

FIRST READING

A reading from the prophecy of Isaiah 52.13-53.12

See, my servant shall prosper;
he shall be exalted and lifted up,
and shall be very high.
Just as there were many who were
astonished at him
—so marred was his appearance,
beyond human semblance,
and his form beyond that of
mortals—
so he shall startle many nations;
kings shall shut their mouths because
of him;
for that which had not been told them
they shall see,
and that which they had not heard
they shall contemplate.

Who has believed what we have heard?
And to whom has the arm of
the Lord been revealed?
For he grew up before him like a young
plant,
and like a root out of dry ground;
he had no form or majesty that we
should look at him,
nothing in his appearance that we
should desire him.
He was despised and rejected
by others;
a man of suffering and acquainted
with infirmity;
and as one from whom others hide
their faces
he was despised, and we held him of
no account.
Surely he has borne our infirmities
and carried our diseases;
yet we accounted him stricken,
struck down by God, and afflicted.
But he was wounded for our
transgressions,
crushed for our iniquities;
upon him was the punishment that
made us whole,
and by his bruises we are healed.
All we like sheep have gone astray;
we have all turned to our own way,
and the Lord has laid on him
the iniquity of us all.

He was oppressed, and he was afflicted,
yet he did not open his mouth;
like a lamb that is led to the slaughter,
and like a sheep that before its
shearers is silent,

so he did not open his mouth.
By a perversion of justice he was taken
away.

Who could have imagined his future?
For he was cut off from the land of the
living,
stricken for the transgression of my
people.
They made his grave with the wicked
and his tomb with the rich,
although he had done no violence,
and there was no deceit in
his mouth.
Yet it was the will of the Lord to crush
him with pain.
When you make his life an offering for
sin,

he shall see his offspring, and shall
prolong his days;
through him the will of the Lord shall
prosper.

Out of his anguish he shall see light;
he shall find satisfaction through his
knowledge.

The righteous one, my servant, shall
make many righteous,
and he shall bear their iniquities.
Therefore I will allot him a portion with
the great,
and he shall divide the spoil with the
strong;
because he poured out himself
to death,
and was numbered with the
transgressors;
yet he bore the sin of many,
and made intercession for the
transgressors.

This is the word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

PSALM 22.1-11

Refrain: *Be not far from me, O Lord.*

My God, my God, why have you
forsaken me, and are so far from my
salvation, from the words of my
distress?

O my God, I cry in the daytime,
but you do not answer;
and by night also, but I find no rest.
Yet you are the Holy One,
enthroned upon the praises of Israel.
Our forebears trusted in you;
they trusted, and you delivered them.
They cried out to you and were
delivered; they put their trust in you
and were not confounded. **Refrain**

But as for me, I am a worm and no
man, scorned by all and despised by
the people. All who see me laugh me
to scorn; they curl their lips and wag
their heads, saying,

‘He trusted in the Lord; let him
deliver him; let him deliver him, if he
delights in him.’

But it is you that took me out of the
womb and laid me safe upon my
mother’s breast.

On you was I cast ever since I was
born; you are my God even from my
mother’s womb.

Be not far from me, for trouble is near
at hand and there is none to
help. **Refrain**

SECOND READING

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews (10.16-25)

‘This is the covenant that I will make
with them after those days, says the
Lord: I will put my laws in their hearts,
and I will write them on
their minds’, he also adds,
‘I will remember their sins and their
lawless deeds no more.’

Where there is forgiveness of these,
there is no longer any offering for sin.
Therefore, my friends, since we have
confidence to enter the sanctuary by
the blood of Jesus, by the new and living
way that he opened for us through the
curtain (that is, through his flesh), and
since we have a great priest over the
house of God, let us approach with a
true heart in full assurance of faith, with
our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil
conscience and our bodies washed with
pure water. Let us hold fast to the
confession of our hope without
wavering, for he who has promised is
faithful. And let us consider how to
provoke one another to love and good
deeds, not neglecting to meet together,
as is the habit of some, but encouraging
one another, and all the more as you
see the Day approaching.

This is the word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

The Passion Reading

The Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ
according to John (18.1 - 19.end)