

**ENTRANCE ANTIPHON**

*Give peace, O Lord, to those who wait for you,  
that your prophets be found true.  
Hear the prayers of your servant,  
and of your people Israel.*

**COLLECT**

Look upon us, O God,  
Creator and ruler of all things,  
and, that we may feel the working of your mercy,  
grant that we may serve you with all our heart.  
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 50:5-9

A reading from the prophet Isaiah.  
The Lord has opened my ear.  
For my part, I made no resistance,  
neither did I turn away.  
I offered my back to those who struck me,  
my cheeks to those who tore at my beard;  
I did not cover my face  
against insult and spittle.  
The Lord comes to my help,  
so that I am untouched by the insults.  
So, too, I set my face like flint;  
I know I shall not be shamed.  
My vindicator is here at hand. Does anyone start proceedings  
against me?  
Then let us go to court together.  
Who thinks he has a case against me?  
Let him approach me.  
The Lord is coming to my help,  
who dare condemn me?  
The word of the Lord.  
*Thanks be to God.*

**PSALM** Psalm 114

**RESPONSE:** *I will walk in the presence of the Lord,  
in the land of the living.*

Or *Alleluia!*

1. I love the Lord for he has heard  
the cry of my appeal;  
for he turned his ear to me  
in the day when I called him. **R.**
2. They surrounded me, the snares of death,  
with the anguish of the tomb;  
they caught me, sorrow and distress.  
I called on the Lord's name.  
O Lord my God, deliver me! **R.**
3. How gracious is the Lord, and just;  
our God has compassion.  
The Lord protects the simple hearts;  
I was helpless so he saved me. **R.**
4. He has kept my soul from death,  
my eyes from tears  
and my feet from stumbling.  
I will walk in the presence of the Lord  
in the land of the living. **R.**

**SECOND READING** James 2:14-18

A reading from the letter of St James.  
Take the case, my brothers, of someone who has never done a  
single good act but claims that he has faith. Will that faith save  
him? If one of the brothers or one of the sisters is in need of clothes  
and has not enough food to live on, and one of you says to them,

“I wish you well; keep yourself warm and eat plenty,” without giving  
them these bare necessities of life, then what good is that? Faith is  
like that: if good works do not go with it, it is quite dead.

This is the way to talk to people of that kind: “You say you have  
faith and I have good deeds; I will prove to you that I have faith  
by showing you my good deeds – now you prove to me that you  
have faith without any good deeds to show.”

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

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

*Alleluia, alleluia!  
I am the Way, the Truth and the Life, says the Lord;  
no one can come to the Father except through me.  
Alleluia!*

Or

*Alleluia, alleluia!  
The only thing I can boast about is the cross of our Lord,  
through whom the world is crucified to me, and I to the  
world.  
Alleluia!*

**GOSPEL** Mark 8:27-35

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark.  
Jesus and his disciples left for the villages round Caesarea  
Philippi. On the way he put this question to his disciples, “Who  
do people say I am?” And they told him. “John the Baptist,” they  
said, “others Elijah; others again, one of the prophets.” “But you,”  
he asked, “who do you say I am?” Peter spoke up and said to  
him, “You are the Christ.” And he gave them strict orders not to  
tell anyone about him.

And he began to teach them that the Son of Man was destined  
to suffer grievously, to be rejected by the elders and the chief  
priests and the scribes, and to be put to death, and after three  
days to rise again; and he said all this quite openly. Then, taking  
him aside, Peter started to remonstrate with him. But, turning  
and seeing his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said to him, “Get  
behind me, Satan! Because the way you think is not God’s way  
but man’s.”

He called the people and his disciples to him and said, “If  
anyone wants to be a follower of mine, let him renounce himself  
and take up his cross and follow me. For anyone who wants to  
save his life will lose it; but anyone who loses his life for my sake,  
and for the sake of the gospel, will save it.”

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

**PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS**

Look with favour on our supplications, O Lord,  
and in your kindness accept these, your servants’ offerings,  
that what each has offered to the honour of your name  
may serve the salvation of all.  
Through Christ our Lord.  
*Amen.*

**COMMUNION ANTIPHON**

*How precious is your mercy, O God!  
The children of men seek shelter in the shadow of your  
wings.*

Or

*The chalice of blessing that we bless  
is a communion in the Blood of Christ;  
and the bread that we break  
is a sharing in the Body of the Lord.*

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

May the working of this heavenly gift, O Lord, we pray,  
take possession of our minds and bodies,  
so that its effects, and not our own desires,  
may always prevail in us.  
Through Christ our Lord.  
*Amen.*