

# Feast of the Body and Blood of Christ B

6 June 2021

## THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

### First Reading Exodus 24:3-8

A reading from the book of Exodus

Moses came and told the people  
all the words of the Lord and all the ordinances;  
and all the people answered with one voice, and said,  
"All the words that the Lord has spoken we will do."

And Moses wrote down all the words of the Lord.

He rose early in the morning,  
and built an altar at the foot of the mountain,  
and set up twelve pillars,  
corresponding to the twelve tribes of Israel.

He sent young men of the people of Israel,  
who offered burnt offerings and sacrificed oxen  
as offerings of well-being to the Lord.

Moses took half of the blood and put it in basins,  
and half of the blood he dashed against the altar.

Then he took the book of the covenant,  
and read it in the hearing of the people;  
and they said,

"All that the Lord has spoken we will do,  
and we will be obedient."

Moses took the blood and dashed it on the people,  
and said, "See the blood of the covenant that the Lord has made with you  
in accordance with all these words."

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### Responsorial Psalm Ps 115:12-13, 15-18

**R.** I will take the cup of salvation,  
and call on the name of the Lord.

*or*

**R.** Alleluia!

What shall I return to the Lord  
for all his bounty to me?  
I will lift up the cup of salvation  
and call on the name of the Lord. **R.**

Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his faithful ones.  
O Lord, I am your servant;  
I am your servant, the child of your serving girl.  
You have loosened my bonds. **R.**

I will offer you a thanksgiving sacrifice  
and call on the name of the Lord.  
I will pay my vows to the Lord  
in the presence of all his people. **R.**

### **Second Reading Hebrews 9:11-15**

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews

Christ came as a high priest of the good things that have come.  
He passed through the greater and perfect tent not made with hands,  
that is, not of this creation.

He entered once for all into the Holy Place,  
not with the blood of goats and calves,  
but with his own blood, thus obtaining eternal redemption.

For if the blood of goats and bulls,  
with the sprinkling of the ashes of a heifer,  
sanctifies those who have been defiled so that their flesh is purified,  
how much more will the blood of Christ,  
who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without blemish to God,  
purify our conscience from dead works  
to worship the living God!

For this reason Christ is the mediator of a new covenant,  
so that those who are called  
may receive the promised eternal inheritance,  
because a death has occurred that redeems them  
from the transgressions under the first covenant.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **Gospel Acclamation John 6:51-52**

*The optional sequence (Lauda Sion) is intended to be sung; otherwise it is better omitted. The shorter version (Ecce Panis) begins at the asterisk.*

Praise, O Zion, Christ our glory; To the Shepherd let us sing,  
Tell to all the world the story; Laud with all our might the King.  
Bread of life and source of living! Lacking, still our praises ring.  
This our special theme for singing, Christ the Lamb for us was slain.  
At the paschal meal he taught us, To the twelve he made it plain:  
Flesh as food for us was giving, Therefore let your faith not wane.  
On this day of Christian feasting, With full voices we delight:  
Instituting our salvation, In the sacred meal that night,  
Christ the ancient law fulfilling, Fills all people with new sight.  
To obey the call Jesus, Gathered we as chosen band.  
Bread and wine Christ is transforming, Flesh and Blood are now at hand.  
From his words and actions learning, Love we share at his command.  
Gathered at this solemn table, Darkness now has taken flight.  
In the bread and wine partaking, Christ is for each one the light,  
Then as food to us disciples, Gives our souls a new delight.  
To all people Christ is giving, Truth in word and sacrament.  
By the sacrifice redeeming, All into one covenant.  
One in Jesus' name assembling: Faith and love our testament.  
To our minds these signs disclosing, To our senses must unfold:  
Bread is broken, Blood outpouring; Christ the myst'ry, awe untold!  
Flesh and Blood to sight revealing: This the story to be told.  
Undivided is his body, Yet Christ gives himself to all.  
Word made flesh with us abiding, For without him we must fall.  
Christ the Pasch we are consuming, One in spirit is our call.  
Good and evil are all sharing, Seeds of destiny are sown.  
To new life our Saviour guides us; Death prevails when on our own.  
Life immortal, for those seeking, Is fulfilled in Christ alone.  
When the sacred bread is broken, All receive the Christ as one.  
By his love Christ is transforming, Though so many we are one;  
All the scattered are united, All the lonely welcomed home.  
\* Come, behold, the bread of angels, This our strength on pilgrims' way.  
For the children God is giving, Manna for our bread each day.  
Now the sign of Isaac telling: Christ has conquered on this day.

Hear our prayers, O kindly Shepherd, Be for us true living bread.  
Grant us peace in all our doings, To our resting place be led,  
Forth with all the saints now dwelling, We the body, you the Head.

Alleluia, alleluia!

I am the living bread from heaven, says the Lord;  
whoever eats this bread will live for ever.

Alleluia!

**Gospel Mark 14:12-16, 22-26**

A reading from the holy gospel according to Mark

On the first day of Unleavened Bread,  
when the Passover lamb is sacrificed,  
the disciples said to Jesus,  
"Where do you want us to go and make the preparations  
for you to eat the Passover?"

So Jesus sent two of his disciples, saying to them,  
"Go into the city,  
and a man carrying a jar of water will meet you;  
follow him, and wherever he enters,  
say to the owner of the house,  
'The Teacher asks, "Where is my guest room  
where I may eat the Passover with my disciples?'"  
He will show you a large room upstairs, furnished and ready.  
Make preparations for us there."

So the disciples set out and went to the city,  
and found everything as he had told them;  
and they prepared the Passover meal.

While they were eating, Jesus took a loaf of bread,  
and after blessing it he broke it,  
gave it to them, and said,  
"Take; this is my body."

Then he took a cup,  
and after giving thanks he gave it to them,  
and all of them drank from it.  
He said to them,  
"This is my blood of the covenant,

which is poured out for many.

Truly I tell you,

I will never again drink of the fruit of the vine  
until that day when I drink it new in the kingdom of God."

When they had sung the hymn,  
they went out to the Mount of Olives.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**