

A reading from the book of Genesis

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. God said, "Let us make man in our own image, in the likeness of ourselves, and let them be masters of the fish of the sea, the birds of heaven, the cattle, all the wild beasts and all the reptiles that crawl upon the earth." God created man in the image of himself, in the image of God he created him, male and female he created them. God blessed them, saying to them, "Be fruitful, multiply, fill the earth and conquer it. Be

masters of the fish of the sea, the birds of heaven and all living animals on the earth." God said, "See, I give you all the seed-bearing plants that are upon the whole earth, and all the trees with seed-bearing fruit; this shall be your food. To all wild beasts, all birds of heaven and all living reptiles on the earth I give all the foliage of plants for food." and so it was. God saw all he had made, and indeed it was very good.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

The cantor sings the response which the people repeat.



Ps 103

(Tone B.)



1. Bless the **Lord**, my soul!
Lord God, how **great** you are
clothed in **majesty** and glory,
wrapped in light as **in** a robe! (R)
2. You founded the earth **on** its base,
to stand firm from **age** to age.
You wrapped it with the ocean **like** a cloak;
the waters stood higher **than** the mountains. (R)
3. You make springs gush forth
in the valleys:
they flow in **between** the hills.
On their banks swell the **birds** of heaven:
from the branches they **sing** their song. (R)
4. From your dwelling you **water** the hills;
earth drinks its fill **of** your gift.
You make the grass grow **for** the cattle
and the plants to **serve** man's needs. (R)
5. How many are your **works**, O Lord!
In wisdom you have **made** them all.
The earth is full **of** your riches.
Bless the **Lord**, my soul! (R)

**PRAYER AFTER THE FIRST READING**

Let us pray.

Pause for silent prayer.

Let us pray.

Almighty ever-living God,
who are wonderful in the ordering of all your works,
may those you have redeemed understand
that there exists nothing more marvellous
than the world's creation in the beginning
except that, at the end of the ages,
Christ our Passover has been sacrificed.
Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

Amen.

SECOND READING

14.15-15,1

A reading from the book of Exodus

The Lord said to Moses, "Why do you cry to me so? Tell the sons of Israel to march on. For yourself, raise your staff and stretch out your hand over the sea and part it for the sons of Israel to walk through the sea on dry ground. I for my part will make the heart of the Egyptians so stubborn that they will follow them. So shall I win myself glory at the expense of Pharaoh, of all his army, his chariots, his horsemen. And when I have won glory for myself, at the expense of Pharaoh and his chariots and his army, the Egyptians will learn that I am the Lord."

Then the angel of the Lord, who marched at the front of the army of Israel, changed station and moved to their rear. The pillar of cloud changed station from the front to the rear of them, and remained there. It came between the camp of the