

FIRST READING: Zechariah 9:9-12

⁹Rejoice greatly, O daughter Zion!
 Shout aloud, O daughter Jerusalem!
 Lo, your king comes to you;
 triumphant and victorious is he,
 humble and riding on a donkey,
 on a colt, the foal of a donkey.
¹⁰He will cut off the chariot from Ephraim
 and the war-horse from Jerusalem;
 and the battle bow shall be cut off,
 and he shall command peace to the nations;
 his dominion shall be from sea to sea,
 and from the River to the ends of the earth.
¹¹As for you also, because of the blood of my
 covenant with you,
 I will set your prisoners free from the
 waterless pit.
¹²Return to your stronghold, O prisoners of
 hope;
 today I declare that I will restore to you
 double.

Psalms 145:8-14

⁸The LORD is gracious and full of compassion,
 slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.
⁹LORD, you are good to all,
 and your compassion is over all your works.
¹⁰All your works shall praise you, O LORD,
 and your faithful ones shall bless you.
¹¹They shall tell of the glory of your kingdom
 and speak of your power,
¹²that all people may know of your power
 and the glorious splendor of your kingdom.
¹³Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom; your
 dominion endures throughout all ages.
 You, LORD, are faithful in all your words, and
 loving in all your works.
¹⁴The Lord upholds all those who fall
 and lifts up those who are bowed down.

SECOND READING: Romans 7:15-25a

¹⁵I do not understand my own actions. For I do
 not do what I want, but I do the very thing I
 hate. ¹⁶Now if I do what I do not want, I agree
 that the law is good. ¹⁷But in fact it is no longer I
 that do it, but sin that dwells within me. ¹⁸For I
 know that nothing good dwells within me, that is,
 in my flesh. I can will what is right, but I cannot
 do it. ¹⁹For I do not do the good I want, but the
 evil I do not want is what I do. ²⁰Now if I do what
 I do not want, it is no longer I that do it, but sin
 that dwells within me.

²¹So I find it to be a law that when I want to
 do what is good, evil lies close at hand. ²²For I
 delight in the law of God in my inmost self, ²³but
 I see in my members another law at war with the
 law of my mind, making me captive to the law of
 sin that dwells in my members. ²⁴Wretched man
 that I am! Who will rescue me from this body of
 death? ^{25a}Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ
 our Lord!

GOSPEL: Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30

[Jesus spoke to the crowd saying:] ¹⁶“To what
 will I compare this generation? It is like children
 sitting in the marketplaces and calling to one
 another,

¹⁷“We played the flute for you, and you did not
 dance;

we wailed, and you did not mourn.”

¹⁸For John came neither eating nor drinking, and
 they say, ‘He has a demon’; ¹⁹the Son of Man
 came eating and drinking, and they say, ‘Look, a
 glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors
 and sinners!’ Yet wisdom is vindicated by her
 deeds.”

²⁵At that time Jesus said, “I thank you, Father,
 Lord of heaven and earth, because you have
 hidden these things from the wise and the
 intelligent and have revealed them to
 infants; ²⁶yes, Father, for such was your gracious
 will. ²⁷All things have been handed over to me by
 my Father; and no one knows the Son except the
 Father, and no one knows the Father except the
 Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to
 reveal him.

²⁸“Come to me, all you that are weary and are
 carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you
 rest. ²⁹Take my yoke upon you, and learn from
 me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and
 you will find rest for your souls. ³⁰For my yoke is
 easy, and my burden is light.”