

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON**

*Within your will, O Lord, all things are established,  
and there is none that can resist your will.  
For you have made all things, the heaven and the earth,  
and all that is held within the circle of heaven;  
you are the Lord of all.*

**COLLECT**

Almighty ever-living God,  
who in the abundance of your kindness  
surpass the merits and the desires of those who entreat you,  
pour out your mercy upon us  
to pardon what conscience dreads  
and to give what prayer does not dare to ask... **Amen.**

**FIRST READING** Isaiah 5:1-7

A reading from the prophet Isaiah.

Let me sing to my friend  
the song of his love for his vineyard.  
My friend had a vineyard  
on a fertile hillside.  
He dug the soil, cleared it of stones,  
and planted choice vines in it.  
In the middle he built a tower,  
he dug a press there too.  
He expected it to yield grapes,  
but sour grapes were all that it gave.  
And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem  
and men of Judah,  
I ask you to judge  
between my vineyard and me.  
What could I have done for my vineyard  
that I have not done?  
I expected it to yield grapes.  
Why did it yield sour grapes instead?  
Very well, I will tell you  
what I am going to do to my vineyard:  
I will take away its hedge for it to be grazed on,  
and knock down its wall for it to be trampled on.  
I will lay it waste, unpruned, undug;  
overgrown by the briar and the thorn.  
I will command the clouds  
to rain no rain on it.  
Yes, the vineyard of the Lord of hosts  
is the House of Israel,  
and the men of Judah  
that chosen plant.  
He expected justice, but found bloodshed,  
integrity, but only a cry of distress.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM** Psalm 79

**RESPONSE: *The vineyard of the Lord is the House of Israel.***

1. You brought a vine out of Egypt;  
to plant it you drove out the nations.  
It stretched out its branches to the sea,  
to the Great River it stretched out its shoots. **R.**
2. Then why have you broken down its walls?  
It is plucked by all who pass by.  
It is ravaged by the boar of the forest,  
devoured by the beasts of the field. **R.**
3. 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.**
4. And we shall never forsake you again:

give us life that we may call upon your name.  
God of hosts, bring us back;  
let your face shine on us and we shall be saved. **R.**

**SECOND READING** Philippians 4:6-9

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

There is no need to worry; but if there is anything you need, pray for it, asking God for it with prayer and thanksgiving, and that peace of God, which is so much greater than we can understand, will guard your hearts and your thoughts, in Christ Jesus. Finally, brothers, fill your minds with everything that is true, everything that is noble, everything that is good and pure, everything that we love and honour, and everything that can be thought virtuous or worthy of praise. Keep doing all the things that you learnt from me and have been taught by me and have heard or seen that I do. Then the God of peace will be with you.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

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

**GOSPEL** Matthew 21:33-43

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

Jesus said to the chief priests and the elders of the people, "Listen to another parable. There was a man, a landowner, who planted a vineyard; he fenced it round, dug a winepress in it and built a tower; then he leased it to tenants and went abroad. When vintage time drew near he sent his servants to the tenants to collect his produce. But the tenants seized his servants, thrashed one, killed another and stoned a third. Next he sent some more servants, this time a larger number, and they dealt with them in the same way. Finally he sent his son to them. 'They will respect my son,' he said. But when the tenants saw the son, they said to each other, 'This is the heir. Come on, let us kill him and take over his inheritance.' So they seized him and threw him out of the vineyard and killed him. Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?" They answered, "He will bring those wretches to a wretched end and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will deliver the produce to him when the season arrives." Jesus said to them, "Have you never read in the scriptures:

It was the stone rejected by the builders  
that became the keystone.

This was the Lord's doing  
and it is wonderful to see?

"I tell you, then, that the kingdom of God will be taken from you and given to a people who will produce its fruit."

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

**PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS**

Accept, O Lord, we pray,  
the sacrifices instituted by your commands  
and, through the sacred mysteries,  
which we celebrate with dutiful service,  
graciously complete the sanctifying work  
by which you are pleased to redeem us... **Amen.**

**COMMUNION ANTIPHON**

**Though many, we are one bread, one body,  
for we all partake of the one Bread and one Chalice.**

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Grant us, almighty God,  
that we may be refreshed and nourished  
by the Sacrament which we have received,  
so as to be transformed into what we consume... **Amen.**

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON**

*If you, O Lord, should mark iniquities,  
Lord, who could stand?  
But with you is found forgiveness,  
O God of Israel.*

**COLLECT**

May your grace, O Lord, we pray,  
at all times go before us and follow after  
and make us always determined  
to carry out good works.  
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever.  
**Amen.**

**FIRST READING** Isaiah 25:6-10  
A reading from the prophet Isaiah.

On this mountain,  
the Lord of hosts will prepare for all people  
a banquet of rich food, a banquet of fine wines,  
of food rich and juicy, of fine strained wines.  
On this mountain he will remove  
the mourning veil covering all peoples,  
and the shroud enwrapping all nations,  
he will destroy Death for ever.  
The Lord will wipe away  
the tears from every cheek;  
he will take away his people's shame  
everywhere on earth,  
for the Lord has said so.  
That day, it will be said: See, this is our God  
in whom we hoped for salvation;  
the Lord is the one in whom we hoped.  
We exult and we rejoice  
that he has saved us;  
for the hand of the Lord  
rests on this mountain.

The word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM** Psalm 22

**RESPONSE:** *In the Lord's own house shall I dwell  
for ever and ever.*

1. The Lord is my shepherd;  
there is nothing I shall want.  
Fresh and green are the pastures  
where he gives me repose.  
Near restful waters he leads me,  
to revive my drooping spirit. **R.**
2. He guides me along the right path;  
he is true to his name.  
If I should walk in the valley of darkness  
no evil would I fear.  
You are there with your crook and your staff;  
with these you give me comfort. **R.**
3. You have prepared a banquet for me  
in the sight of my foes.  
My head you have anointed with oil;  
my cup is overflowing. **R.**
4. Surely goodness and kindness shall follow me  
all the days of my life.  
In the Lord's own house shall I dwell  
for ever and ever. **R.**

**SECOND READING** Philippians 4:12-14. 19-20  
A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians.

I know how to be poor and I know how to be rich too. I have been  
through my initiation and now I am ready for anything anywhere:  
full stomach or empty stomach, poverty or plenty. There is

nothing I cannot master with the help of the One who gives me  
strength. All the same, it was good of you to share with me in  
my hardships. In return my God will fulfil all your needs, in Christ  
Jesus, as lavishly as only God can. Glory to God, our Father, for  
ever and ever. Amen.

The word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

*Alleluia, alleluia!  
The Word was made flesh and lived among us;  
to all who did accept him  
he gave power to become children of God.  
Alleluia!*

Or

*Alleluia, alleluia!  
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!*

**GOSPEL** Matthew 22:1-14

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.  
(for shorter form read between > <)

> Jesus said to the chief priests and elders of the people: "The  
kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a feast  
for his son's wedding. He sent his servants to call those who  
had been invited, but they would not come. Next he sent some  
more servants. 'Tell those who have been invited,' he said, 'that I  
have my banquet all prepared, my oxen and fattened cattle have  
been slaughtered, everything is ready. Come to the wedding.'  
But they were not interested: one went off to his farm, another to  
his business, and the rest seized his servants, maltreated them  
and killed them. The king was furious. He despatched his troops,  
destroyed those murderers and burnt their town. Then he said to  
his servants, 'The wedding is ready; but as those who were invited  
proved to be unworthy, go to the crossroads in the town and invite  
everyone you can find to the wedding.' So these servants went out  
on to the roads and collected together everyone they could find,  
bad and good alike; and the wedding hall was filled with guests. <  
When the king came in to look at the guests he noticed one man  
who was not wearing a wedding garment, and said to him, 'How  
did you get in here, my friend, without a wedding garment?' And  
the man was silent. Then the king said to the attendants, 'Bind  
him hand and foot and throw him out into the dark, where there  
will be weeping and grinding of teeth.' For many are called, but  
few are chosen."

The Gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

**PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS**

Accept, O Lord, the prayers of your faithful  
with the sacrificial offerings,  
that, through these acts of devotedness,  
we may pass over to the glory of heaven.  
Through Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

**COMMUNION ANTIPHON**

*The rich suffer want and go hungry,  
but those who seek the Lord lack no blessing.*

Or

*When the Lord appears, we shall be like him,  
for we shall see him as he is.*

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

We entreat your majesty most humbly, O Lord,  
that, as you feed us with the nourishment  
which comes from the most holy Body and Blood of your Son,  
so you may make us sharers of his divine nature.  
Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.  
**Amen.**

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON**

*To you I call; for you will surely heed me, O God;  
turn your ear to me; hear my words.  
Guard me as the apple of your eye;  
in the shadow of your wings protect me.*

**COLLECT**

Almighty ever-living God,  
grant that we may always conform our will to yours  
and serve your majesty in sincerity of heart.  
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever.  
**Amen.**

**FIRST READING** Isaiah 45:1. 4-6

A reading from the prophet Isaiah.

Thus says the Lord to his anointed, to Cyrus,  
whom he has taken by his right hand  
to subdue nations before him  
and strip the loins of kings,  
to force gateways before him  
that their gates be closed no more:

It is for the sake of my servant Jacob,  
of Israel my chosen one,  
that I have called you by your name,  
conferring a title though you do not know me.  
I am the Lord, unrivalled;  
there is no other God besides me.  
Though you do not know me, I arm you  
that men may know from the rising to the setting of the sun  
that, apart from me, all is nothing.

The word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM** Psalm 95

**RESPONSE: Give the Lord glory and power.**

1. O sing a new song to the Lord,  
sing to the Lord all the earth.  
Tell among the nations his glory  
and his wonders among all the peoples. **R.**
2. The Lord is great and worthy of praise,  
to be feared above all gods;  
the gods of the heathens are naught.  
It was the Lord who made the heavens. **R.**
3. Give the Lord, you families of peoples,  
give the Lord glory and power,  
give the Lord the glory of his name.  
Bring an offering and enter his courts. **R.**
4. Worship the Lord in his temple.  
O earth, tremble before him.  
Proclaim to the nations: "God is king."  
He will judge the peoples in fairness. **R.**

**SECOND READING** 1 Thessalonians 1:1-5

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Thessalonians.

From Paul, Silvanus and Timothy, to the Church in Thessalonika  
which is in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ; wishing you  
grace and peace from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

We always mention you in our prayers and thank God for you  
all, and constantly remember before God our Father how you

have shown your faith in action, worked for love and persevered  
through hope, in our Lord Jesus Christ.

We know, brothers, that God loves you and that you have been  
chosen, because when we brought the Good News to you, it  
came to you not only as words, but as power and as the Holy  
Spirit and as utter conviction.

The word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

**Alleluia, alleluia!**  
**Your word is truth, O Lord,  
consecrate us in the truth.**  
**Alleluia!**

Or

**Alleluia, alleluia!**  
**You will shine in the world like bright stars  
because you are offering it the word of life.**  
**Alleluia!**

**GOSPEL** Matthew 22:15-21

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

The Pharisees went away to work out between them how to  
trap Jesus in what he said. And they sent their disciples to him,  
together with the Herodians, to say, "Master, we know that you are  
an honest man and teach the way of God in an honest way, and  
that you are not afraid of anyone, because a man's rank means  
nothing to you. Tell us your opinion, then. Is it permissible to pay  
taxes to Caesar or not?" But Jesus was aware of their malice and  
replied, "You hypocrites! Why do you set this trap for me? Let me  
see the money you pay the tax with." They handed him a denarius,  
and he said, "Whose head is this? Whose name?" "Caesar's,"  
they replied. He then said to them, "Very well, give back to Caesar  
what belongs to Caesar – and to God what belongs to God."

The Gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

**PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS**

Grant us, Lord, we pray,  
a sincere respect for your gifts,  
that, through the purifying action of your grace,  
we may be cleansed by the very mysteries we serve.  
Through Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

**COMMUNION ANTIPHON**

**Behold, the eyes of the Lord  
are on those who fear him,  
who hope in his merciful love,  
to rescue their souls from death,  
to keep them alive in famine.**

Or

**The Son of Man has come  
to give his life as a ransom for many.**

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Grant, O Lord, we pray,  
that, benefiting from participation in heavenly things,  
we may be helped by what you give in this present age  
and prepared for the gifts that are eternal.  
Through Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON**

*Let the hearts that seek the Lord rejoice;  
turn to the Lord and his strength;  
constantly seek his face.*

**COLLECT**

Almighty ever-living God,  
increase our faith, hope and charity,  
and make us love what you command,  
so that we may merit what you promise.  
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,  
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever.

*Amen.*

**FIRST READING** Exodus 22:20-26

A reading from the book of Exodus.

The Lord said to Moses, "Tell the sons of Israel this, 'You must not molest the stranger or oppress him, for you lived as strangers in the land of Egypt. You must not be harsh with the widow, or with the orphan; if you are harsh with them, they will surely cry out to me, and be sure I shall hear their cry; my anger will flare and I shall kill you with the sword, your own wives will be widows, your own children orphans.

'If you lend money to any of my people, to any poor man among you, you must not play the usurer with him: you must not demand interest from him.

'If you take another's cloak as a pledge, you must give it back to him before sunset. It is all the covering he has; it is the cloak he wraps his body in; what else would he sleep in? If he cries to me, I will listen, for I am full of pity.'

The word of the Lord.

*Thanks be to God.*

**PSALM** Psalm 17

**RESPONSE:** *I love you, Lord, my strength.*

1. I love you, Lord, my strength,  
my rock, my fortress, my saviour.  
My God is the rock where I take refuge;  
my shield, my mighty help, my stronghold.  
The Lord is worthy of all praise:  
when I call I am saved from my foes. **R.**
2. Long life to the Lord, my rock!  
Praised be the God who saves me.  
He has given great victories to his king  
and shown his love for his anointed. **R.**

**SECOND READING** 1 Thessalonians 1:5-10

A reading from the first letter of St Paul to the Thessalonians.

You observed the sort of life we lived when we were with you, which was for your instruction, and you were led to become imitators of us, and of the Lord; and it was with the joy of the Holy Spirit that you took to the gospel, in spite of the great opposition all round you. This has made you the great example to all believers in Macedonia and Achaia since it was from you that the word of the

Lord started to spread – and not only throughout Macedonia and Achaia, for the news of your faith in God has spread everywhere. We do not need to tell other people about it: other people tell us how we started the work among you, how you broke with idolatry when you were converted to God and became servants of the real, living God; and how you are now waiting for Jesus, his Son, whom he raised from the dead, to come from heaven to save us from the retribution which is coming.

The word of the Lord.

*Thanks be to God.*

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

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

Or

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

**GOSPEL** Matthew 22:34-40

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.

When the Pharisees heard that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees they got together and, to disconcert him, one of them put a question, "Master, which is the greatest commandment of the Law?" Jesus said, "You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the greatest and the first commandment. The second resembles it: You must love your neighbour as yourself. On these two commandments hang the whole Law, and the Prophets also."

The Gospel of the Lord.

*Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.*

**PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS**

Look, we pray, O Lord,  
on the offerings we make to your majesty,  
that whatever is done by us in your service  
may be directed above all to your glory.  
Through Christ our Lord.

*Amen.*

**COMMUNION ANTIPHON**

*We will ring out our joy at your saving help  
and exult in the name of our God.*

Or

*Christ loved us and gave himself up for us,  
as a fragrant offering to God.*

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

May your Sacraments, O Lord, we pray,  
perfect in us what lies within them,  
that what we now celebrate in signs  
we may one day possess in truth.  
Through Christ our Lord.

*Amen.*