

A reading from the prophet Baruch

Listen, Israel, to commands that bring life;
hear, and learn what knowledge means.

Why, Israel, why are you in the country of your
enemies,
growing older and older in an alien land,
sharing defilement with the dead,
reckoned with those who go to Sheol?
Because you have forsaken the fountain of
wisdom.

Had you walked in the way of God,
you would have lived in peace for ever.
Learn where knowledge is, where strength,
where understanding, and so learn
where length of days is, where life,
where the light of the eyes and where peace.
But who has found out where she lives,
who has entered her treasure house?

But the One who knows all knows her,
he has grasped her with his own intellect,
he has set the earth firm for ever
and filled it with four-footed beasts,
he sends the light - and it goes,

he recalls it - and trembling it obeys;
the stars shone joyfully at their set times:
when he calls them, they answer, "Here we are";
they gladly shine for their creator.

It is he who is our God,
no other can compare with him.
He has grasped the whole way of knowledge,
and confided it to his servant Jacob,
to Israel his well-beloved;
so causing her to appear on earth
and move among men.
This is the book of the commandments of God,
the Law that stands for ever;
those who keep her live,
those who desert her die.

Turn back, Jacob, seize her,
in her radiance make your way to light:
do not yield your glory to another,
your privilege to a people not your own.
Israel, blessed are we:
what pleases God has been revealed to us.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

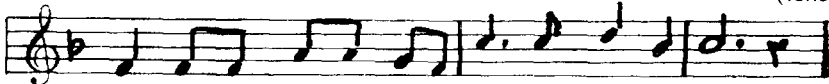
RESPONSORIAL PSALM

The cantor sings the response which the people repeat.



Ps 118:8-11. R. Jn 6:69

(Tone C.)



You have the mes-sage of e-ter-nal life O Lord.

1. The law of the **Lord** is perfect,
it **revives** the soul.
The rule of the Lord is to be trusted,
it gives wisdom **to** the simple. (R)
2. The precepts of the **Lord** are right,
they **gladden** the heart,
The command of the **Lord** is clear,
its gives light **to** the eyes. (R)
3. The fear of the **Lord** is holy,
abiding for ever.
The decrees of the **Lord** are truth
and all of them **just**. (R)
4. They are more to be **desired** than gold,
than the **purest** of gold
and sweeter are **they** than honey,
than honey **from** the comb. (R)

**PRAYER AFTER THE FOURTH READING**

Let us pray.

O God, who constantly increase your Church
by your call to the nations,
graciously grant
to those you wash clean in the waters of Baptism
the assurance of your unfailing protection.
Through Christ our Lord.
Amen.