

SUNDAY WITHIN THE LUNAR NEW YEAR

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

Let the heavens be glad and the earth rejoice; let the creation resound and exult. (*Cf. Ps 96:11-12*)

OPENING PRAYER

All powerful and ever-living God, source of all life, we thank you for the blessings you have bestowed on us. We ask that you deepen our faith and strengthen us to follow the path of righteousness and to joyfully serve you. We ask this through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

FIRST READING (*The Lord will give the seasonal rain to your land.*)

A reading from the Book of Deuteronomy (11:7-9,11-15)

The Lord said to his people: ‘It was you who saw with your own eyes all these great deeds that the Lord has done. So keep all the commandments I give you today, that you may be strong enough to enter in and take possession of the land that you are crossing over to possess, and that you may have long life on the land which the Lord swore to your ancestors he would give to them and their descendants, a land flowing with milk and honey. The land into which you are crossing to take possession is a land of mountains and valleys that drinks in rain from the heavens, a land which the Lord, your God, looks after; the eyes of the Lord, your God, are upon it continually through the year, from beginning to end. If, then, you truly listen to my commandments which I give you today, loving and serving the Lord, your God, with your whole heart and your whole being, I will give the seasonal rain to your land, the early rain and the late rain, that you may have your grain, wine and oil to gather in; and I will bring forth grass in your fields for your animals. Thus you may eat and be satisfied’.

—The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

(Ps 85:9ab and 10, 11-12, 13-14)

R. The Lord speaks of peace to his people. *(Ps 85:9b)*

I will hear what God proclaims; the Lord – for he proclaims peace to his people Near indeed is his salvation to those who fear him, glory dwelling in our land. **(R)**

Kindness and truth shall meet; justice and peace shall kiss Truth shall spring out of the earth, and justice shall look down from heaven. **(R)**

The Lord himself will give his benefits; our land shall yield its increase. Justice shall walk before him, and salvation, along the way of his steps. **(R)**

SECOND READING *(Do these things, and the God of peace will be with you.)*

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Philippians (4:6-9)

Brothers and sisters:

Have no anxiety at all, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, make your requests known to God. Then the peace of God that surpasses all understanding will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is gracious, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. Keep on doing what you have learned and received and heard and seen in me. Then the God of peace will be with you.—The Word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (Mt 5:9)

R. Alleluia, alleluia.

Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened, and I will give you rest, says the Lord. **(R)**

GOSPEL (*Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven.*)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew (5:1-12a)

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain, and after he had sat down, his disciples came to him. He began to teach them saying:

“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the Kingdom of heaven. Blessed are they who mourn, for they will be comforted. Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the land. Blessed are they who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be satisfied. Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy. Blessed are the clean of heart, for they will see God. Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God. Blessed are they who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the Kingdom of heaven. Blessed are you when they insult you and persecute you and utter every kind of evil against you falsely because of me. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven.” —The Gospel of the Lord.

PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

Lord, accept our offerings and bless our community. Give us the spirit of unity in Christ, and the strength to do your will. Through Christ our Lord. . Amen.

PREFACE OF THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER IV

Father in heaven, it is right that we should give you thanks and glory: you alone are God, living and true.

Through all eternity you live in unapproachable light. Source of life and goodness, you have created all things, to fill your creatures with every blessing and lead all men to the joyful vision of your light.

Countless hosts of angels stand before you to do your will; they look upon your splendor and praise you, night and day.

United with them, and in the name of every creature under heaven, we too praise your glory as we say:

COMMUNION ANTIPHON

When you send forth your spirit, they are created, and you renew the face of the earth. (*Ps 104:30*)

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

All-powerful and merciful God, through this sacrifice and communion, may we share in your life and deepen our faith, so that we may become worthy witnesses, and bring the light of truth and love to all our brothers and sisters. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

SOLEMN BLESSING

Bow your heads and pray for God's blessing.

P. May God, the source and origin of all blessing, grant you grace, pour out his blessing in abundance, and keep you safe from harm throughout the year

R. Amen.

P. May he give you integrity in the faith, endurance in hope, and perseverance in charity with holy patience to the end.

R. Amen.

P. May he order your days and your deeds in his peace, grant your prayers in this and in every place, and lead you happily to eternal life.

R. Amen.

P. And may the blessing of almighty God, the Father, and the Son, ✠ and the Holy Spirit, come down on you and remain with you for ever.

R. Amen.