

Ferial

Roman Missal 236; Lectionary 247

Entrance Antiphon

(Cf. Ps 104) **Let the hearts that seek the Lord rejoice; turn to the Lord and his strength; constantly seek his face.**

Collect

We invoke your mercy in humble prayer, O Lord, that you may cause us, your servants, corrected by penance and schooled by good works, to persevere sincerely in your commands and come safely to the paschal festivities. 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.**

Reading

(Exodus 32.7-14)

After the Lord God had finished giving the tablets of the covenant to Moses on Mount Sinai, the Lord said to Moses,

“Go down at once! Your people, whom you brought up out of the land of Egypt, have acted perversely; they have been quick to turn aside from the way that I commanded them; they have cast for themselves an image of a calf, and have worshipped it and sacrificed to it, and said, “These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!”

The Lord said to Moses, “I have seen this people, how stiff-necked they are. Now let me alone, so that my wrath may burn hot against them and I may consume them; and of you I will make a great nation.”

But Moses implored the Lord his God, and said, “O Lord, why does your wrath burn hot against your people, whom you brought out of the land of Egypt with great power and with a mighty hand? Why should the Egyptians say, ‘It

was with evil intent that he brought them out to kill them in the mountains, and to consume them from the face of the earth? Turn from your fierce wrath; change your mind and do not bring disaster on your people. Remember Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, your servants, how you swore to them by your own self, saying to them, ‘I will multiply your descendants like the stars of heaven, and all this land that I have promised I will give to your descendants, and they shall inherit it forever.’”

And the Lord changed his mind about the disaster that he planned to bring on his people.

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

Responsorial Psalm ———
(Psalm 106)

℟. **Lord, remember us, for the love you bear your people.**

Our ancestors made a calf at Horeb and worshipped a cast image. They exchanged the glory of God for the image of an ox that eats grass. ℟.

They forgot God, their Saviour, who had done great things in Egypt, wondrous works in the land of Ham, and awesome deeds by the Red Sea. ℟.

Therefore God said he would destroy them — had not Moses, his chosen one, stood in the breach before him, to turn away his wrath from destroying them. ℟.

Acclamation (John 3)

Praise to you, Lord, king of eternal glory! God loved the world so much, he gave us his only Son, that all who believe in him might have eternal life. **Praise to you, Lord, king of eternal glory!**

Gospel ———
(John 5.18, 31-47)

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

The Jewish leaders were seeking to kill Jesus, because he was not only breaking the Sabbath, but was also calling God his own Father, thereby

making himself equal to God. Jesus said to them: “If I testify about myself, my testimony is not true. There is another who testifies on my behalf, and I know that his testimony to me is true. You sent messengers to John, and he testified to the truth. Not that I accept such human testimony, but I say these things so that you may be saved. He was a burning and shining lamp, and you were willing to rejoice for a while in his light. But I have a testimony greater than John’s. The works that the Father has given me to complete, the very works that I am doing, testify on my behalf that the Father has sent me. And the Father who sent me has himself testified on my behalf. You have never heard his voice or seen his form, and you do not have his word abiding in you, because you do not believe him whom he has sent.

“You search the scriptures because you think that in them you have eternal life; and it is they that testify on my behalf. Yet you

refuse to come to me to have life. I do not accept glory from human beings. But I know that you do not have the love of God in you. I have come in my Father’s name, and you do not accept me; if another comes in his own name, you will accept him.

“How can you believe when you accept glory from one another and do not seek the glory that comes from the one who alone is God? Do not think that I will accuse you before the Father; your accuser is Moses, on whom you have set your hope. If you believed Moses, you would believe me, for he wrote about me. But if you do not believe what he wrote, how will you believe what I say?”

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

Prayer over the Offerings

Grant, we pray, almighty God, that what we offer in sacrifice may cleanse us in our frailty from every evil and always grant us your protection. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Communion Antiphon

(Jer 31) **I will place my law within them, and I will write it upon their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people, says the Lord.**

Prayer after Communion

May this Sacrament we have received purify us, we pray, O Lord, and grant your servants freedom from all blame, that those bound by a guilty conscience may glory in the fullness

of heavenly remedy. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Prayer over the People

(Optional)

O God, protector of all who hope in you, bless your people, keep them safe, defend them, prepare them, that, free from sin and safe from the enemy, they may persevere always in your love. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

I am definitely loved and whatever happens to me, I am awaited by this love. And so my life is good. —St. Josephine Bakhita