

### *Ferial*

*Roman Missal 238; Lectionary 249*

### **Entrance Antiphon**

*(Cf. Ps 17)* **The waves of death rose about me; the pains of the netherworld surrounded me. In my anguish I called to the Lord, and from his holy temple he heard my voice.**

### **Collect**

May the working of your mercy, O Lord, we pray, direct our hearts aright, for without your grace we cannot find favour in your sight. 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** —————

*(Jeremiah 11.18-20)*

Jeremiah cried out in anguish: It was the Lord who made it known to me, and I knew; then you showed me their evil deeds. But I was like a gentle lamb led to the slaughter. And

I did not know it was against me that they devised schemes, saying, “Let us destroy the tree with its fruit, let us cut him off from the land of the living, so that his name will no longer be remembered!”

But you, O Lord of hosts, who judge righteously, who try the heart and the mind, let me see your retribution upon them, for to you I have committed my cause.

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

### **Responsorial Psalm** —————

*(Psalm 7)*

**R. Lord, my God, I take shelter in you.**

O Lord my God, in you I take refuge; save me from all my pursuers, and deliver me, or like a lion they will tear me apart; they will drag me away, with no one to rescue. **R.**

Judge me, O Lord, according to my righteousness and according to the integrity that is in me. O let the evil of the wicked come to an end, but establish the righteous, you who test the minds and hearts, O righteous God. R.

God is my shield, who saves the upright in heart. God is a righteous judge, and a God who has indignation every day. R.

**Acclamation** (See Luke 8)

**Praise to you, Lord, king of eternal glory!** Blessed are they who have kept the word with a generous heart and yield a harvest through perseverance. **Praise to you, Lord, king of eternal glory!**

**Gospel** —————  
(John 7:40-53)

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

Jesus had been teaching in the temple at Jerusalem. When the people heard his words, some in the crowd said, "This

is really the prophet." Others said, "This is the Messiah." But some asked, "Surely the Messiah does not come from Galilee, does he? Has not the scripture said that the Messiah is descended from David and comes from Bethlehem, the village where David lived?" So there was a division in the crowd because of him. Some of them wanted to arrest him, but no one laid hands on him.

Then the temple police went back to the chief priests and Pharisees, who asked them, "Why did you not arrest him?" The police answered, "Never has anyone spoken like this!" Then the Pharisees replied, "Surely you have not been deceived too, have you? Has any one of the authorities or of the Pharisees believed in him? But this crowd, which does not know the law — they are accursed."

Nicodemus, who had gone to Jesus before, and who was one of them, asked, "Our law does not judge people without first giving them a hearing to find out what

they are doing, does it?” They replied, “Surely you are not also from Galilee, are you? Search and you will see that no prophet is to arise from Galilee.”

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

### Prayer over the Offerings

Be pleased, O Lord, we pray, with these oblations you receive from our hands, and, even when our wills are defiant, constrain them mercifully to turn to you. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### Communion Antiphon

(Cf. 1 Pet 1) **By the precious Blood of Christ, the Blood of a spotless and unblemished Lamb, we have been redeemed.**

### Prayer after Communion

May your holy gifts purify us, O Lord, we pray, and by their working render us fully pleasing to you. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### Prayer over the People

(Optional)

Look upon your people, O Lord, and, as they draw near to the coming festivities, bestow upon them abundance of heavenly grace, that, helped by the consolations of this world, they may be impelled more readily towards higher goods that cannot be seen. Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*We need to find God, and God cannot be found in noise and restlessness. The more we receive in silent prayer, the more we can give in our active life. —St. Teresa of Calcutta*