

Week of March 29, 2015

## **SUNDAY**

### **Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion**

#### **At the Procession with Palms - Gospel Mk 11:1-10**

When Jesus and his disciples drew near to Jerusalem,  
to Bethphage and Bethany at the Mount of Olives,  
he sent two of his disciples and said to them,  
“Go into the village opposite you,  
and immediately on entering it,  
you will find a colt tethered on which no one has ever sat.  
Untie it and bring it here.  
If anyone should say to you,  
‘Why are you doing this?’ reply,  
‘The Master has need of it  
and will send it back here at once.’”  
So they went off  
and found a colt tethered at a gate outside on the street,  
and they untied it.  
Some of the bystanders said to them,  
“What are you doing, untying the colt?”  
They answered them just as Jesus had told them to,  
and they permitted them to do it.  
So they brought the colt to Jesus  
and put their cloaks over it.  
And he sat on it.  
Many people spread their cloaks on the road,  
and others spread leafy branches  
that they had cut from the fields.  
Those preceding him as well as those following kept crying  
out:  
“Hosanna!  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!  
Blessed is the kingdom of our father David that is to come!  
Hosanna in the highest!”

#### **Or Jn 12:12-16**

When the great crowd that had come to the feast heard  
that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem,  
they took palm branches and went out to meet him, and cried  
out:  
“Hosanna!  
“Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord,  
the king of Israel.”

Jesus found an ass and sat upon it, as is written:  
*Fear no more, O daughter Zion;  
see, your king comes, seated upon an ass's colt.*  
His disciples did not understand this at first,  
but when Jesus had been glorified  
they remembered that these things were written about him  
and that they had done this for him.

#### **At the Mass - Reading 1 Is 50:4-7**

The Lord GOD has given me  
a well-trained tongue,  
that I might know how to speak to the weary  
a word that will rouse them.  
Morning after morning  
he opens my ear that I may hear;

and I have not rebelled,  
have not turned back.  
I gave my back to those who beat me,  
my cheeks to those who plucked my beard;  
my face I did not shield  
from buffets and spitting.

The Lord GOD is my help,  
therefore I am not disgraced;  
I have set my face like flint,  
knowing that I shall not be put to shame.

#### **Responsorial Psalm Ps 22:8-9, 17-18, 19-20, 23-24**

**R. (2a) My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?**

All who see me scoff at me;  
they mock me with parted lips, they wag their heads:  
“He relied on the LORD; let him deliver him,  
let him rescue him, if he loves him.”

**R. My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?**

Indeed, many dogs surround me,  
a pack of evildoers closes in upon me;  
They have pierced my hands and my feet;  
I can count all my bones.

**R. My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?**

They divide my garments among them,  
and for my vesture they cast lots.  
But you, O LORD, be not far from me;  
O my help, hasten to aid me.

**R. My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?**

I will proclaim your name to my brethren;  
in the midst of the assembly I will praise you:  
“You who fear the LORD, praise him;  
all you descendants of Jacob, give glory to him;  
revere him, all you descendants of Israel!”

**R. My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?**

#### **Reading 2 Phil 2:6-11**

Christ Jesus, though he was in the form of God,  
did not regard equality with God  
something to be grasped.  
Rather, he emptied himself,  
taking the form of a slave,  
coming in human likeness;  
and found human in appearance,  
he humbled himself,  
becoming obedient to the point of death,  
even death on a cross.  
Because of this, God greatly exalted him  
and bestowed on him the name  
which is above every name,  
that at the name of Jesus  
every knee should bend,  
of those in heaven and on earth and under the earth,  
and every tongue confess that  
Jesus Christ is Lord,  
to the glory of God the Father.

#### **Verse Before the Gospel Phil 2:8-9**

Christ became obedient to the point of death,  
even death on a cross.  
Because of this, God greatly exalted him  
and bestowed on him the name which is above every name.

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**Gospel Mk 14:1—15:47**

The Passover and the Feast of Unleavened Bread were to take place in two days' time.

So the chief priests and the scribes were seeking a way to arrest him by treachery and put him to death. They said, "Not during the festival, for fear that there may be a riot among the people."

When he was in Bethany reclining at table in the house of Simon the leper, a woman came with an alabaster jar of perfumed oil, costly genuine spikenard. She broke the alabaster jar and poured it on his head. There were some who were indignant. "Why has there been this waste of perfumed oil? It could have been sold for more than three hundred days' wages and the money given to the poor." They were infuriated with her. Jesus said, "Let her alone. Why do you make trouble for her? She has done a good thing for me. The poor you will always have with you, and whenever you wish you can do good to them, but you will not always have me. She has done what she could. She has anticipated anointing my body for burial. Amen, I say to you, wherever the gospel is proclaimed to the whole world, what she has done will be told in memory of her."

Then Judas Iscariot, one of the Twelve, went off to the chief priests to hand him over to them. When they heard him they were pleased and promised to pay him money. Then he looked for an opportunity to hand him over.

On the first day of the Feast of Unleavened Bread, when they sacrificed the Passover lamb, his disciples said to him, "Where do you want us to go and prepare for you to eat the Passover?" He sent two of his disciples and said to them, "Go into the city and a man will meet you, carrying a jar of water. Follow him. Wherever he enters, say to the master of the house, 'The Teacher says, "Where is my guest room where I may eat the Passover with my disciples?'" Then he will show you a large upper room furnished and ready. Make the preparations for us there.'" The disciples then went off, entered the city, and found it just as he had told them; and they prepared the Passover.

When it was evening, he came with the Twelve. And as they reclined at table and were eating, Jesus said, "Amen, I say to you, one of you will betray me,

one who is eating with me."

They began to be distressed and to say to him, one by one, "Surely it is not I?"

He said to them,

"One of the Twelve, the one who dips with me into the dish. For the Son of Man indeed goes, as it is written of him, but woe to that man by whom the Son of Man is betrayed. It would be better for that man if he had never been born."

While they were eating, he took bread, said the blessing, broke it, and gave it to them, and said, "Take it; this is my body." Then he took a cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, and they all drank from it. He said to them, "This is my blood of the covenant, which will be shed for many. Amen, I say to you, I shall not drink again the fruit of the vine until the day when I drink it new in the kingdom of God." Then, after singing a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.

Then Jesus said to them, "All of you will have your faith shaken, for it is written: *I will strike the shepherd, and the sheep will be dispersed.* But after I have been raised up, I shall go before you to Galilee." Peter said to him, "Even though all should have their faith shaken, mine will not be." Then Jesus said to him, "Amen, I say to you, this very night before the cock crows twice you will deny me three times." But he vehemently replied, "Even though I should have to die with you, I will not deny you." And they all spoke similarly. Then they came to a place named Gethsemane, and he said to his disciples, "Sit here while I pray." He took with him Peter, James, and John, and began to be troubled and distressed. Then he said to them, "My soul is sorrowful even to death. Remain here and keep watch." He advanced a little and fell to the ground and prayed that if it were possible the hour might pass by him; he said, "Abba, Father, all things are possible to you. Take this cup away from me, but not what I will but what you will." When he returned he found them asleep. He said to Peter, "Simon, are you asleep? Could you not keep watch for one hour? Watch and pray that you may not undergo the test. The spirit is willing but the flesh is weak." Withdrawing again, he prayed, saying the same thing.

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Then he returned once more and found them asleep,  
for they could not keep their eyes open  
and did not know what to answer him.  
He returned a third time and said to them,  
“Are you still sleeping and taking your rest?  
It is enough. The hour has come.  
Behold, the Son of Man is to be handed over to sinners.  
Get up, let us go.  
See, my betrayer is at hand.”

Then, while he was still speaking,  
Judas, one of the Twelve, arrived,  
accompanied by a crowd with swords and clubs  
who had come from the chief priests,  
the scribes, and the elders.  
His betrayer had arranged a signal with them, saying,  
“The man I shall kiss is the one;  
arrest him and lead him away securely.”  
He came and immediately went over to him and said,  
“Rabbi.” And he kissed him.  
At this they laid hands on him and arrested him.  
One of the bystanders drew his sword,  
struck the high priest’s servant, and cut off his ear.  
Jesus said to them in reply,  
“Have you come out as against a robber,  
with swords and clubs, to seize me?  
Day after day I was with you teaching in the temple area,  
yet you did not arrest me;  
but that the Scriptures may be fulfilled.”  
And they all left him and fled.  
Now a young man followed him  
wearing nothing but a linen cloth about his body.  
They seized him,  
but he left the cloth behind and ran off naked.

They led Jesus away to the high priest,  
and all the chief priests and the elders and the scribes came  
together.  
Peter followed him at a distance into the high priest’s  
courtyard  
and was seated with the guards, warming himself at the fire.  
The chief priests and the entire Sanhedrin  
kept trying to obtain testimony against Jesus  
in order to put him to death, but they found none.  
Many gave false witness against him,  
but their testimony did not agree.  
Some took the stand and testified falsely against him,  
alleging, “We heard him say,  
‘I will destroy this temple made with hands  
and within three days I will build another  
not made with hands.’”  
Even so their testimony did not agree.  
The high priest rose before the assembly and questioned Jesus,  
saying, “Have you no answer?  
What are these men testifying against you?”  
But he was silent and answered nothing.  
Again the high priest asked him and said to him,  
“Are you the Christ, the son of the Blessed One?”  
Then Jesus answered, “I am;

and ‘you will see the Son of Man  
seated at the right hand of the Power  
and coming with the clouds of heaven.’”  
At that the high priest tore his garments and said,  
“That further need have we of witnesses?  
You have heard the blasphemy.  
What do you think?”  
They all condemned him as deserving to die.  
Some began to spit on him.  
They blindfolded him and struck him and said to him,  
“Prophesy!”  
And the guards greeted him with blows.

While Peter was below in the courtyard,  
one of the high priest’s maids came along.  
Seeing Peter warming himself,  
she looked intently at him and said,  
“You too were with the Nazarene, Jesus.”  
But he denied it saying,  
“I neither know nor understand what you are talking about.”  
So he went out into the outer court.  
Then the cock crowed.  
The maid saw him and began again to say to the bystanders,  
“This man is one of them.”  
Once again he denied it.  
A little later the bystanders said to Peter once more,  
“Surely you are one of them; for you too are a Galilean.”  
He began to curse and to swear,  
“I do not know this man about whom you are talking.”  
And immediately a cock crowed a second time.  
Then Peter remembered the word that Jesus had said to him,  
“Before the cock crows twice you will deny me three times.”  
He broke down and wept.

As soon as morning came,  
the chief priests with the elders and the scribes,  
that is, the whole Sanhedrin held a council.  
They bound Jesus, led him away, and handed him over to  
Pilate.  
Pilate questioned him,  
“Are you the king of the Jews?”  
He said to him in reply, “You say so.”  
The chief priests accused him of many things.  
Again Pilate questioned him,  
“Have you no answer?  
See how many things they accuse you of.”  
Jesus gave him no further answer, so that Pilate was amazed.

Now on the occasion of the feast he used to release to them  
one prisoner whom they requested.  
A man called Barabbas was then in prison  
along with the rebels who had committed murder in a  
rebellion.  
The crowd came forward and began to ask him  
to do for them as he was accustomed.  
Pilate answered,  
“Do you want me to release to you the king of the Jews?”  
For he knew that it was out of envy  
that the chief priests had handed him over.

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But the chief priests stirred up the crowd  
to have him release Barabbas for them instead.  
Pilate again said to them in reply,  
“Then what do you want me to do  
with the man you call the king of the Jews?”  
They shouted again, “Crucify him.”  
Pilate said to them, “Why? What evil has he done?”  
They only shouted the louder, “Crucify him.”  
So Pilate, wishing to satisfy the crowd,  
released Barabbas to them and, after he had Jesus scourged,  
handed him over to be crucified.

The soldiers led him away inside the palace,  
that is, the praetorium, and assembled the whole cohort.  
They clothed him in purple and,  
weaving a crown of thorns, placed it on him.  
They began to salute him with, “Hail, King of the Jews!”  
and kept striking his head with a reed and spitting upon him.  
They knelt before him in homage.  
And when they had mocked him,  
they stripped him of the purple cloak,  
dressed him in his own clothes,  
and led him out to crucify him.

They pressed into service a passer-by, Simon,  
a Cyrenian, who was coming in from the country,  
the father of Alexander and Rufus,  
to carry his cross.

They brought him to the place of Golgotha  
— which is translated Place of the Skull —  
They gave him wine drugged with myrrh,  
but he did not take it.  
Then they crucified him and divided his garments  
by casting lots for them to see what each should take.  
It was nine o’clock in the morning when they crucified him.  
The inscription of the charge against him read,  
“The King of the Jews.”  
With him they crucified two revolutionaries,  
one on his right and one on his left.  
Those passing by reviled him,  
shaking their heads and saying,  
“Aha! You who would destroy the temple  
and rebuild it in three days,  
save yourself by coming down from the cross.”  
Likewise the chief priests, with the scribes,  
mocked him among themselves and said,  
“He saved others; he cannot save himself.  
Let the Christ, the King of Israel,  
come down now from the cross  
that we may see and believe.”  
Those who were crucified with him also kept abusing him.

At noon darkness came over the whole land  
until three in the afternoon.  
And at three o’clock Jesus cried out in a loud voice,  
“Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?”  
which is translated,  
“My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?”

Some of the bystanders who heard it said,  
“Look, he is calling Elijah.”  
One of them ran, soaked a sponge with wine, put it on a reed  
and gave it to him to drink saying,  
“Wait, let us see if Elijah comes to take him down.”  
Jesus gave a loud cry and breathed his last.

*Here all kneel and pause for a short time.*

The veil of the sanctuary was torn in two from top to bottom.  
When the centurion who stood facing him  
saw how he breathed his last he said,  
“Truly this man was the Son of God!”  
There were also women looking on from a distance.  
Among them were Mary Magdalene,  
Mary the mother of the younger James and of Joses, and  
Salome.  
These women had followed him when he was in Galilee  
and ministered to him.  
There were also many other women  
who had come up with him to Jerusalem.

When it was already evening,  
since it was the day of preparation,  
the day before the sabbath, Joseph of Arimathea,  
a distinguished member of the council,  
who was himself awaiting the kingdom of God,  
came and courageously went to Pilate  
and asked for the body of Jesus.  
Pilate was amazed that he was already dead.  
He summoned the centurion  
and asked him if Jesus had already died.  
And when he learned of it from the centurion,  
he gave the body to Joseph.  
Having bought a linen cloth, he took him down,  
wrapped him in the linen cloth,  
and laid him in a tomb that had been hewn out of the rock.  
Then he rolled a stone against the entrance to the tomb.  
Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of Joses  
watched where he was laid.

**Or Mk 15:1-39**

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the chief priests with the elders and the scribes,  
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And when they had mocked him, they stripped him of the purple cloak, dressed him in his own clothes, and led him out to crucify him.

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“Aha! You who would destroy the temple and rebuild it in three days, save yourself by coming down from the cross.”

Likewise the chief priests, with the scribes, mocked him among themselves and said,

“He saved others; he cannot save himself.

Let the Christ, the King of Israel,

come down now from the cross

that we may see and believe.”

Those who were crucified with him also kept abusing him.

At noon darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon.

And at three o’clock Jesus cried out in a loud voice, “*Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?*”

which is translated,

“My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?”

Some of the bystanders who heard it said,

“Look, he is calling Elijah.”

One of them ran, soaked a sponge with wine, put it on a reed and gave it to him to drink saying,

“Wait, let us see if Elijah comes to take him down.”

Jesus gave a loud cry and breathed his last.

*Here all kneel and pause for a short time.*

The veil of the sanctuary was torn in two from top to bottom.

When the centurion who stood facing him

saw how he breathed his last he said,

“Truly this man was the Son of God!”

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## **MONDAY**

### **Reading 1 Is 42:1-7**

Here is my servant whom I uphold,  
my chosen one with whom I am pleased,  
Upon whom I have put my Spirit;  
he shall bring forth justice to the nations,  
Not crying out, not shouting,  
not making his voice heard in the street.  
A bruised reed he shall not break,  
and a smoldering wick he shall not quench,  
Until he establishes justice on the earth;  
the coastlands will wait for his teaching.

Thus says God, the LORD,  
who created the heavens and stretched them out,  
who spreads out the earth with its crops,  
Who gives breath to its people  
and spirit to those who walk on it:  
I, the LORD, have called you for the victory of justice,  
I have grasped you by the hand;  
I formed you, and set you  
as a covenant of the people,  
a light for the nations,  
To open the eyes of the blind,  
to bring out prisoners from confinement,  
and from the dungeon, those who live in darkness.

### **Responsorial Psalm Ps 27:1, 2, 3, 13-14**

**R. (1a) The Lord is my light and my salvation.**

The LORD is my light and my salvation;  
whom should I fear?

The LORD is my life’s refuge;

of whom should I be afraid?

**R. The Lord is my light and my salvation.**

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When evildoers come at me  
to devour my flesh,  
My foes and my enemies  
themselves stumble and fall.

**R. The Lord is my light and my salvation.**

Though an army encamp against me,  
my heart will not fear;  
Though war be waged upon me,  
even then will I trust.

**R. The Lord is my light and my salvation.**

I believe that I shall see the bounty of the LORD  
in the land of the living.

Wait for the LORD with courage;  
be stouthearted, and wait for the LORD.

**R. The Lord is my light and my salvation.**

**Verse Before the Gospel**

Hail to you, our King;  
you alone are compassionate with our faults.

**Gospel Jn 12:1-11**

Six days before Passover Jesus came to Bethany,  
where Lazarus was, whom Jesus had raised from the dead.  
They gave a dinner for him there, and Martha served,  
while Lazarus was one of those reclining at table with him.  
Mary took a liter of costly perfumed oil  
made from genuine aromatic nard  
and anointed the feet of Jesus and dried them with her hair;  
the house was filled with the fragrance of the oil.  
Then Judas the Iscariot, one of his disciples,  
and the one who would betray him, said,  
“Why was this oil not sold for three hundred days’ wages  
and given to the poor?”

He said this not because he cared about the poor  
but because he was a thief and held the money bag  
and used to steal the contributions.  
So Jesus said, “Leave her alone.  
Let her keep this for the day of my burial.  
You always have the poor with you, but you do not always  
have me.”

The large crowd of the Jews found out that he was there and  
came,  
not only because of him, but also to see Lazarus,  
whom he had raised from the dead.  
And the chief priests plotted to kill Lazarus too,  
because many of the Jews were turning away  
and believing in Jesus because of him.

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## **TUESDAY**

**Reading 1 Is 49:1-6**

Hear me, O islands,  
listen, O distant peoples.  
The LORD called me from birth,  
from my mother’s womb he gave me my name.

He made of me a sharp-edged sword  
and concealed me in the shadow of his arm.  
He made me a polished arrow,  
in his quiver he hid me.  
You are my servant, he said to me,  
Israel, through whom I show my glory.

Though I thought I had toiled in vain,  
and for nothing, uselessly, spent my strength,  
Yet my reward is with the LORD,  
my recompense is with my God.  
For now the LORD has spoken  
who formed me as his servant from the womb,  
That Jacob may be brought back to him  
and Israel gathered to him;  
And I am made glorious in the sight of the LORD,  
and my God is now my strength!  
It is too little, he says, for you to be my servant,  
to raise up the tribes of Jacob,  
and restore the survivors of Israel;  
I will make you a light to the nations,  
that my salvation may reach to the ends of the earth.

**Responsorial Psalm Ps 71:1-2, 3-4a, 5ab-6ab, 15 and 17**

**R. (see 15ab) I will sing of your salvation.**

In you, O LORD, I take refuge;  
let me never be put to shame.  
In your justice rescue me, and deliver me;  
incline your ear to me, and save me.

**R. I will sing of your salvation.**

Be my rock of refuge,  
a stronghold to give me safety,  
for you are my rock and my fortress.  
O my God, rescue me from the hand of the wicked.

**R. I will sing of your salvation.**

For you are my hope, O Lord;  
my trust, O God, from my youth.  
On you I depend from birth;  
from my mother’s womb you are my strength.

**R. I will sing of your salvation.**

My mouth shall declare your justice,  
day by day your salvation.  
O God, you have taught me from my youth,  
and till the present I proclaim your wondrous deeds.

**R. I will sing of your salvation.**

**Verse Before the Gospel**

Hail to you, our King, obedient to the Father;  
you were led to your crucifixion like a gentle lamb to the  
slaughter.

**Gospel Jn 13:21-33, 36-38**

Reclining at table with his disciples, Jesus was deeply troubled  
and testified,

“Amen, amen, I say to you, one of you will betray me.”

The disciples looked at one another, at a loss as to whom he  
meant.

One of his disciples, the one whom Jesus loved,  
was reclining at Jesus’ side.

So Simon Peter nodded to him to find out whom he meant.

He leaned back against Jesus’ chest and said to him,  
“Master, who is it?”

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Jesus answered,

"It is the one to whom I hand the morsel after I have dipped it."

So he dipped the morsel and took it and handed it to Judas, son of Simon the Iscariot.

After Judas took the morsel, Satan entered him.

So Jesus said to him, "What you are going to do, do quickly."

Now none of those reclining at table realized why he said this to him.

Some thought that since Judas kept the money bag, Jesus had told him,

"Buy what we need for the feast,"

or to give something to the poor.

So Judas took the morsel and left at once. And it was night.

When he had left, Jesus said,

"Now is the Son of Man glorified, and God is glorified in him.

If God is glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself,

and he will glorify him at once.

My children, I will be with you only a little while longer.

You will look for me, and as I told the Jews,

'Where I go you cannot come,' so now I say it to you."

Simon Peter said to him, "Master, where are you going?"

Jesus answered him,

"Where I am going, you cannot follow me now, though you will follow later."

Peter said to him,

"Master, why can I not follow you now?

I will lay down my life for you."

Jesus answered, "Will you lay down your life for me?

Amen, amen, I say to you, the cock will not crow before you deny me three times."

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## **WEDNESDAY**

### **Reading 1 Is 50:4-9a**

The Lord GOD has given me

a well-trained tongue,

That I might know how to speak to the weary

a word that will rouse them.

Morning after morning

he opens my ear that I may hear;

And I have not rebelled,

have not turned back.

I gave my back to those who beat me,

my cheeks to those who plucked my beard;

My face I did not shield

from buffets and spitting.

The Lord GOD is my help,

therefore I am not disgraced;

I have set my face like flint,

knowing that I shall not be put to shame.

He is near who upholds my right;

if anyone wishes to oppose me,

let us appear together.

Who disputes my right?

Let him confront me.

See, the Lord GOD is my help;

who will prove me wrong?

**Responsorial Psalm Ps 69:8-10, 21-22, 31 and 33-34**

**R. (14c) Lord, in your great love, answer me.**

For your sake I bear insult,

and shame covers my face.

I have become an outcast to my brothers,

a stranger to my mother's sons,

because zeal for your house consumes me,

and the insults of those who blaspheme you fall upon me.

**R. Lord, in your great love, answer me.**

Insult has broken my heart, and I am weak,

I looked for sympathy, but there was none;

for consolers, not one could I find.

Rather they put gall in my food,

and in my thirst they gave me vinegar to drink.

**R. Lord, in your great love, answer me.**

I will praise the name of God in song,

and I will glorify him with thanksgiving:

"See, you lowly ones, and be glad;

you who seek God, may your hearts revive!

For the LORD hears the poor,

and his own who are in bonds he spurns not."

**R. Lord, in your great love, answer me.**

**Verse Before the Gospel**

Hail to you, our King;

you alone are compassionate with our errors.

**Or**

Hail to you, our King, obedient to the Father;

you were led to your crucifixion like a gentle lamb to the slaughter.

**Gospel Mt 26:14-25**

One of the Twelve, who was called Judas Iscariot,

went to the chief priests and said,

"What are you willing to give me

if I hand him over to you?"

They paid him thirty pieces of silver,

and from that time on he looked for an opportunity to hand him over.

On the first day of the Feast of Unleavened Bread, the disciples approached Jesus and said,

"Where do you want us to prepare

for you to eat the Passover?"

He said,

"Go into the city to a certain man and tell him,

'The teacher says, AMy appointed time draws near;

in your house I shall celebrate the Passover with my disciples.'"

The disciples then did as Jesus had ordered,

and prepared the Passover.

When it was evening,

he reclined at table with the Twelve.

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And while they were eating, he said,  
“Amen, I say to you, one of you will betray me.”  
Deeply distressed at this,  
they began to say to him one after another,  
“Surely it is not I, Lord?”  
He said in reply,  
“He who has dipped his hand into the dish with me  
is the one who will betray me.  
The Son of Man indeed goes, as it is written of him,  
but woe to that man by whom the Son of Man is betrayed.  
It would be better for that man if he had never been born.”  
Then Judas, his betrayer, said in reply,  
“Surely it is not I, Rabbi?”  
He answered, “You have said so.”

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## **THURSDAY**

*Chrism Mass*

### **Reading 1 Is 61:1-3a, 6a, 8b-9**

The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me,  
because the LORD has anointed me;  
He has sent me to bring glad tidings to the lowly,  
to heal the brokenhearted,  
To proclaim liberty to the captives  
and release to the prisoners,  
To announce a year of favor from the LORD  
and a day of vindication by our God,  
to comfort all who mourn;  
To place on those who mourn in Zion  
a diadem instead of ashes,  
To give them oil of gladness in place of mourning,  
a glorious mantle instead of a listless spirit.

You yourselves shall be named priests of the LORD,  
ministers of our God shall you be called.

I will give them their recompense faithfully,  
a lasting covenant I will make with them.  
Their descendants shall be renowned among the nations,  
and their offspring among the peoples;  
All who see them shall acknowledge them  
as a race the LORD has blessed.

### **Responsorial Psalm Ps 89:21-22, 25 and 27**

**R. (2) For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.**

“I have found David, my servant;  
with my holy oil I have anointed him.  
That my hand may always be with him;  
and that my arm may make him strong.”

**R. For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.**

“My faithfulness and my mercy shall be with him;  
and through my name shall his horn be exalted.  
He shall say of me, ‘You are my father,  
my God, the Rock, my savior!’”

**R. For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.**

### **Reading 2 Rv 1:5-8**

[Grace to you and peace] from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness,  
the firstborn of the dead and ruler of the kings of the earth.  
To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his Blood,  
who has made us into a Kingdom, priests for his God and Father,  
to him be glory and power forever and ever. Amen.

Behold, he is coming amid the clouds,  
and every eye will see him,  
even those who pierced him.  
All the peoples of the earth will lament him.  
Yes. Amen.

“I am the Alpha and the Omega,” says the Lord God,  
“the one who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.”

### **Verse Before the Gospel Is 61:1 (cited in Lk 4:18)**

The Spirit of the LORD is upon me;  
for he has sent me to bring glad tidings to the poor.

### **Gospel Lk 4:16-21**

Jesus came to Nazareth, where he had grown up,  
and went according to his custom  
into the synagogue on the sabbath day.  
He stood up to read and was handed a scroll of the prophet Isaiah.  
He unrolled the scroll and found the passage where it was written:

*The Spirit of the Lord is upon me,  
because he has anointed me  
to bring glad tidings to the poor.  
He has sent me to proclaim liberty to captives  
and recovery of sight to the blind,  
to let the oppressed go free,  
and to proclaim a year acceptable to the Lord.*

Rolling up the scroll, he handed it back to the attendant and sat down,  
and the eyes of all in the synagogue looked intently at him.  
He said to them,  
“Today this Scripture passage is fulfilled in your hearing.”

Or

Evening Mass of the Lord's Supper

### **Reading 1 Ex 12:1-8, 11-14**

The LORD said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt,  
“This month shall stand at the head of your calendar;  
you shall reckon it the first month of the year.  
Tell the whole community of Israel:  
On the tenth of this month every one of your families  
must procure for itself a lamb, one apiece for each household.  
If a family is too small for a whole lamb,  
it shall join the nearest household in procuring one  
and shall share in the lamb



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in proportion to the number of persons who partake of it.  
The lamb must be a year-old male and without blemish.  
You may take it from either the sheep or the goats.  
You shall keep it until the fourteenth day of this month,  
and then, with the whole assembly of Israel present,  
it shall be slaughtered during the evening twilight.  
They shall take some of its blood  
and apply it to the two doorposts and the lintel  
of every house in which they partake of the lamb.  
That same night they shall eat its roasted flesh  
with unleavened bread and bitter herbs.

“This is how you are to eat it:  
with your loins girt, sandals on your feet and your staff in  
hand,  
you shall eat like those who are in flight.  
It is the Passover of the LORD.  
For on this same night I will go through Egypt,  
striking down every firstborn of the land, both man and beast,  
and executing judgment on all the gods of Egypt—I, the  
LORD!

But the blood will mark the houses where you are.  
Seeing the blood, I will pass over you;  
thus, when I strike the land of Egypt,  
no destructive blow will come upon you.

“This day shall be a memorial feast for you,  
which all your generations shall celebrate  
with pilgrimage to the LORD, as a perpetual institution.”

**Responsorial Psalm Ps 116:12-13, 15-16bc, 17-18**

R. (cf. 1 Cor 10:16) **Our blessing-cup is a communion with  
the Blood of Christ.**

How shall I make a return to the LORD  
for all the good he has done for me?  
The cup of salvation I will take up,  
and I will call upon the name of the LORD.

R. **Our blessing-cup is a communion with the Blood of  
Christ.**

Precious in the eyes of the LORD  
is the death of his faithful ones.

I am your servant, the son of your handmaid;  
you have loosed my bonds.

R. **Our blessing-cup is a communion with the Blood of  
Christ.**

To you will I offer sacrifice of thanksgiving,  
and I will call upon the name of the LORD.

My vows to the LORD I will pay  
in the presence of all his people.

R. **Our blessing-cup is a communion with the Blood of  
Christ.**

**Reading 2 1 Cor 11:23-26**

Brothers and sisters:

I received from the Lord what I also handed on to you,  
that the Lord Jesus, on the night he was handed over,  
took bread, and, after he had given thanks,  
broke it and said, “This is my body that is for you.  
Do this in remembrance of me.”

In the same way also the cup, after supper, saying,

“This cup is the new covenant in my blood.  
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.”  
For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup,  
you proclaim the death of the Lord until he comes.

**Verse Before the Gospel Jn 13:34**

I give you a new commandment, says the Lord:  
love one another as I have loved you.

**Gospel Jn 13:1-15**

Before the feast of Passover, Jesus knew that his hour had  
come  
to pass from this world to the Father.  
He loved his own in the world and he loved them to the end.  
The devil had already induced Judas, son of Simon the  
Ischriot, to hand him over.  
So, during supper,  
fully aware that the Father had put everything into his power  
and that he had come from God and was returning to God,  
he rose from supper and took off his outer garments.  
He took a towel and tied it around his waist.  
Then he poured water into a basin  
and began to wash the disciples’ feet  
and dry them with the towel around his waist.  
He came to Simon Peter, who said to him,  
“Master, are you going to wash my feet?”  
Jesus answered and said to him,  
“What I am doing, you do not understand now,  
but you will understand later.”  
Peter said to him, “You will never wash my feet.”  
Jesus answered him,  
“Unless I wash you, you will have no inheritance with me.”  
Simon Peter said to him,  
“Master, then not only my feet, but my hands and head as  
well.”  
Jesus said to him,  
“Whoever has bathed has no need except to have his feet  
washed,  
for he is clean all over;  
so you are clean, but not all.”  
For he knew who would betray him;  
for this reason, he said, “Not all of you are clean.”

So when he had washed their feet  
and put his garments back on and reclined at table again,  
he said to them, “Do you realize what I have done for you?  
You call me ‘teacher’ and ‘master,’ and rightly so, for indeed I  
am.  
If I, therefore, the master and teacher, have washed your feet,  
you ought to wash one another’s feet.  
I have given you a model to follow,  
so that as I have done for you, you should also do.”

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**FRIDAY**

**Good Friday of the Lord’s Passion**

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**Reading 1 Is 52:13—53:12**

See, my servant shall prosper,  
he shall be raised high and greatly exalted.  
Even as many were amazed at him—  
so marred was his look beyond human semblance  
and his appearance beyond that of the sons of man—  
so shall he startle many nations,  
because of him kings shall stand speechless;  
for those who have not been told shall see,  
those who have not heard shall ponder it.

Who would believe what we have heard?  
To whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed?  
He grew up like a sapling before him,  
like a shoot from the parched earth;  
there was in him no stately bearing to make us look at him,  
nor appearance that would attract us to him.  
He was spurned and avoided by people,  
a man of suffering, accustomed to infirmity,  
one of those from whom people hide their faces,  
spurned, and we held him in no esteem.

Yet it was our infirmities that he bore,  
our sufferings that he endured,  
while we thought of him as stricken,  
as one smitten by God and afflicted.  
But he was pierced for our offenses,  
crushed for our sins;  
upon him was the chastisement that makes us whole,  
by his stripes we were healed.  
We had all gone astray like sheep,  
each following his own way;  
but the LORD laid upon him  
the guilt of us all.

Though he was harshly treated, he submitted  
and opened not his mouth;  
like a lamb led to the slaughter  
or a sheep before the shearers,  
he was silent and opened not his mouth.  
Oppressed and condemned, he was taken away,  
and who would have thought any more of his destiny?  
When he was cut off from the land of the living,  
and smitten for the sin of his people,  
a grave was assigned him among the wicked  
and a burial place with evildoers,  
though he had done no wrong  
nor spoken any falsehood.  
But the LORD was pleased  
to crush him in infirmity.

If he gives his life as an offering for sin,  
he shall see his descendants in a long life,  
and the will of the LORD shall be accomplished through him.

Because of his affliction  
he shall see the light in fullness of days;  
through his suffering, my servant shall justify many,

and their guilt he shall bear.

Therefore I will give him his portion among the great,  
and he shall divide the spoils with the mighty,  
because he surrendered himself to death  
and was counted among the wicked;  
and he shall take away the sins of many,  
and win pardon for their offenses.

**Responsorial Psalm Ps 31:2, 6, 12-13, 15-16, 17, 25**

**R. (Lk 23:46) Father, into your hands I commend my spirit.**

In you, O LORD, I take refuge;  
let me never be put to shame.

In your justice rescue me.

Into your hands I commend my spirit;  
you will redeem me, O LORD, O faithful God.

**R. Father, into your hands I commend my spirit.**

For all my foes I am an object of reproach,  
a laughingstock to my neighbors, and a dread to my friends;  
they who see me abroad flee from me.

I am forgotten like the unremembered dead;  
I am like a dish that is broken.

**R. Father, into your hands I commend my spirit.**

But my trust is in you, O LORD;  
I say, "You are my God.

In your hands is my destiny; rescue me  
from the clutches of my enemies and my persecutors."

**R. Father, into your hands I commend my spirit.**

Let your face shine upon your servant;  
save me in your kindness.

Take courage and be stouthearted,  
all you who hope in the LORD.

**R. Father, into your hands I commend my spirit.**

**Reading 2 Heb 4:14-16; 5:7-9**

Brothers and sisters:

Since we have a great high priest who has passed through the  
heavens,

Jesus, the Son of God,

let us hold fast to our confession.

For we do not have a high priest

who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses,

but one who has similarly been tested in every way,  
yet without sin.

So let us confidently approach the throne of grace  
to receive mercy and to find grace for timely help.

In the days when Christ was in the flesh,  
he offered prayers and supplications with loud cries and tears  
to the one who was able to save him from death,  
and he was heard because of his reverence.

Son though he was, he learned obedience from what he  
suffered;

and when he was made perfect,

he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey  
him.

**Verse Before the Gospel Phil 2:8-9**

Christ became obedient to the point of death,  
even death on a cross.

Because of this, God greatly exalted him

and bestowed on him the name which is above every other

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name.

**Gospel Jn 18:1—19:42**

Jesus went out with his disciples across the Kidron valley to where there was a garden, into which he and his disciples entered. Judas his betrayer also knew the place, because Jesus had often met there with his disciples. So Judas got a band of soldiers and guards from the chief priests and the Pharisees and went there with lanterns, torches, and weapons. Jesus, knowing everything that was going to happen to him, went out and said to them, "Whom are you looking for?" They answered him, "Jesus the Nazorean." He said to them, "I AM." Judas his betrayer was also with them. When he said to them, "I AM, " they turned away and fell to the ground. So he again asked them, "Whom are you looking for?" They said, "Jesus the Nazorean." Jesus answered, "I told you that I AM. So if you are looking for me, let these men go." This was to fulfill what he had said, "I have not lost any of those you gave me." Then Simon Peter, who had a sword, drew it, struck the high priest's slave, and cut off his right ear. The slave's name was Malchus. Jesus said to Peter, "Put your sword into its scabbard. Shall I not drink the cup that the Father gave me?"

So the band of soldiers, the tribune, and the Jewish guards seized Jesus, bound him, and brought him to Annas first. He was the father-in-law of Caiaphas, who was high priest that year. It was Caiaphas who had counseled the Jews that it was better that one man should die rather than the people.

Simon Peter and another disciple followed Jesus. Now the other disciple was known to the high priest, and he entered the courtyard of the high priest with Jesus. But Peter stood at the gate outside. So the other disciple, the acquaintance of the high priest, went out and spoke to the gatekeeper and brought Peter in. Then the maid who was the gatekeeper said to Peter, "You are not one of this man's disciples, are you?" He said, "I am not." Now the slaves and the guards were standing around a charcoal fire that they had made, because it was cold, and were warming themselves. Peter was also standing there keeping warm.

The high priest questioned Jesus about his disciples and about his doctrine. Jesus answered him,

"I have spoken publicly to the world. I have always taught in a synagogue or in the temple area where all the Jews gather, and in secret I have said nothing. Why ask me? Ask those who heard me what I said to them. They know what I said." When he had said this, one of the temple guards standing there struck Jesus and said, "Is this the way you answer the high priest?" Jesus answered him, "If I have spoken wrongly, testify to the wrong; but if I have spoken rightly, why do you strike me?" Then Annas sent him bound to Caiaphas the high priest.

Now Simon Peter was standing there keeping warm. And they said to him, "You are not one of his disciples, are you?" He denied it and said, "I am not." One of the slaves of the high priest, a relative of the one whose ear Peter had cut off, said, "Didn't I see you in the garden with him?" Again Peter denied it. And immediately the cock crowed.

Then they brought Jesus from Caiaphas to the praetorium. It was morning. And they themselves did not enter the praetorium, in order not to be defiled so that they could eat the Passover. So Pilate came out to them and said, "What charge do you bring against this man?" They answered and said to him, "If he were not a criminal, we would not have handed him over to you." At this, Pilate said to them, "Take him yourselves, and judge him according to your law." The Jews answered him, "We do not have the right to execute anyone, " in order that the word of Jesus might be fulfilled that he said indicating the kind of death he would die. So Pilate went back into the praetorium and summoned Jesus and said to him, "Are you the King of the Jews?" Jesus answered, "Do you say this on your own or have others told you about me?" Pilate answered, "I am not a Jew, am I? Your own nation and the chief priests handed you over to me. What have you done?" Jesus answered, "My kingdom does not belong to this world. If my kingdom did belong to this world, my attendants would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not here." So Pilate said to him, "Then you are a king?" Jesus answered,

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“You say I am a king.

For this I was born and for this I came into the world,  
to testify to the truth.

Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice.”

Pilate said to him, “What is truth?”

When he had said this,

he again went out to the Jews and said to them,

“I find no guilt in him.

But you have a custom that I release one prisoner to you at  
Passover.

Do you want me to release to you the King of the Jews?”

They cried out again,

“Not this one but Barabbas!”

Now Barabbas was a revolutionary.

Then Pilate took Jesus and had him scourged.

And the soldiers wove a crown out of thorns and placed it on  
his head,

and clothed him in a purple cloak,

and they came to him and said,

“Hail, King of the Jews!”

And they struck him repeatedly.

Once more Pilate went out and said to them,

“Look, I am bringing him out to you,  
so that you may know that I find no guilt in him.”

So Jesus came out,

wearing the crown of thorns and the purple cloak.

And he said to them, “Behold, the man!”

When the chief priests and the guards saw him they cried out,

“Crucify him, crucify him!”

Pilate said to them,

“Take him yourselves and crucify him.

I find no guilt in him.”

The Jews answered,

“We have a law, and according to that law he ought to die,  
because he made himself the Son of God.”

Now when Pilate heard this statement,

he became even more afraid,

and went back into the praetorium and said to Jesus,

“Where are you from?”

Jesus did not answer him.

So Pilate said to him,

“Do you not speak to me?

Do you not know that I have power to release you  
and I have power to crucify you?”

Jesus answered him,

“You would have no power over me

if it had not been given to you from above.

For this reason the one who handed me over to you  
has the greater sin.”

Consequently, Pilate tried to release him; but the Jews cried  
out,

“If you release him, you are not a Friend of Caesar.

Everyone who makes himself a king opposes Caesar.”

When Pilate heard these words he brought Jesus out

and seated him on the judge’s bench

in the place called Stone Pavement, in Hebrew, Gabbatha.

It was preparation day for Passover, and it was about noon.

And he said to the Jews,

“Behold, your king!”

They cried out,

“Take him away, take him away! Crucify him!”

Pilate said to them,

“Shall I crucify your king?”

The chief priests answered,

“We have no king but Caesar.”

Then he handed him over to them to be crucified.

So they took Jesus, and, carrying the cross himself,  
he went out to what is called the Place of the Skull,  
in Hebrew, Golgotha.

There they crucified him, and with him two others,  
one on either side, with Jesus in the middle.

Pilate also had an inscription written and put on the cross.

It read,

“Jesus the Nazorean, the King of the Jews.”

Now many of the Jews read this inscription,

because the place where Jesus was crucified was near the city;  
and it was written in Hebrew, Latin, and Greek.

So the chief priests of the Jews said to Pilate,

“Do not write ‘The King of the Jews,’

but that he said, ‘I am the King of the Jews’.”

Pilate answered,

“What I have written, I have written.”

When the soldiers had crucified Jesus,

they took his clothes and divided them into four shares,  
a share for each soldier.

They also took his tunic, but the tunic was seamless,  
woven in one piece from the top down.

So they said to one another,

“Let’s not tear it, but cast lots for it to see whose it will be, “  
in order that the passage of Scripture might be fulfilled that  
says:

*They divided my garments among them,*

*and for my vesture they cast lots.*

This is what the soldiers did.

Standing by the cross of Jesus were his mother

and his mother’s sister, Mary the wife of Clopas,

and Mary of Magdala.

When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple there whom he  
loved

he said to his mother, “Woman, behold, your son.”

Then he said to the disciple,

“Behold, your mother.”

And from that hour the disciple took her into his home.

After this, aware that everything was now finished,

in order that the Scripture might be fulfilled,

Jesus said, “I thirst.”

There was a vessel filled with common wine.

So they put a sponge soaked in wine on a sprig of hyssop  
and put it up to his mouth.

When Jesus had taken the wine, he said,

“It is finished.”

And bowing his head, he handed over the spirit.

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*Here all kneel and pause for a short time.*

Now since it was preparation day,  
in order that the bodies might not remain on the cross on the sabbath,  
for the sabbath day of that week was a solemn one,  
the Jews asked Pilate that their legs be broken  
and that they be taken down.  
So the soldiers came and broke the legs of the first  
and then of the other one who was crucified with Jesus.  
But when they came to Jesus and saw that he was already dead,  
they did not break his legs,  
but one soldier thrust his lance into his side,  
and immediately blood and water flowed out.  
An eyewitness has testified, and his testimony is true;  
he knows that he is speaking the truth,  
so that you also may come to believe.  
For this happened so that the Scripture passage might be fulfilled:

*Not a bone of it will be broken.*

And again another passage says:

*They will look upon him whom they have pierced.*

After this, Joseph of Arimathea,  
secretly a disciple of Jesus for fear of the Jews,  
asked Pilate if he could remove the body of Jesus.  
And Pilate permitted it.  
So he came and took his body.  
Nicodemus, the one who had first come to him at night,  
also came bringing a mixture of myrrh and aloes  
weighing about one hundred pounds.  
They took the body of Jesus  
and bound it with burial cloths along with the spices,  
according to the Jewish burial custom.  
Now in the place where he had been crucified there was a garden,  
and in the garden a new tomb, in which no one had yet been buried.  
So they laid Jesus there because of the Jewish preparation day;  
for the tomb was close by.

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## **SATURDAY**

### **Holy Saturday**

#### **At the Easter Vigil in the Holy Night of Easter**

#### **Reading 1 Gn 1:1—2:2**

In the beginning, when God created the heavens and the earth,  
the earth was a formless wasteland, and darkness covered the abyss,  
while a mighty wind swept over the waters.

Then God said,

“Let there be light,” and there was light.  
God saw how good the light was.  
God then separated the light from the darkness.  
God called the light “day,” and the darkness he called “night.”  
Thus evening came, and morning followed—the first day.

Then God said,  
“Let there be a dome in the middle of the waters,  
to separate one body of water from the other.”  
And so it happened:  
God made the dome,  
and it separated the water above the dome from the water below it.  
God called the dome “the sky.”  
Evening came, and morning followed—the second day.

Then God said,  
“Let the water under the sky be gathered into a single basin,  
so that the dry land may appear.”  
And so it happened:  
the water under the sky was gathered into its basin,  
and the dry land appeared.  
God called the dry land “the earth,”  
and the basin of the water he called “the sea.”  
God saw how good it was.  
Then God said,  
“Let the earth bring forth vegetation:  
every kind of plant that bears seed  
and every kind of fruit tree on earth  
that bears fruit with its seed in it.”  
And so it happened:  
the earth brought forth every kind of plant that bears seed  
and every kind of fruit tree on earth  
that bears fruit with its seed in it.  
God saw how good it was.  
Evening came, and morning followed—the third day.

Then God said:  
“Let there be lights in the dome of the sky,  
to separate day from night.  
Let them mark the fixed times, the days and the years,  
and serve as luminaries in the dome of the sky,  
to shed light upon the earth.”  
And so it happened:  
God made the two great lights,  
the greater one to govern the day,  
and the lesser one to govern the night;  
and he made the stars.  
God set them in the dome of the sky,  
to shed light upon the earth,  
to govern the day and the night,  
and to separate the light from the darkness.  
God saw how good it was.  
Evening came, and morning followed—the fourth day.

Then God said,  
“Let the water teem with an abundance of living creatures,  
and on the earth let birds fly beneath the dome of the sky.”  
And so it happened:

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God created the great sea monsters  
and all kinds of swimming creatures with which the water  
teems,  
and all kinds of winged birds.  
God saw how good it was, and God blessed them, saying,  
“Be fertile, multiply, and fill the water of the seas;  
and let the birds multiply on the earth.”  
Evening came, and morning followed—the fifth day.

Then God said,  
“Let the earth bring forth all kinds of living creatures:  
cattle, creeping things, and wild animals of all kinds.”  
And so it happened:  
God made all kinds of wild animals, all kinds of cattle,  
and all kinds of creeping things of the earth.  
God saw how good it was.  
Then God said:  
“Let us make man in our image, after our likeness.  
Let them have dominion over the fish of the sea,  
the birds of the air, and the cattle,  
and over all the wild animals  
and all the creatures that crawl on the ground.”  
God created man in his image;  
in the image of God he created him;  
male and female he created them.  
God blessed them, saying:  
“Be fertile and multiply;  
fill the earth and subdue it.  
Have dominion over the fish of the sea, the birds of the air,  
and all the living things that move on the earth.”  
God also said:  
“See, I give you every seed-bearing plant all over the earth  
and every tree that has seed-bearing fruit on it to be your food;  
and to all the animals of the land, all the birds of the air,  
and all the living creatures that crawl on the ground,  
I give all the green plants for food.”  
And so it happened.  
God looked at everything he had made, and he found it very  
good.  
Evening came, and morning followed—the sixth day.

Thus the heavens and the earth and all their array were  
completed.

Since on the seventh day God was finished  
with the work he had been doing,  
he rested on the seventh day from all the work he had  
undertaken.

**Or Gn 1:1, 26-31a**

In the beginning, when God created the heavens and the earth,  
God said: “Let us make man in our image, after our likeness.  
Let them have dominion over the fish of the sea,  
the birds of the air, and the cattle,  
and over all the wild animals  
and all the creatures that crawl on the ground.”  
God created man in his image;  
in the image of God he created him;  
male and female he created them.  
God blessed them, saying:  
“Be fertile and multiply;

fill the earth and subdue it.  
Have dominion over the fish of the sea, the birds of the air,  
and all the living things that move on the earth.”  
God also said:  
“See, I give you every seed-bearing plant all over the earth  
and every tree that has seed-bearing fruit on it to be your food;  
and to all the animals of the land, all the birds of the air,  
and all the living creatures that crawl on the ground,  
I give all the green plants for food.”  
And so it happened.  
God looked at everything he had made, and found it very  
good.

**Responsorial Psalm Ps 104:1-2, 5-6, 10, 12, 13-14, 24, 35**  
**R. (30) Lord, send out your Spirit, and renew the face of**  
**the earth.**

Bless the LORD, O my soul!  
O LORD, my God, you are great indeed!  
You are clothed with majesty and glory,  
robed in light as with a cloak.  
**R. Lord, send out your Spirit, and renew the face of the**  
**earth.**

You fixed the earth upon its foundation,  
not to be moved forever;  
with the ocean, as with a garment, you covered it;  
above the mountains the waters stood.  
**R. Lord, send out your Spirit, and renew the face of the**  
**earth.**

You send forth springs into the watercourses  
that wind among the mountains.  
Beside them the birds of heaven dwell;  
from among the branches they send forth their song.  
**R. Lord, send out your Spirit, and renew the face of the**  
**earth.**

You water the mountains from your palace;  
the earth is replete with the fruit of your works.  
You raise grass for the cattle,  
and vegetation for man's use,  
Producing bread from the earth.  
**R. Lord, send out your Spirit, and renew the face of the**  
**earth.**

How manifold are your works, O LORD!  
In wisdom you have wrought them all—  
the earth is full of your creatures.  
Bless the LORD, O my soul! Alleluia.  
**R. Lord, send out your Spirit, and renew the face of the**  
**earth.**

**Or Ps 33:4-5, 6-7, 12-13, 20 and 22**

**R. (5b) The earth is full of the goodness of the Lord.**

Upright is the word of the LORD,  
and all his works are trustworthy.  
He loves justice and right;  
of the kindness of the LORD the earth is full.  
**R. The earth is full of the goodness of the Lord.**  
By the word of the LORD the heavens were made;  
by the breath of his mouth all their host.  
He gathers the waters of the sea as in a flask;  
in cellars he confines the deep.  
**R. The earth is full of the goodness of the Lord.**  
Blessed the nation whose God is the LORD,

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the people he has chosen for his own inheritance.  
From heaven the LORD looks down;  
he sees all mankind.

**R. The earth is full of the goodness of the Lord.**

Our soul waits for the LORD,  
who is our help and our shield.

May your kindness, O LORD, be upon us  
who have put our hope in you.

**R. The earth is full of the goodness of the Lord.**

**Reading 2 Gn 22:1-18**

God put Abraham to the test.

He called to him, "Abraham!"

"Here I am," he replied.

Then God said:

"Take your son Isaac, your only one, whom you love,  
and go to the land of Moriah.

There you shall offer him up as a holocaust  
on a height that I will point out to you."

Early the next morning Abraham saddled his donkey,  
took with him his son Isaac and two of his servants as well,  
and with the wood that he had cut for the holocaust,  
set out for the place of which God had told him.

On the third day Abraham got sight of the place from afar.  
Then he said to his servants:

"Both of you stay here with the donkey,  
while the boy and I go on over yonder.

We will worship and then come back to you."

Thereupon Abraham took the wood for the holocaust  
and laid it on his son Isaac's shoulders,  
while he himself carried the fire and the knife.

As the two walked on together, Isaac spoke to his father  
Abraham:

"Father!" Isaac said.

"Yes, son," he replied.

Isaac continued, "Here are the fire and the wood,  
but where is the sheep for the holocaust?"

"Son," Abraham answered,

"God himself will provide the sheep for the holocaust."

Then the two continued going forward.

When they came to the place of which God had told him,  
Abraham built an altar there and arranged the wood on it.

Next he tied up his son Isaac,  
and put him on top of the wood on the altar.

Then he reached out and took the knife to slaughter his son.

But the LORD's messenger called to him from heaven,

"Abraham, Abraham!"

"Here I am!" he answered.

"Do not lay your hand on the boy," said the messenger.

"Do not do the least thing to him.

I know now how devoted you are to God,  
since you did not withhold from me your own beloved son."

As Abraham looked about,

he spied a ram caught by its horns in the thicket.

So he went and took the ram

and offered it up as a holocaust in place of his son.

Abraham named the site Yahweh-yireh;

hence people now say, "On the mountain the LORD will see."

Again the LORD's messenger called to Abraham from heaven  
and said:

"I swear by myself, declares the LORD,

that because you acted as you did

in not withholding from me your beloved son,

I will bless you abundantly

and make your descendants as countless

as the stars of the sky and the sands of the seashore;

your descendants shall take possession

of the gates of their enemies,

and in your descendants all the nations of the earth shall find  
blessing—

all this because you obeyed my command."

**Or Gn 22:1-2, 9a, 10-13, 15-18**

God put Abraham to the test.

He called to him, "Abraham!"

"Here I am," he replied.

Then God said:

"Take your son Isaac, your only one, whom you love,  
and go to the land of Moriah.

There you shall offer him up as a holocaust  
on a height that I will point out to you."

When they came to the place of which God had told him,  
Abraham built an altar there and arranged the wood on it.

Then he reached out and took the knife to slaughter his son.

But the LORD's messenger called to him from heaven,

"Abraham, Abraham!"

"Here I am," he answered.

"Do not lay your hand on the boy," said the messenger.

"Do not do the least thing to him.

I know now how devoted you are to God,

since you did not withhold from me your own beloved son."

As Abraham looked about,

he spied a ram caught by its horns in the thicket.

So he went and took the ram

and offered it up as a holocaust in place of his son.

Again the LORD's messenger called to Abraham from heaven  
and said:

"I swear by myself, declares the LORD,

that because you acted as you did

in not withholding from me your beloved son,

I will bless you abundantly

and make your descendants as countless

as the stars of the sky and the sands of the seashore;

your descendants shall take possession

of the gates of their enemies,

and in your descendants all the nations of the earth shall find  
blessing—

all this because you obeyed my command."

**Responsorial psalm Ps 16:5, 8, 9-10, 11**

**R. (1) You are my inheritance, O Lord.**

O LORD, my allotted portion and my cup,

you it is who hold fast my lot.

I set the LORD ever before me;

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with him at my right hand I shall not be disturbed.

**R. You are my inheritance, O Lord.**

Therefore my heart is glad and my soul rejoices,  
my body, too, abides in confidence;  
because you will not abandon my soul to the netherworld,  
nor will you suffer your faithful one to undergo corruption.

**R. You are my inheritance, O Lord.**

You will show me the path to life,  
fullness of joys in your presence,  
the delights at your right hand forever.

**R. You are my inheritance, O Lord.**

**Reading 3 Ex 14:15—15:1**

The LORD said to Moses, “Why are you crying out to me?  
Tell the Israelites to go forward.

And you, lift up your staff and, with hand outstretched over  
the sea,

split the sea in two,

that the Israelites may pass through it on dry land.

But I will make the Egyptians so obstinate  
that they will go in after them.

Then I will receive glory through Pharaoh and all his army,  
his chariots and charioteers.

The Egyptians shall know that I am the LORD,  
when I receive glory through Pharaoh  
and his chariots and charioteers.”

The angel of God, who had been leading Israel’s camp,  
now moved and went around behind them.

The column of cloud also, leaving the front,

took up its place behind them,  
so that it came between the camp of the Egyptians  
and that of Israel.

But the cloud now became dark, and thus the night passed  
without the rival camps coming any closer together  
all night long.

Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea,  
and the LORD swept the sea

with a strong east wind throughout the night  
and so turned it into dry land.

When the water was thus divided,  
the Israelites marched into the midst of the sea on dry land,  
with the water like a wall to their right and to their left.

The Egyptians followed in pursuit;  
all Pharaoh’s horses and chariots and charioteers went after  
them

right into the midst of the sea.

In the night watch just before dawn  
the LORD cast through the column of the fiery cloud  
upon the Egyptian force a glance that threw it into a panic;  
and he so clogged their chariot wheels  
that they could hardly drive.

With that the Egyptians sounded the retreat before Israel,  
because the LORD was fighting for them against the  
Egyptians.

Then the LORD told Moses, “Stretch out your hand over the  
sea,  
that the water may flow back upon the Egyptians,

upon their chariots and their charioteers.”

So Moses stretched out his hand over the sea,  
and at dawn the sea flowed back to its normal depth.

The Egyptians were fleeing head on toward the sea,  
when the LORD hurled them into its midst.

As the water flowed back,  
it covered the chariots and the charioteers of Pharaoh’s whole  
army

which had followed the Israelites into the sea.

Not a single one of them escaped.

But the Israelites had marched on dry land  
through the midst of the sea,

with the water like a wall to their right and to their left.

Thus the LORD saved Israel on that day  
from the power of the Egyptians.

When Israel saw the Egyptians lying dead on the seashore  
and beheld the great power that the LORD

had shown against the Egyptians,

they feared the LORD and believed in him and in his servant  
Moses.

Then Moses and the Israelites sang this song to the LORD:

I will sing to the LORD, for he is gloriously triumphant;  
horse and chariot he has cast into the sea.

**Responsorial psalm Ex 15:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 17-18**

**R. (1b) Let us sing to the Lord; he has covered himself in  
glory.**

I will sing to the LORD, for he is gloriously triumphant;  
horse and chariot he has cast into the sea.

My strength and my courage is the LORD,  
and he has been my savior.

He is my God, I praise him;

the God of my father, I extol him.

**R. Let us sing to the Lord; he has covered himself in glory.**

The LORD is a warrior,

LORD is his name!

Pharaoh’s chariots and army he hurled into the sea;

the elite of his officers were submerged in the Red Sea.

**R. Let us sing to the Lord; he has covered himself in glory.**

The flood waters covered them,

they sank into the depths like a stone.

Your right hand, O LORD, magnificent in power,

your right hand, O LORD, has shattered the enemy.

**R. Let us sing to the Lord; he has covered himself in glory.**

You brought in the people you redeemed

and planted them on the mountain of your inheritanceC

the place where you made your seat, O LORD,

the sanctuary, LORD, which your hands established.

The LORD shall reign forever and ever.

**R. Let us sing to the Lord; he has covered himself in glory.**

**Reading 4 Is 54:5-14**

The One who has become your husband is your Maker;

his name is the LORD of hosts;

your redeemer is the Holy One of Israel,

called God of all the earth.

The LORD calls you back,

like a wife forsaken and grieved in spirit,

a wife married in youth and then cast off,

says your God.



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For a brief moment I abandoned you,  
but with great tenderness I will take you back.  
In an outburst of wrath, for a moment  
I hid my face from you;  
but with enduring love I take pity on you,  
says the LORD, your redeemer.  
This is for me like the days of Noah,  
when I swore that the waters of Noah  
should never again deluge the earth;  
so I have sworn not to be angry with you,  
or to rebuke you.

Though the mountains leave their place  
and the hills be shaken,  
my love shall never leave you  
nor my covenant of peace be shaken,  
says the LORD, who has mercy on you.  
O afflicted one, storm-battered and unconsoled,  
I lay your pavements in carnelians,  
and your foundations in sapphires;  
I will make your battlements of rubies,  
your gates of carbuncles,  
and all your walls of precious stones.  
All your children shall be taught by the LORD,  
and great shall be the peace of your children.  
In justice shall you be established,  
far from the fear of oppression,  
where destruction cannot come near you.

**Responsorial psalm Ps 30:2, 4, 5-6, 11-12, 13**

**R. (2a) I will praise you, Lord, for you have rescued me.**

I will extol you, O LORD, for you drew me clear  
and did not let my enemies rejoice over me.  
O LORD, you brought me up from the netherworld;  
you preserved me from among those going down into the pit.

**R. I will praise you, Lord, for you have rescued me.**

Sing praise to the LORD, you his faithful ones,  
and give thanks to his holy name.  
For his anger lasts but a moment;  
a lifetime, his good will.

At nightfall, weeping enters in,  
but with the dawn, rejoicing.

**R. I will praise you, Lord, for you have rescued me.**

Hear, O LORD, and have pity on me;  
O LORD, be my helper.

You changed my mourning into dancing;  
O LORD, my God, forever will I give you thanks.

**R. I will praise you, Lord, for you have rescued me.**

**Reading 5 Is 55:1-11**

Thus says the LORD:

All you who are thirsty,  
come to the water!

You who have no money,  
come, receive grain and eat;  
come, without paying and without cost,  
drink wine and milk!

Why spend your money for what is not bread,  
your wages for what fails to satisfy?

Heed me, and you shall eat well,  
you shall delight in rich fare.

Come to me heedfully,

listen, that you may have life.

I will renew with you the everlasting covenant,  
the benefits assured to David.

As I made him a witness to the peoples,  
a leader and commander of nations,  
so shall you summon a nation you knew not,  
and nations that knew you not shall run to you,  
because of the LORD, your God,  
the Holy One of Israel, who has glorified you.

Seek the LORD while he may be found,  
call him while he is near.

Let the scoundrel forsake his way,  
and the wicked man his thoughts;  
let him turn to the LORD for mercy;  
to our God, who is generous in forgiving.  
For my thoughts are not your thoughts,  
nor are your ways my ways, says the LORD.  
As high as the heavens are above the earth,  
so high are my ways above your ways  
and my thoughts above your thoughts.

For just as from the heavens  
the rain and snow come down  
and do not return there  
till they have watered the earth,  
making it fertile and fruitful,  
giving seed to the one who sows  
and bread to the one who eats,  
so shall my word be  
that goes forth from my mouth;  
my word shall not return to me void,  
but shall do my will,  
achieving the end for which I sent it.

**Responsorial psalm Is 12:2-3, 4, 5-6**

**R. (3) You will draw water joyfully from the springs of salvation.**

God indeed is my savior;  
I am confident and unafraid.  
My strength and my courage is the LORD,  
and he has been my savior.  
With joy you will draw water  
at the fountain of salvation.

**R. You will draw water joyfully from the springs of salvation.**

Give thanks to the LORD, acclaim his name;  
among the nations make known his deeds,  
proclaim how exalted is his name.

**R. You will draw water joyfully from the springs of salvation.**

Sing praise to the LORD for his glorious achievement;  
let this be known throughout all the earth.  
Shout with exultation, O city of Zion,  
for great in your midst  
is the Holy One of Israel!

**R. You will draw water joyfully from the springs of salvation.**

**Reading 6 Bar 3:9-15, 32C4:4**

Hear, O Israel, the commandments of life:

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listen, and know prudence!

How is it, Israel,

that you are in the land of your foes,

grown old in a foreign land,

defiled with the dead,

accounted with those destined for the netherworld?

You have forsaken the fountain of wisdom!

Had you walked in the way of God,

you would have dwelt in enduring peace.

Learn where prudence is,

where strength, where understanding;

that you may know also

where are length of days, and life,

where light of the eyes, and peace.

Who has found the place of wisdom,

who has entered into her treasuries?

The One who knows all things knows her;

he has probed her by his knowledge—

The One who established the earth for all time,

and filled it with four-footed beasts;

he who dismisses the light, and it departs,

calls it, and it obeys him trembling;

before whom the stars at their posts

shine and rejoice;

when he calls them, they answer, “Here we are!”

shining with joy for their Maker.

Such is our God;

no other is to be compared to him:

He has traced out the whole way of understanding,

and has given her to Jacob, his servant,

to Israel, his beloved son.

Since then she has appeared on earth,

and moved among people.

She is the book of the precepts of God,

the law that endures forever;

all who cling to her will live,

but those will die who forsake her.

Turn, O Jacob, and receive her:

walk by her light toward splendor.

Give not your glory to another,

your privileges to an alien race.

Blessed are we, O Israel;

for what pleases God is known to us!

**Responsorial psalm Ps 19:8, 9, 10, 11**

R. (John 6:68c) **Lord, you have the words of everlasting life.**

The law of the LORD is perfect,

refreshing the soul;

the decree of the LORD is trustworthy,

giving wisdom to the simple.

**R. Lord, you have the words of everlasting life.**

The precepts of the LORD are right,

rejoicing the heart;

the command of the LORD is clear,

enlightening the eye.

**R. Lord, you have the words of everlasting life.**

The fear of the LORD is pure,

enduring forever;

the ordinances of the LORD are true,

all of them just.

**R. Lord, you have the words of everlasting life.**

They are more precious than gold,

than a heap of purest gold;

sweeter also than syrup

or honey from the comb.

**R. Lord, you have the words of everlasting life.**

**Reading 7 Ez 36:16-17a, 18-28**

The word of the LORD came to me, saying:

Son of man, when the house of Israel lived in their land,  
they defiled it by their conduct and deeds.

Therefore I poured out my fury upon them

because of the blood that they poured out on the ground,

and because they defiled it with idols.

I scattered them among the nations,

dispersing them over foreign lands;

according to their conduct and deeds I judged them.

But when they came among the nations wherever they came,

they served to profane my holy name,

because it was said of them: “These are the people of the

LORD,

yet they had to leave their land.”

So I have relented because of my holy name

which the house of Israel profaned

among the nations where they came.

Therefore say to the house of Israel: Thus says the Lord GOD:

Not for your sakes do I act, house of Israel,

but for the sake of my holy name,

which you profaned among the nations to which you came.

I will prove the holiness of my great name, profaned among

the nations,

in whose midst you have profaned it.

Thus the nations shall know that I am the LORD, says the

Lord GOD,

when in their sight I prove my holiness through you.

For I will take you away from among the nations,

gather you from all the foreign lands,

and bring you back to your own land.

I will sprinkle clean water upon you

to cleanse you from all your impurities,

and from all your idols I will cleanse you.

I will give you a new heart and place a new spirit within you,

taking from your bodies your stony hearts

and giving you natural hearts.

I will put my spirit within you and make you live by my

statutes,

careful to observe my decrees.

You shall live in the land I gave your fathers;

you shall be my people, and I will be your God.

**Responsorial psalm Ps 42:3, 5; 43:3, 4**

*When baptism is celebrated.*

**R. (42:2) Like a deer that longs for running streams, my soul longs for you, my God.**

Athirst is my soul for God, the living God.

When shall I go and behold the face of God?

**R. Like a deer that longs for running streams, my soul longs for you, my God.**

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I went with the throng  
and led them in procession to the house of God,  
Amid loud cries of joy and thanksgiving,  
with the multitude keeping festival.

**R. Like a deer that longs for running streams, my soul  
longs for you, my God.**

Send forth your light and your fidelity;  
they shall lead me on

And bring me to your holy mountain,  
to your dwelling-place.

**R. Like a deer that longs for running streams, my soul  
longs for you, my God.**

Then will I go in to the altar of God,  
the God of my gladness and joy;  
then will I give you thanks upon the harp,  
O God, my God!

**R. Like a deer that longs for running streams, my soul  
longs for you, my God.**

**Responsorial psalm Is 12:2-3, 4bcd, 5-6**

*When baptism is not celebrated.*

**R. (3) You will draw water joyfully from the springs of  
salvation.**

God indeed is my savior;  
I am confident and unafraid.  
My strength and my courage is the LORD,  
and he has been my savior.  
With joy you will draw water  
at the fountain of salvation.

**R. You will draw water joyfully from the springs of  
salvation.**

Give thanks to the LORD, acclaim his name;  
among the nations make known his deeds,  
proclaim how exalted is his name.

**R. You will draw water joyfully from the springs of  
salvation.**

Sing praise to the LORD for his glorious achievement;  
let this be known throughout all the earth.  
Shout with exultation, O city of Zion,  
for great in your midst  
is the Holy One of Israel!

**R. You will draw water joyfully from the springs of  
salvation.**

**Or Ps 51:12-13, 14-15, 18-19**

*When baptism is not celebrated.*

**R. (12a) Create a clean heart in me, O God.**

A clean heart create for me, O God,  
and a steadfast spirit renew within me.  
Cast me not out from your presence,  
and your Holy Spirit take not from me.

**R. Create a clean heart in me, O God.**

Give me back the joy of your salvation,  
and a willing spirit sustain in me.

I will teach transgressors your ways,  
and sinners shall return to you.

**R. Create a clean heart in me, O God.**

For you are not pleased with sacrifices;  
should I offer a holocaust, you would not accept it.

My sacrifice, O God, is a contrite spirit;  
a heart contrite and humbled, O God, you will not spurn.

**R. Create a clean heart in me, O God.**

**Epistle Rom 6:3-11**

Brothers and sisters:

Are you unaware that we who were baptized into Christ Jesus  
were baptized into his death?

We were indeed buried with him through baptism into death,  
so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead  
by the glory of the Father,  
we too might live in newness of life.

For if we have grown into union with him through a death like  
his,

we shall also be united with him in the resurrection.

We know that our old self was crucified with him,  
so that our sinful body might be done away with,  
that we might no longer be in slavery to sin.

For a dead person has been absolved from sin.

If, then, we have died with Christ,  
we believe that we shall also live with him.

We know that Christ, raised from the dead, dies no more;  
death no longer has power over him.

As to his death, he died to sin once and for all;  
as to his life, he lives for God.

Consequently, you too must think of yourselves as being dead  
to sin  
and living for God in Christ Jesus.

**Responsorial Psalm Ps 118:1-2, 16-17, 22-23**

**R. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good,  
for his mercy endures forever.

Let the house of Israel say,  
“His mercy endures forever.”

**R. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

The right hand of the LORD has struck with power;  
the right hand of the LORD is exalted.

I shall not die, but live,  
and declare the works of the LORD.

**R. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

The stone the builders rejected  
has become the cornerstone.

By the LORD has this been done;  
it is wonderful in our eyes.

**R. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

**Gospel Mk 16:1-7**

When the sabbath was over,  
Mary Magdalene, Mary, the mother of James, and Salome  
bought spices so that they might go and anoint him.

Very early when the sun had risen,  
on the first day of the week, they came to the tomb.

They were saying to one another,  
“Who will roll back the stone for us  
from the entrance to the tomb?”

When they looked up,  
they saw that the stone had been rolled back;  
it was very large.

On entering the tomb they saw a young man  
sitting on the right side, clothed in a white robe,

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and they were utterly amazed.  
He said to them, "Do not be amazed!  
You seek Jesus of Nazareth, the crucified.  
He has been raised; he is not here.  
Behold the place where they laid him.  
But go and tell his disciples and Peter,  
'He is going before you to Galilee;  
there you will see him, as he told you.'"

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