

## FIRST READING: Isaiah 50:4–9a

A reading from Isaiah.

- <sup>4</sup>The Lord GOD has given me  
the tongue of a teacher,  
that I may know how to sustain  
the weary with a word.  
Morning by morning he awakens —  
awakens my ear  
to listen as those who are taught.
- <sup>5</sup>The Lord GOD has opened my ear,  
and I was not rebellious,  
I did not turn backward.
- <sup>6</sup>I gave my back to those who struck me,  
and my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard;  
I did not hide my face  
from insult and spitting.
- <sup>7</sup>The Lord GOD helps me;  
therefore I have not been disgraced;  
therefore I have set my face like flint,  
and I know that I shall not be put to shame;
- <sup>8</sup>he who vindicates me is near.  
Who will contend with me?  
Let us stand up together.  
Who are my adversaries?  
Let them confront me.
- <sup>9</sup>It is the Lord GOD who helps me;  
who will declare me guilty?

## PSALM: Psalm 31:9–16

- <sup>9</sup>Have mercy on me, O LORD, for I<sup>1</sup> am in trouble;  
my eye is consumed with sorrow, and also my throat<sup>1</sup> and my belly.
- <sup>10</sup>**For my life is wasted with grief, and my<sup>1</sup> years with sighing;  
my strength fails me because of affliction, and my bones<sup>1</sup> are consumed.**
- <sup>11</sup>I am the scorn of my enemies, a disgrace to my neighbors, a dismay to<sup>1</sup> my acquaintances;  
when they see me in the street<sup>1</sup> they avoid me.
- <sup>12</sup>**Like the dead I am forgotten,<sup>1</sup> out of mind;  
I am as useless as a<sup>1</sup> broken pot.**
- <sup>13</sup>For I have heard the whispering of the crowd; fear is<sup>1</sup> all around;  
they put their heads together against me; they plot to<sup>1</sup> take my life.
- <sup>14</sup>**But as for me, I have trusted in<sup>1</sup> you, O LORD.  
I have said, "You<sup>1</sup> are my God.**

<sup>15</sup>My times are | in your hand;  
rescue me from the hand of my enemies, and from those who | persecute me.  
<sup>16</sup>**Let your face shine up- | on your servant;**  
**save me in your | steadfast love."**

## **SECOND READING: Philippians 2:5–11**

A reading from Philippians.

<sup>5</sup>Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,  
<sup>6</sup>who, though he was in the form of God,  
did not regard equality with God  
as something to be exploited,  
<sup>7</sup>but emptied himself,  
taking the form of a slave,  
being born in human likeness.  
And being found in human form,  
<sup>8</sup>he humbled himself  
and became obedient to the point of death —  
even death on a cross.  
<sup>9</sup>Therefore God also highly exalted him  
and gave him the name  
that is above every name,  
<sup>10</sup>so that at the name of Jesus  
every knee should bend,  
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,  
<sup>11</sup>and every tongue should confess  
that Jesus Christ is Lord,  
to the glory of God the Father.

## **GOSPEL: Matthew 26:14—27:66**