

**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** Philipians 4:6-9

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

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.**

