

**COLLECT**

O God, who have called us to participate in this most sacred Supper, in which your Only Begotten Son, when about to hand himself over to death, entrusted to the Church a sacrifice new for all eternity, the banquet of his love, grant, we pray, that we may draw from so great a mystery, the fullness of charity and of life. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

**THE LITURGY OF THE WORD**

**FIRST READING** 12:1-8, 11-14

**A reading from the book of Exodus**

The Lord said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt, "This month is to be the first of all the others for you, the first month of your year. Speak to the whole community of Israel and say, 'On the tenth day of this month each man must take an animal from the flock, one for each family: one animal for each household. If the household is too small to eat the

animal, a man must join with his neighbour, the nearest to his house, as the number of persons requires. You must take into account what each can eat in deciding the number for the animal. It must be an animal without blemish, a male one year old; you may take it from either sheep or goats. You must keep it till the fourteenth day of the month when the whole assembly of the community of Israel shall slaughter it between the two evenings. Some of the blood must then be taken and put on the two door posts and the lintel of the houses where it is eaten. That night, the flesh is to be eaten, roasted over the fire; it must be eaten with unleavened bread and bitter herbs. You shall eat it like this: with a girdle round your waist, sandals on your feet, a staff in your hand. You shall eat it hastily: it is a passover in honour of the Lord. That night, I will go through the land of Egypt and strike down all the first-born in the land of Egypt, man and beast alike, and I shall deal out punishment to all the gods of Egypt, I am the Lord. The blood shall serve to mark the houses that you live in. When I see the blood I will pass over you and you shall escape the destroying plague when I strike the land of Egypt. This day is to be a day of remembrance for you, and you must celebrate it as a feast in the Lord's honour. For all generations you are to declare it a day of festival, for ever.' "

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

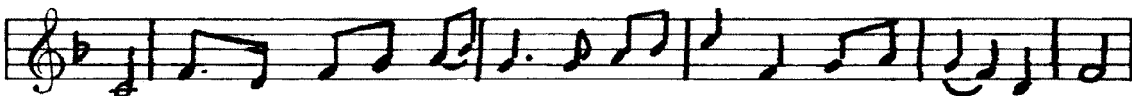
**RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

The cantor sings or says the response which the people repeat.



*Ps 115, 12-13, 15-18, R. 1. Cor. 10, 16*

(Tone C.)



**The bless - ing cup that we bless is a com-mun-ion with the blood of Christ.**

- 1. How can I repay the Lord for his goodness to me?  
The cup of salvation I will raise;  
I will call on the Lord's name. (R)
- 2. O precious in the eyes of the Lord is the death of his faithful.  
Your servant, Lord, your servant am I;  
you have loosened my bonds. (R)
- 3. A thanksgiving sacrifice I make;  
I will call on the Lord's name.  
My vows to the Lord I will fulfil  
before all his people. (R)

**SECOND READING** 11.23-26

**From St Paul's first letter to the Corinthians.**

This is what I received from the Lord, and in turn passed on to you: that on the same night that he was betrayed, the Lord Jesus took some bread, and thanked God for it and broke it, and he said, "This is my body, which is for you; do this as a memorial of

me." In the same way he took the cup after supper, and said, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Whenever you drink it, do this as a memorial of me." Until the Lord comes, therefore, every time you eat this bread and drink this cup, you are proclaiming his death.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**