

First Reading: Hos 11:1-11

When Israel was a child, I loved him,
 and out of Egypt I called my son.
 The more I called them,
 the more they went from me;
 they kept sacrificing to the Baals,
 and offering incense to idols.
 Yet it was I who taught Ephraim to walk,
 I took them up in my arms;
 but they did not know that I healed them.
 I led them with cords of human kindness,
 with bands of love.
 I was to them like those
 who lift infants to their cheeks.
 I bent down to them and fed them.
 They shall return to the land of Egypt,
 and Assyria shall be their king,
 because they have refused to return to me.
 The sword rages in their cities,
 it consumes their oracle-priests,
 and devours because of their schemes.
 My people are bent on turning away from me.
 To the Most High they call,
 but he does not raise them up at all.
 How can I give you up, Ephraim?
 How can I hand you over, O Israel?
 How can I make you like Admah?
 How can I treat you like Zeboiim?
 My heart recoils within me;
 my compassion grows warm and tender.
 I will not execute my fierce anger;
 I will not again destroy Ephraim;
 for I am God and no mortal,
 the Holy One in your midst, and I will not come in wrath.
 They shall go after the LORD, who roars like a lion;
 when he roars, his children shall come trembling from the west.
 They shall come trembling like birds from Egypt,
 and like doves from the land of Assyria;
 and I will return them to their homes, says the LORD.

Second Reading: Col 3:1-11

So if you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth, for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory. Put to death, therefore, whatever in you is earthly: fornication, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed (which is idolatry). On account of these the wrath of God is coming on those who are disobedient. These are the ways you also once followed, when you were living that life. But now you must get rid of all such things—anger, wrath, malice, slander, and abusive language from your mouth. Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have stripped off the old self with its practices and have clothed yourselves with the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge according to the image of its creator. In that renewal there is no longer Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave and free; but Christ is all and in all!

Psalm 107:1-9, 43

1 Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, *
 and his mercy endures for ever.
**2 Let all those whom the Lord has redeemed proclaim *
 that he redeemed them from the hand of the foe.**
 3 He gathered them out of the lands; *from the east and from the west,
 from the north and from the south.
**4 Some wandered in desert wastes; *
 they found no way to a city where they might dwell.**
 5 They were hungry and thirsty; *
 their spirits languished within them.
**6 Then they cried to the Lord in their trouble, *
 and he delivered them from their distress.**
 7 He put their feet on a straight path *
 to go to a city where they might dwell.
**8 Let them give thanks to the Lord for his mercy *
 and the wonders he does for his children.**
 9 For he satisfies the thirsty *
 and fills the hungry with good things.
**43 Whoever is wise will ponder these things, *
 and consider well the mercies of the Lord.**

Psalm Prayer (said together)

O God, the divine seeker, you are light to the lost, bread to the hungry, deliverance to the captive, healing to the sick, eternal vision to the dying, and harbour to every soul in peril. Gather the wanderers from every corner of the world into the community of your mercy and grace, that we may eternally praise you for our salvation in Jesus Christ our Lord.