading from the prophet Hosea***It is time to go seeking the Lord*

**Israel was a luxuriant vine  
yielding plenty of fruit.  
The more his fruit increased,  
the more altars he built;  
the richer his land became,  
the richer he made the sacred stones.  
Their heart is a divided heart;  
very well, they must pay for it:  
the Lord is going to break their altars down  
and destroy their sacred stones.  
Then they will say,  
'We have no king  
because we have not feared the Lord.'**

**But what can a king do for us?  
Samaria has had her day.  
Her king is like a straw drifting on the water.  
The idolatrous high places shall be destroyed –  
that sin of Israel;  
thorn and thistle will grow on their altars.  
Then they will say to the mountains, 'Cover us!'  
and to the hills, 'Fall on us!'**

**Sow integrity for yourselves,  
reap a harvest of kindness,  
break up your fallow ground:  
it is time to go seeking the Lord  
until he comes to rain salvation on you.**

**The Word of the Lord.**

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

Psalm 104(105):2-7

**R.** Constantly seek the face of the Lord.

**O sing to the Lord, sing his praise;  
tell all his wonderful works!  
Be proud of his holy name,  
let the hearts that seek the Lord rejoice. R.**

**Consider the Lord and his strength;  
constantly seek his face.  
Remember the wonders he has done,  
his miracles, the judgements he spoke. R.**

**O children of Abraham, his servant,  
O sons of the Jacob he chose.  
He, the Lord, is our God:  
his judgements prevail in all the earth. R.**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

*Lector:* Alleluia *All:* Alleluia!

James 1:18

**By his own choice the Father made us his children  
by the message of the truth,  
so that we should be a sort of first-fruits  
of all that he created.**

Alleluia!

*Or:*

*Lector:* Alleluia *All:* Alleluia!

Mark 1:15

**The kingdom of God is close at hand:  
repent and believe the Good News.**

Alleluia!

**FIRST READING**

11:1-4,8-9

**A reading from the prophet Hosea***I am the Holy One in your midst and have no wish to destroy***Thus says the Lord:**

**When Israel was a child I loved him,  
and I called my son out of Egypt.  
But the more I called to them,  
the further they went from me;  
they have offered sacrifice to the Baals  
and set their offerings smoking before the idols.  
I myself taught Ephraim to walk, I took them in my arms;  
yet they have not understood that I was the one looking after them.  
I led them with reins of kindness,  
with leading-strings of love.  
I was like someone who lifts an infant close against his cheek;  
stooping down to him I gave him his food.  
My heart recoils from it,  
my whole being trembles at the thought.  
I will not give rein to my fierce anger,  
I will not destroy Ephraim again,  
for I am God, not man:  
I am the Holy One in your midst  
and have no wish to destroy.**

**The Word of the Lord.**

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

Psalm 79(80):2-3,15-16

**R.** Let your face shine on us, O Lord,  
and we shall be saved.

**O shepherd of Israel, hear us,  
shine forth from your cherubim throne.  
O Lord, rouse up your might,  
O Lord, come to our help. R.**

**God of hosts, turn again, we implore,  
look down from heaven and see.  
Visit this vine and protect it,  
the vine your right hand has planted. R.**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

*Lector:* Alleluia *All:* Alleluia!

Psalm 94:8

**Harden not your hearts today,  
but listen to the voice of the Lord.**

Alleluia!

*Or:*

*Lector:* Alleluia *All:* Alleluia!

Mark 1:15

**The kingdom of God is close at hand:  
repent and believe the Good News.**

Alleluia!

**FIRST READING**

14:2-10

**A reading from the prophet Hosea***We will not say any more 'Our God!' to what our own hands have made***The Lord says this:****Israel, come back to the Lord your God;  
your iniquity was the cause of your downfall.****Provide yourself with words  
and come back to the Lord.****Say to him, 'Take all iniquity away  
so that we may have happiness again  
and offer you our words of praise.****Assyria cannot save us,  
we will not ride horses any more,  
or say, "Our God!" to what our own hands have made,  
for you are the one in whom orphans find compassion.'****– I will heal their disloyalty,  
I will love them with all my heart,  
for my anger has turned from them.****I will fall like dew on Israel.  
He shall bloom like the lily,  
and thrust out roots like the poplar,  
his shoots will spread far;  
he will have the beauty of the olive  
and the fragrance of Lebanon.****They will come back to live in my shade;  
they will grow corn that flourishes,  
they will cultivate vines  
as renowned as the wine of Helbon.****What has Ephraim to do with idols any more  
when it is I who hear his prayer and care for him?****I am like a cypress ever green,  
all your fruitfulness comes from me.****Let the wise man understand these words.  
Let the intelligent man grasp their meaning.****For the ways of the Lord are straight,  
and virtuous men walk in them,  
but sinners stumble.****The Word of the Lord.**

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

Psalm 50(51):3-4,8-9,12-14,17

**R.** My mouth shall declare your praise.

**Have mercy on me, God, in your kindness.  
In your compassion blot out my offence.  
O wash me more and more from my guilt  
and cleanse me from my sin.**

**R.**

**Indeed you love truth in the heart;  
then in the secret of my heart teach me wisdom.  
O purify me, then I shall be clean;  
O wash me, I shall be whiter than snow.**

**R.**

**A pure heart create for me, O God,  
put a steadfast spirit within me.  
Do not cast me away from your presence,  
nor deprive me of your holy spirit.**

**R.**

**Give me again the joy of your help;  
with a spirit of fervour sustain me,  
O Lord, open my lips  
and My mouth shall declare your praise.**

**R.**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

*Lector:* Alleluia *All:* Alleluia!

1 Peter 1:25

**The word of the Lord remains for ever:  
What is this word?  
It is the Good News that has been brought to you.**

Alleluia!

*Or:*

*Lector:* Alleluia *All:* Alleluia!

John 16:13,14:26

**When the Spirit of truth comes  
he will lead you to the complete truth,  
and he will remind you of all I have said to you.**

Alleluia!

**FIRST READING**

6:1-8

**A reading from the prophet Isaiah***Isaiah's lips cleansed with a burning coal***In the year of King Uzziah's death****I saw the Lord of Hosts seated on a high throne;****his train filled the sanctuary;****above him stood seraphs, each one with six wings:****two to cover its face, two to cover its feet, and two for flying.****And they cried out to one another in this way,****'Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of Hosts.****His glory fills the whole earth.'****The foundations of the threshold****shook with the voice of the one who cried out,****and the Temple was filled with smoke.****I said: 'What a wretched state I am in! I am lost,****for I am a man of unclean lips****and I live among a people of unclean lips,****and my eyes have looked at the King, the Lord of Hosts.'****Then one of the seraphs flew to me,****holding in his hand a live coal****which he had taken from the altar****with a pair of tongs.****With this he touched my mouth and said:****'See now, this has touched your lips,****your sin is taken away,****your iniquity is purged.'****Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying:****'Whom shall I send? Who will be our messenger?'****I answered, 'Here I am, send me.'****The Word of the Lord.**

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

Psalm 92(93):1-2,5

**R.** The Lord is king, with majesty enrobed.

**The Lord is king, with majesty enrobed;  
the Lord has robed himself with might,  
he has girded himself with power.**

**R.**

**The world you made firm, not to be moved;  
your throne has stood firm from of old.  
From all eternity, O Lord, you are.**

**R.**

**Truly your decrees are to be trusted.  
Holiness is fitting to your house,  
O Lord, until the end of time.**

**R.**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

*Lector:* Alleluia *All:* Alleluia!

1 John 2:5

**Whenever anyone obeys what Christ has said,  
God's love comes to perfection in him.**

Alleluia!

*Or:*

*Lector:* Alleluia *All:* Alleluia!

1 Peter 4:14

**It is a blessing for you  
when they insult you for bearing the name of Christ,  
for the Spirit of God rests on you.**

Alleluia!

**FIRST READING**

1:10-17

**A reading from the prophet Isaiah***Make yourselves clean. Take your wrong-doing out of my sight.*

**Hear the word of the Lord,  
you rulers of Sodom;  
listen to the command of our God,  
you people of Gomorrah.  
‘What are your endless sacrifices to me? says the Lord.  
I am sick of holocausts of rams  
and the fat of calves.  
The blood of bulls and of goats revolts me.  
When you come to present yourselves before me,  
who asked you to trample over my courts?  
Bring me your worthless offerings no more,  
the smoke of them fills me with disgust.  
New Moons, sabbaths, assemblies –  
I cannot endure festival and solemnity.  
Your New Moons and your pilgrimages  
I hate with all my soul.  
They lie heavy on me, I am tired of bearing them.  
When you stretch out your hands I turn my eyes away.  
You may multiply your prayers, I shall not listen.  
Your hands are covered with blood,  
wash, make yourselves clean.  
‘Take your wrong-doing out of my sight.  
Cease to do evil.  
Learn to do good,  
search for justice,  
help the oppressed,  
be just to the orphan,  
plead for the widow.’.**

**The Word of the Lord.**

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

Psalm 49(50):8-9. 16-17. 21. 23 R. v. 23

**R.** I will show God's salvation to the upright.

**'I find no fault with your sacrifices,  
your offerings are always before me.  
I do not ask more bullocks from your farms,  
nor goats from among your herds. R.**

**'How can you recite my commandments  
and take my covenant on your lips,  
you who despise my law  
and throw my words to the winds?' R.**

**'You do this, and should I keep silence?  
Do you think that I am like you?  
A sacrifice of thanksgiving honours me  
and I will show God's salvation to the upright.' R.**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

*Lector:* Alleluia *All:* Alleluia!

Matthew 5:10

**Happy those who are persecuted in the cause of right,  
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.**

Alleluia!

**FIRST READING**

7:1-9

**A reading from the prophet Isaiah***If you do not stand by me, you will not stand at all*

**In the reign of Ahaz son of Jotham, son of Uzziah, king of Judah,  
Razon the king of Aram**

**went up against Jerusalem  
with Pekah son of Remaliah, king of Israel,  
to lay siege to it;  
but he was unable to capture it.**

**The news was brought to the House of David.**

**‘Aram’ they said ‘has reached Ephraim.’**

**Then the heart of the king and the hearts of the people shuddered  
as the trees of the forest shudder in front of the wind.**

**The Lord said to Isaiah,**

**‘Go with your son Shear-jashub, and meet Ahaz**

**at the end of the conduit of the upper pool**

**on the Fuller’s Field road,**

**and say to him:**

**“Pay attention, keep calm, have no fear,**

**do not let your heart sink**

**because of these two smouldering stumps of firebrands,**

**or because Aram, Ephraim and the son of Remaliah**

**have plotted to ruin you, and have said:**

**Let us invade Judah and terrorise it**

**and seize it for ourselves,**

**and set up a king there, the son of Tabeel.**

**The Lord says this:**

**It shall not come true; it shall not be.**

**The capital of Aram is Damascus,**

**the head of Damascus, Razon;**

**the capital of Ephraim, Samaria,**

**the head of Samaria, the son of Remaliah.**

**Six or five years more**

**and a shattered Ephraim shall no longer be a people.**

**But if you do not stand by me,**

**you will not stand at all.””**

**The Word of the Lord.**

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

Psalm 47(48):2-8

**R.** God upholds his city for ever.

**The Lord is great and worthy to be praised  
in the city of our God.**

**His holy mountain rises in beauty,  
the joy of all the earth. R.**

**Mount Zion, true pole of the earth,  
the Great King's city!  
God, in the midst of its citadels,  
has shown himself its stronghold. R.**

**For the kings assembled together,  
together they advanced.  
They saw; at once they were astounded;  
dismayed, they fled in fear. R.**

**A trembling seized them there,  
like the pangs of birth.  
or as the east wind destroys  
the ships of Tarshish. R.**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

*Lector:* Alleluia *All:* Alleluia!

Psalm 118:34

**Train me, Lord, to observe your law,  
to keep it with my heart.**

Alleluia!

*Or:*

*Lector:* Alleluia *All:* Alleluia!

Psalm 94:8

**Harden not your hearts today,  
but listen to the voice of the Lord.**

Alleluia!

**FIRST READING**

10:5-7,13-16

**A reading from the prophet Isaiah***Does the axe claim more credit than the man who wields it?***The Lord of hosts says this:****Woe to Assyria, the rod of my anger,  
the club brandished by me in my fury!****I sent him against a godless nation;****I gave him commission against a people that provokes me,  
to pillage and to plunder freely  
and to stamp down like the mud in the streets.****But he did not intend this,  
his heart did not plan it so.****No, in his heart was to destroy,  
to go on cutting nations to pieces without limit.****For he has said:****‘By the strength of my own arm I have done this  
and by my own intelligence, for understanding is mine;****I have pushed back the frontiers of peoples  
and plundered their treasures.****I have brought their inhabitants down to the dust.****As if they were a bird’s nest, my hand has seized  
the riches of the peoples.****As people pick up deserted eggs  
I have picked up the whole earth,  
with not a wing fluttering,  
not a beak opening, not a chirp.’****Does the axe claim more credit than the man who wields it,  
or the saw more strength than the man who handles it?****It would be like the cudgel controlling the man who raises it,  
or the club moving what is not made of wood!****And so the Lord of Hosts is going to send  
a wasting sickness on his stout warriors;  
beneath his plenty, a burning will burn  
like a consuming fire.****The Word of the Lord.**

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

Psalm 93(94):5-10,14-15

**R.** The Lord will not abandon his people.

**They crush your people, Lord,  
they afflict the ones you have chosen  
They kill the widow and the stranger  
and murder the fatherless child. R.**

**And they say: ‘The Lord does not see;  
the God of Jacob pays no heed.’  
Mark this, most senseless of people;  
fools, when will you understand? R.**

**Can he who made the ear, not hear?  
Can he who formed the eye, not see?  
Will he who trains nations not punish?  
Will he who teaches men, not have knowledge? R.**

**The Lord will not abandon his people  
nor forsake those who are his own;  
for judgement shall again be just  
and all true hearts shall uphold it. R.**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

*Lector:* Alleluia *All:* Alleluia!

Matthew 11:25

**Blessed are you, Father,  
Lord of heaven and earth,,  
for revealing the mysteries of the kingdom  
to mere children.**

Alleluia!

**FIRST READING**

26:7-9,12,16-19

**A reading from the prophet Isaiah***Awake and exult, all you who lie in the dust*

**The path of the upright man is straight,  
you smooth the way of the upright.  
Following the path of your judgements,  
we hoped in you, O Lord,  
your name, your memory are all my soul desires.  
At night my soul longs for you  
and my spirit in me seeks for you;  
when your judgements appear on earth  
the inhabitants of the world learn the meaning of integrity.  
O Lord, you are giving us peace,  
since you treat us  
as our deeds deserve.  
Distressed, we search for you, O Lord;  
the misery of oppression was your punishment for us.  
As a woman with child near her time  
writhes and cries out in her pangs,  
so are we, O Lord, in your presence:  
we have conceived, we writhe  
as if we were giving birth;  
we have not given the spirit of salvation to the earth,  
no more inhabitants of the world are born.  
Your dead will come to life,  
their corpses will rise;  
awake, exult,  
all you who lie in the dust,  
for your dew is a radiant dew  
and the land of ghosts will give birth.**

**The Word of the Lord.**

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

Psalm 101(102):13-21

**R.** The Lord looked down from heaven to the earth.

**You, O Lord, will endure for ever  
and your name from age to age.  
You will arise and have mercy on Zion:  
for this is the time to have mercy,  
for your servants love her very stones,  
are moved with pity even for her dust.** **R.**

**The nations shall fear the name of the Lord  
and all the earth's kings your glory,  
when the Lord shall build up Zion again  
and appear in all his glory.  
Then he will turn to the prayers of the helpless;  
he will not despise their prayers.** **R.**

**Let this be written for ages to come  
that a people yet unborn may praise the Lord;  
for the Lord leaned down from his sanctuary on high.  
He looked down from heaven to the earth  
that he might hear the groans of the prisoners  
and free those condemned to die.** **R.**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

*Lector:* Alleluia *All:* Alleluia!

*cf. Psalm 129:5*

**My soul is waiting for the Lord,  
I count on his word.**

Alleluia!

*Or:*

*Lector:* Alleluia *All:* Alleluia!

*Matthew 11:28*

**Come to me, all you who labour and are overburdened,  
and I will give you rest, says the Lord.**

Alleluia!

**FIRST READING**

38:1-6,21-22,7-8

**A reading from the prophet Isaiah***The Lord hears Hezekiah's prayer and heals him***Hezekiah fell ill and was at the point of death.****The prophet Isaiah son of Amoz****came and said to him,****'The Lord says this,****"Put your affairs in order,  
for you are going to die, you will not live."'****Hezekiah turned his face to the wall  
and addressed this prayer to the Lord,****'Ah, Lord, remember, I beg you,****how I have behaved faithfully and with sincerity of heart  
in your presence****and done what is right in your eyes.'****And Hezekiah shed many tears.****Then the word of the Lord came to Isaiah,****'Go and say to Hezekiah,****"The Lord, the God of David your ancestor, says this:****I have heard your prayer and seen your tears.****I will cure you:****in three days' time you shall go up to the Temple of the Lord.****I will add fifteen years to your life.****I will save you from the hands of the king of Assyria,****I will protect this city."'****'Bring a fig poultice,' Isaiah said,****'apply it to the ulcer and he will recover.'****Hezekiah said,****'What is the sign to tell me****that I shall be going up to the Temple of the Lord?'****'Here' Isaiah replied 'is the sign from the Lord****that he will do what he has said.****Look, I shall make the shadow cast by the declining sun  
go back ten steps on the steps of Ahaz.'****And the sun went back the ten steps****by which it had declined.****The Word of the Lord.**

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

Isaiah 38:10-12,16

**R.** You have held back my life, O Lord, from the pit of doom.

**I said, ‘So I must go away,  
my life half spent,  
assigned to the world below  
for the rest of my years.’** **R.**

**I said, ‘No more shall I see the Lord  
in the land of the living,  
no more shall I look upon men  
within this world.’** **R.**

**‘My home is pulled up and removed  
like a shepherd’s tent.  
Like a weaver you have rolled up my life,  
you cut it from the loom.’** **R.**

**‘For you, Lord, my heart will live,  
you gave me back my spirit;  
you cured me, kept me alive,  
changed my sickness into health.’** **R.**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

*Lector:* Alleluia *All:* Alleluia!

cf. Psalm 26:11

**Instruct me, Lord, in your way;  
on an even path lead me.**

Alleluia!

*Or:*

*Lector:* Alleluia *All:* Alleluia!

John 10:27

**The sheep that belong to me listen to my voice, says the Lord,  
I know them and they follow me.**

Alleluia!

**FIRST READING**

2:1-5

**A reading from the prophet Micah***The plotters of evil will not escape*

**Woe to those who plot evil,  
who lie in bed planning mischief!  
No sooner is it dawn than they do it  
– their hands have the strength for it.  
Seizing the fields that they covet,  
they take over houses as well,  
owner and house they confiscate together,  
taking both man and inheritance.  
So the Lord says this:  
Now it is I who plot  
such mischief against this breed  
as your necks will not escape;  
nor will you be able to walk proudly,  
so evil will the time be.  
On that day they will make a satire on you,  
sing a dirge and say,  
'We are stripped of everything;  
my people's portion is measured out and shared,  
no one will give it back to them,  
our fields are awarded to our despoiler.'  
Therefore you will have no one  
to measure out a share  
in the community of the Lord.**

**The Word of the Lord.****RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

Psalm 9B(10):1-4,7-8,14

**R.** Lord, do not forget the poor.

**Lord, why do you stand afar off  
and hide yourself in times of distress?  
The poor man is devoured by the pride of the wicked:  
he is caught in the schemes that others have made.     **R.****

**For the wicked man boasts of his heart's desires;  
the covetous blasphemes and spurns the Lord.  
In his pride the wicked says: 'He will not punish.  
There is no God.' Such are his thoughts. R.**

**R.** Lord, do not forget the poor.

**His mouth is full of cursing, guile, oppression,  
mischief and deceit under his tongue.  
He lies in wait among the reeds;  
the innocent he murders in secret. R.**

**But you have seen the trouble and sorrow,  
you note it, you take it in hand.  
The helpless trusts himself to you;  
for you are the helper of the orphan. R.**

### **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

*Lector:* Alleluia *All:* Alleluia! *Psalm 118:27*

**Make me grasp the way of your precepts,  
and I will muse on your wonders.**

Alleluia!

*Or:*

*Lector:* Alleluia *All:* Alleluia! *2 Corinthians 5:19*

**God in Christ was reconciling the world to himself,  
and he has entrusted to us the news that they are reconciled.**

Alleluia!

**FIRST READING**

6:1-4,6-8

**A reading from the prophet Micah***The Lord asks only this: to act justly, to love tenderly, to walk humbly***Listen to what the Lord is saying:****Stand up and let the case begin in the hearing of the mountains  
and let the hills hear what you say.****Listen, you mountains, to the Lord's accusation,  
give ear, you foundations of the earth,  
for the Lord is accusing his people,  
pleading against Israel:****My people, what have I done to you,  
how have I been a burden to you? Answer me.****I brought you out of the land of Egypt,  
I rescued you from the house of slavery;  
I sent Moses to lead you,  
with Aaron and Miriam.****– 'With what gift shall I come into the Lord's presence  
and bow down before God on high?****Shall I come with holocausts,  
with calves one year old?****Will he be pleased with rams by the thousand,  
with libations of oil in torrents?****Must I give my first-born for what I have done wrong,  
the fruit of my body for my own sin?'****– What is good has been explained to you, man;****this is what the Lord asks of you:****only this, to act justly,****to love tenderly****and to walk humbly with your God.****The Word of the Lord.**

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

Psalm 49(50):5-6,8-9,16-17,21,23

**R.** I will show God's salvation to the upright.

**'Summon before me my people  
who made covenant with me by sacrifice.'  
The heavens proclaim his justice,  
for he, God, is the judge.**

**R.**

**'I find no fault with your sacrifices,  
your offerings are always before me.  
I do not ask more bullocks from your farms,  
nor goats from among your herds.**

**R.**

**'But how can you recite my commandments  
and take my covenant on your lips,  
you who despise my law  
and throw my words to the winds.**

**R.**

**'You do this, and should I keep silence?  
Do you think that I am like you?  
a sacrifice of thanksgiving honours me  
and I will show God's salvation to the upright.'**

**R.**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

*Lector:* Alleluia *All:* Alleluia!

cf. 2 Timothy 1:10

**Our Saviour Jesus Christ abolished death  
and he has proclaimed life through the Good News.**

Alleluia!

*Or:*

*Lector:* Alleluia *All:* Alleluia!

Psalm 94:8

**Harden not your hearts today,  
but listen to the voice of the Lord.**

Alleluia!

**FIRST READING**

7:14-15,18-20

**A reading from the prophet Micah***To the bottom of the sea throw all our sins*

**With shepherd's crook, O Lord, lead your people to pasture,  
the flock that is your heritage,  
living confined in a forest  
with meadow land all around.**

**Let them pasture in Bashan and Gilead  
as in the days of old.**

**As in the days when you came out of Egypt  
grant us to see wonders.**

**What god can compare with you: taking fault away,  
pardoning crime,  
not cherishing anger for ever  
but delighting in showing mercy?**

**Once more have pity on us,  
tread down our faults,  
to the bottom of the sea  
throw all our sins.**

**Grant Jacob your faithfulness,  
and Abraham your mercy,  
as you swore to our fathers  
from the days of long ago.**

**The Word of the Lord.**

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

Psalm 84(85):2-8

**R.** Let us see, O Lord, your mercy.

**O Lord, you once favoured your land  
and revived the fortunes of Jacob,  
you forgave the guilt of your people  
and covered all their sins.**

**You averted all your rage,  
you calmed the heat of your anger.**

**R.**

**Revive us now, God, our helper!  
Put an end to your grievance against us.  
Will you be angry with us for ever,  
will your anger never cease?.** R.

R. Let us see, O Lord, your mercy.

**Will you not restore again our life  
that your people may rejoice in you?  
Let us see, O Lord, your mercy  
and give us your saving help.** R.

### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*Lector:* Alleluia *All:* Alleluia! 1 John 2:5

**Whenever anyone obeys what Christ has said,  
God's love comes to perfection in him.**

Alleluia!

*Or:*

*Lector:* Alleluia *All:* Alleluia! John 14:23

**If anyone loves me he will keep my word,  
and my Father will love him,  
and we shall come to him.**

Alleluia!

**FIRST READING**

1:1,4-10

**A reading from the prophet Jeremiah***I have appointed you as prophet of the nations*

**The words of Jeremiah son of Hilkiah,  
of a priestly family living at Anathoth  
in the territory of Benjamin.**

**The word of the Lord was addressed to me, saying,  
‘Before I formed you in the womb I knew you;  
before you came to birth I consecrated you;  
I have appointed you as prophet to the nations.’**

**I said, ‘Ah, Lord;  
look, I do not know how to speak: I am a child!’**

**But the Lord replied,  
‘Do not say, “I am a child.”  
Go now to those to whom I send you  
and, say whatever I command you.**

**Do not be afraid of them,  
for I am with you to protect you –  
it is the Lord who speaks!’**

**Then the Lord put out his hand  
and touched my mouth and said to me:  
‘There! I am putting my words into your mouth.**

**Look, today I am setting you  
over nations and over kingdoms,  
to tear up and to knock down,  
to destroy and to overthrow,  
to build and to plant.’**

**The Word of the Lord.**

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

Psalm 70(71):1-6,15,17

**R.** My lips will tell of your justice, O Lord.

**In you, O Lord, I take refuge;  
let me never be put to shame.  
In your justice rescue me, free me:  
pay heed to me and save me.**

**R.**

**Be a rock where I can take refuge,  
a mighty stronghold to save me;  
for you are my rock, my stronghold.  
Free me from the hand of the wicked. R.**

**R.** My lips will tell of your help.

**It is you, O Lord, who are my hope,  
my trust, O Lord, since my youth.  
On you I have leaned from my birth,  
from my mother's womb you have been my help. R.**

**My lips will tell of your justice  
and day by day of your help.  
O God, you have taught me from my youth  
and I proclaim your wonders still. R.**

### **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

*Lector:* Alleluia *All:* Alleluia!

Psalm 118:36,29

**Bend my heart to your will, O Lord,  
and teach me your law.**

Alleluia!

*Or:*

*Lector:* Alleluia *All:* Alleluia!

**The seed is the word of God, Christ the sower;  
whoever finds this seed will remain for ever.**

Alleluia!

**FIRST READING**

2:1-3,7-8,12-13

**A reading from the prophet Jeremiah**

*My people have abandoned me, the fountain of living water,  
only to dig cisterns for themselves, leaky cisterns that hold no water*

**The word of the Lord was addressed to me, saying,**

**‘Go and shout this in the hearing of Jerusalem:**

**“The Lord says this:**

**I remember the affection of your youth,  
the love of your bridal days:  
you followed me through the wilderness,  
through a land unsown.**

**Israel was sacred to the Lord,  
the first-fruits of his harvest;  
anyone who ate of this had to pay for it,  
misfortune came to them –  
it is the Lord who speaks.”**

**‘I brought you to a fertile country  
to enjoy its produce and good things;  
but no sooner had you entered than you defiled my land,  
and made my heritage detestable.**

**The priests have never asked, “Where is the Lord?”  
Those who administer the Law have no knowledge of me.  
The shepherds have rebelled against me;  
the prophets have prophesied in the name of Baal,  
following things with no power in them.**

**‘You heavens, stand aghast at this,  
stand stupefied, stand utterly appalled  
– it is the Lord who speaks.**

**Since my people have committed a double crime:  
they have abandoned me,  
the fountain of living water,  
only to dig cisterns for themselves,  
leaky cisterns  
that hold no water.’**

**The Word of the Lord.**

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

Psalm 35(36):6-11

**R.** In you, Lord, is the source of life.

**Your love, Lord, reaches to heaven;  
your truth to the skies.  
Your justice is like God's mountain,  
your judgements like the deep.**

**R.**

**O Lord, how precious is your love.  
My God, the sons of men  
find refuge in the shelter of your wings.  
They feast on the riches of your house;  
they drink from the stream of your delight.**

**R.**

**In you is the source of life  
and in your light we see light.  
Keep on loving those who know you,  
doing justice for upright hearts.**

**R.**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

*Lector:* Alleluia *All:* Alleluia!

Psalm 94:8

**Harden not your hearts today,  
but listen to the voice of the Lord.**

Alleluia!

*Or:*

*Lector:* Alleluia *All:* Alleluia!

Matthew 11:25

**Blessed are you, Father,  
Lord of heaven and earth,  
for revealing the mysteries of the kingdom  
to mere children.**

Alleluia!

**FIRST READING**

3:1-4

**A reading from the Song of Songs***I found him whom my heart loves***The bride says this:****On my bed, at night, I sought him  
whom my heart loves.****I sought but did not find him.****So I will rise and go through the City;  
in the streets and in the squares****I will seek him whom my heart loves.****I sought but did not find him.****The watchmen came upon me  
on their rounds in the City:****‘Have you seen him whom my heart loves?’****Scarcely had I passed them****than I found him whom my heart loves.****The Word of the Lord.****OR FIRST READING**

5:14-17

**A reading from the second letter of St. Paul to the Corinthians***I found him whom my heart loves***The love of Christ overwhelms us****when we reflect that****if one man has died for all, then all men should be dead;****and the reason he died for all****was so that living men should live****no longer for themselves, but for him****who died and was raised to life for them.****From now onwards, therefore,****we do not judge anyone by the standards of the flesh.****Even if we did once know Christ in the flesh,****that is not how we know him now.****And for anyone who is in Christ, there is a new creation;****the old creation has gone, and now the new one is here.****The Word of the Lord.**

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

Psalm 62(63):2-6,8-9

**R.** For you my soul is thirsting,  
O Lord, my God.

**O God, you are my God, for you I long;  
for you my soul is thirsting.  
My body pines for you  
like a dry, weary land without water. R.**

**So I gaze on you in the sanctuary  
to see your strength and your glory.  
For your love is better than life,  
my lips will speak your praise. R.**

**So I will bless you all my life,  
in your name I will lift up my hands.  
My soul shall be filled as with a banquet,  
my mouth shall praise you with joy. R.**

**For you have been my help;  
in the shadow of your wings I rejoice.  
My soul clings to you;  
your right hand holds me fast. R.**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

*Lector:* Alleluia *All:* Alleluia!

**Tell us, Mary: say  
what thou didst see upon the way.  
– The tomb the Living did enclose;  
I saw Christ's glory as he rose!**

Alleluia!

**FIRST READING**

7:1-11

**A reading from the prophet Jeremiah***Do you take this temple that bears my name for a robber's den?*

**The word that was addressed to Jeremiah by the Lord,  
‘Go and stand at the gate of the Temple of the Lord  
and there proclaim this message.  
Say, “Listen to the word of the Lord,  
all you men of Judah  
who come in by these gates to worship the Lord.  
The Lord of hosts, the God of Israel, says this:  
Amend your behaviour and your actions  
and I will stay with you here in this place.  
Put no trust in delusive words like these:  
*This is the sanctuary of the Lord,  
the sanctuary of the Lord, the sanctuary of the Lord!*  
But if you do amend your behaviour and your actions,  
if you treat each other fairly,  
if you do not exploit the stranger, the orphan and the widow  
(if you do not shed innocent blood in this place),  
and if you do not follow alien gods, to your own ruin,  
then here in this place I will stay with you,  
in the land that long ago I gave to your fathers for ever.  
Yet here you are, trusting in delusive words, to no purpose!  
Steal, would you, murder, commit adultery, perjure yourselves,  
burn incense to Baal, follow alien gods that you do not know?  
– and then come presenting yourselves in this Temple  
that bears my name, saying:  
Now we are safe – safe to go on committing all these abominations!  
Do you take this Temple that bears my name for a robbers’ den?  
I, at any rate, am not blind – it is the Lord who speaks.”’**

**The Word of the Lord.**

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

Psalm 83 (84):3-6, 8, 11 R. v. 2

**R.** How lovely is your dwelling-place, Lord, God of hosts.

**My soul is longing and yearning,  
is yearning for the courts of the Lord.  
My heart and my soul ring out their joy  
to God, the living God. R.**

**The sparrow herself finds a home  
and the swallow a nest for her brood;  
she lays her young by your altars,  
Lord of hosts, my king and my God. R.**

**They are happy, who dwell in your house,  
for ever singing your praise.  
They are happy whose strength is in you,  
they walk with ever growing strength. R.**

**One day within your courts  
is better than a thousand elsewhere.  
The threshold of the house of God  
I prefer to the dwellings of the wicked. R.**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

*Lector:* Alleluia *All:* Alleluia!

Heb 4:12

**The word of God is something alive and active:  
it can judge secret emotions and thoughts.**

Alleluia!

**FIRST READING**

4:7-15

**A reading from the second letter of St. Paul to the Corinthians**

*Such an overwhelming power comes from God and not from us*

**We are only the earthenware jars that hold this treasure, to make it clear that such an overwhelming power comes from God and not from us. We are in difficulties on all sides, but never cornered; we see no answer to our problems, but never despair; we have been persecuted, but never deserted; knocked down, but never killed; always, wherever we may be, we carry with us in our body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus, too, may always be seen in our body. Indeed, while we are still alive, we are consigned to our death every day, for the sake of Jesus, so that in our mortal flesh the life of Jesus, too, may be openly shown. So death is at work in us, but life in you.**

**But as we have the same spirit of faith that is mentioned in scripture – I believed, and therefore I spoke – we too believe and therefore we too speak, knowing that he who raised the Lord Jesus to life will raise us with Jesus in our turn, and put us by his side and you with us. You see, all this is for your benefit, so that the more grace is multiplied among people, the more thanksgiving there will be, to the glory of God.**

**The Word of the Lord.**

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

Psalm 125(126):1-6

**R.** Those who are sowing in tears will sing when they reap.

**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.**

**The heathens themselves said: ‘What marvels  
the Lord worked for them!’**

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

**Deliver us, O Lord, from our bondage  
as streams in dry land.**

**Those who are sowing in tears  
will sing when they reap. R.**

**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.**

### **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

*Lector:* Alleluia *All:* Alleluia!

*cf. John 15:16*

**I chose you from the world  
to go out and bear fruit,  
fruit that will last,  
says the Lord.**

Alleluia!

**FIRST READING**

14:17-22

**A reading from the prophet Jeremiah***Remember, Lord, do not break your covenant with us.*

**The Lord said to me:  
Say this word to the people:  
'Tears flood my eyes  
night and day, unceasingly,  
since a crushing blow falls on the daughter of my people,  
a most grievous injury.  
If I go into the countryside,  
there lie men killed by the sword;  
if I go into the city,  
I see people sick with hunger;  
even prophets and priests  
plough the land: they are at their wit's end.'  
'Have you rejected Judah altogether?  
Does your very soul revolt at Zion?  
Why have you struck us down without hope of cure?  
We were hoping for peace – no good came of it!  
For the moment of cure – nothing but terror!  
Lord, we do confess our wickedness  
and our fathers' guilt:  
we have indeed sinned against you.  
For your name's sake do not reject us,  
do not dishonour the throne of your glory.  
Remember us; do not break your covenant with us.  
Can any of the pagan Nothings make it rain?  
Can the heavens produce showers?  
No, it is you, Lord.  
O our God, you are our hope,  
since it is you who do all this.'**

**The Word of the Lord.**

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

Psalm 78(79):8-9,11,13

**R.** Rescue us, O Lord,  
for the glory of your name.

**Do not hold the guilt of our fathers against us.  
Let your compassion hasten to meet us;  
we are left in the depths of distress. R.**

**O God our saviour, come to our help.  
Come for the sake of the glory of your name.  
O Lord our God, forgive us our sins;  
rescue us for the sake of your name. R.**

**Let the groans of the prisoners come before you;  
let your strong arm relieve those condemned to die.  
But we, your people, the flock of your pasture,  
will give you thanks for ever and ever.  
We will tell your praise from age to age. R.**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

*Lector:* Alleluia *All:* Alleluia!

1 Peter 1:25

**The word of the Lord remains for ever:  
What is this word?  
It is the Good News that has been brought to you.**

Alleluia!

*Or:*

*Lector:* Alleluia *All:* Alleluia!

**The seed is the word of God, Christ the sower;  
whoever finds this seed will remain for ever.**

Alleluia!

**FIRST READING**

15:10,16-21

**A reading from the prophet Jeremiah***Why is my suffering continual? If you come back, I will take you back into my service.*

**‘Woe is me, my mother, for you have borne me  
to be a man of strife and of dissension for all the land.**

**I neither lend nor borrow,  
yet all of them curse me.**

**And avenge me on my persecutors.**

**Your anger is very slow: do not let me be snatched away.**

**Realise that I suffer insult for your sake.**

**‘When your words came, I devoured them:**

**your word was my delight**

**and the joy of my heart;**

**for I was called by your name,**

**Lord, God of Hosts.**

**I never took pleasure in sitting in scoffers’ company;**

**with your hand on me I held myself aloof,**

**since you had filled me with indignation.**

**Why is my suffering continual,**

**my wound incurable, refusing to be healed?**

**Do you mean to be for me a deceptive stream**

**with inconstant waters?’**

**To which the Lord replied,**

**‘If you come back,**

**I will take you back into my service;**

**and if you utter noble, not despicable, thoughts,**

**you shall be as my own mouth.**

**They will come back to you,**

**but you must not go back to them.**

**I will make you**

**a bronze wall fortified against this people.**

**They will fight against you**

**but they will not overcome you,**

**because I am with you**

**to save you and to deliver you**

**– it is the Lord who speaks.**

**I mean to deliver you from the hands of the wicked**

**and redeem you from the clutches of the violent.’ The Word of the Lord.**

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

Psalm 58(59):2-5,10-11,17-18

**R.** O God, you have been a refuge  
in the day of my distress.

**Rescue me, God, from my foes;  
protect me from those who attack me.  
O rescue me from those who do evil  
and save me from blood-thirsty men.**

**R.**

**See, they lie in wait for my life;  
powerful men band together against me.  
For no offence, no sin of mine, Lord,  
for no guilt of mine they rush to take their stand.**

**R.**

**O my Strength, it is you to whom I turn,  
for you, O God, are my stronghold,  
the God who shows me love.**

**R.**

**As for me, I will sing of your strength  
and each morning acclaim your love  
for you have been my stronghold,  
a refuge in the day of my distress.**

**R.**

**O my Strength, it is you to whom I turn,  
for you, O God, are my stronghold,  
the God who shows me love.**

**R.**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

*Lector:* Alleluia *All:* Alleluia!

Psalm 118:105

**Your word is a lamp for my steps  
and a light for my path.**

Alleluia!

**FIRST READING**

18:1-6

**A reading from the prophet Jeremiah***As the clay is in the potter's hand, so are you in mine*

**The word that was addressed to Jeremiah by the Lord,  
 'Get up and make your way down to the potter's house;  
 there I shall let you hear what I have to say.'  
 So I went down to the potter's house;  
 and there he was, working at the wheel.  
 And whenever the vessel he was making came out wrong,  
 as happens with the clay handled by potters,  
 he would start afresh  
 and work it into another vessel, as potters do.  
 Then this word of the Lord was addressed to me,  
 'House of Israel,  
 can not I do to you what this potter does?  
 – it is the Lord who speaks.  
 Yes, as the clay is in the potter's hand,  
 so you are in mine, House of Israel.'**

**The Word of the Lord.****RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

Psalm 145(146):2-6

**R.** He is happy who is helped by Jacob's God.

**My soul, give praise to the Lord.  
 I will praise the Lord all my days,  
 make music to my God while I live.**

**R.**

**Put no trust in princes,  
 In mortal men in whom there is no help.  
 Take their breath, they return to clay  
 and their plans that day come to nothing.**

**R.**

**He is happy who is helped by Jacob's God,  
 whose hope is in the Lord his God,  
 who alone made heaven and earth,  
 the seas and all they contain.**

**R.**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*Lector:* Alleluia *All:* Alleluia!

John 15:15

**I call you friends, says the Lord,  
because I have made known to you  
everything I have learnt from my Father.**

Alleluia!

*Or:*

*Lector:* Alleluia *All:* Alleluia!

Or cf. Acts 16:14

**Open our heart, O Lord,  
to accept the words of your Son.**

Alleluia!

**FIRST READING**

26:1-9

**A reading from the prophet Jeremiah***The people were all crowding round in the Temple of the Lord.*

**At the beginning of the reign  
of Jehoiakim son of Josiah, king of Judah,  
this word was addressed to Jeremiah by the Lord,  
'The Lord says this:  
Stand in the court of the Temple of the Lord.  
To all the people of the towns of Judah  
who come to worship in the Temple of the Lord  
you must speak all the words  
I have commanded you to tell them;  
do not omit one syllable.  
Perhaps they will listen and each turn from his evil way:  
if so, I shall relent  
and not bring the disaster on them  
which I intended for their misdeeds.  
Say to them, "The Lord says this:  
If you will not listen to me  
by following my Law which I put before you,  
by paying attention to the words of my servants the prophets  
whom I send so persistently to you,  
without your ever listening to them,  
I will treat this Temple as I treated Shiloh,  
and make this city a curse  
for all the nations of the earth."  
The priests and prophets and all the people  
heard Jeremiah say these words in the Temple of the Lord.  
When Jeremiah had finished saying everything  
that the Lord had ordered him to say to all the people,  
the priests and prophets seized hold of him and said,  
'You shall die!  
Why have you made this prophecy in the name of the Lord,  
"This Temple will be like Shiloh,  
and this city will be desolate, and uninhabited"?'  
And the people were all crowding round Jeremiah in the Temple of the Lord.  
The Word of the Lord.**

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

Psalm 68(69):5,8-10,14

**R.** In your great love, answer me, O God.

**More numerous than the hairs on my head  
are those who hate me without cause.  
Those who attack me with lies  
are too much for my strength.  
How can I restore  
what I have never stolen?**

**R.**

**It is for you that I suffer taunts,  
that shame covers my face,  
that I have become a stranger to my brothers,  
an alien to my own mother's sons.  
I burn with zeal for your house  
and taunts against you fall on me.**

**R.**

**This is my prayer to you,  
my prayer for your favour.  
In your great love, answer me, O God,  
with your help that never fails.**

**R.**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

*Lector:* Alleluia *All:* Alleluia!

John 8:12

**I am the light of the world, says the Lord;  
anyone who follows me will have the light of life.**

Alleluia!

**FIRST READING**

26:11-16,24

**A reading from the prophet Jeremiah***The Lord has truly sent me to you to say all these words*

**The priests and prophets  
addressed the officials and all the people,  
'This man deserves to die,  
since he has prophesied against this city,  
as you have heard with your own ears.'  
Jeremiah, however, replied to the people as follows:  
'The Lord himself sent me  
to say all the things you have heard  
against this Temple and this city.  
So now amend your behaviour and actions,  
listen to the voice of the Lord your God:  
if you do, he will relent and not bring down on you  
the disaster he has pronounced against you.  
For myself, I am as you see in your hands.  
Do whatever you please or think right with me.  
But be sure of this, that if you put me to death,  
you will be bringing innocent blood  
on yourselves, on this city and on its citizens,  
since the Lord has truly sent me to you  
to say all these words in your hearing.'  
The officials and all the people  
then said to the priests and prophets,  
'This man does not deserve to die:  
he has spoken to us in the name of the Lord our God.'  
Jeremiah had a protector in Ahikam son of Shaphan,  
so he was not handed over to the people to be put to death.**

**The Word of the Lord.**

**RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

Psalm 68(69):15-16,30-31,33-34

**R.** In your great love, answer me, O God.**Rescue me from sinking in the mud;  
save me from my foes.****Save me from the waters of the deep  
lest the waves overwhelm me.****Do not let the deep engulf me  
nor death close its mouth on me.****R.****As for me in my poverty and pain****let your help, O God, lift me up.****I will praise God's name with a song;****I will glorify him with thanksgiving.****R.****The poor when they see it will be glad****and God-seeking hearts will revive;****for the Lord listens to the needy****and does not spurn his servants in their chains.****R.****GOSPEL ACCLAMATION***Lector:* Alleluia *All:* Alleluia!

cf. Luke 8:15

**Blessed are those who,  
with a noble and generous heart,  
take the word of God to themselves  
and yield a harvest through their perseverance.**

Alleluia!

*Or:**Lector:* Alleluia *All:* Alleluia!

Matthew 5:10

**Happy those who are persecuted  
in the cause of right,  
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.**

Alleluia!