

THE LESSONS APPOINTED FOR USE ON TUESDAY IN THE SECOND WEEK OF LENT

Isaiah 1:2–4, 16–20

Matthew 23:1–12

Psalm 50:7–15, 22–24

Preface of Lent

THE COLLECT

O God, you willed to redeem us from all iniquity by your Son: Deliver us when we are tempted to regard sin without abhorrence, and let the virtue of his passion come between us and our mortal enemy; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

OLD TESTAMENT: ISAIAH 1:2–4, 16–20

Hear, O heavens, and listen, O earth;
for the Lord has spoken:

I reared children and brought them up,
but they have rebelled against me.

The ox knows its owner,
and the donkey its master's crib;

but Israel does not know,
my people do not understand.

Ah, sinful nation,
people laden with iniquity,
offspring who do evil,
children who deal corruptly,
who have forsaken the Lord,
who have despised the Holy One of Israel,
who are utterly estranged!

Wash yourselves; make yourselves clean;
remove the evil of your doings
from before my eyes;
cease to do evil,
learn to do good;
seek justice,
rescue the oppressed,
defend the orphan,
plead for the widow.

Come now, let us argue it out,
says the Lord:
though your sins are like scarlet,
they shall be like snow;
though they are red like crimson,
they shall become like wool.
If you are willing and obedient,
you shall eat the good of the land;

but if you refuse and rebel,
you shall be devoured by the sword;
for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.

PSALM 50:7–15,22–24

7. Hear, O my people, and I will speak:
"O Israel, I will bear witness against you; *
for I am God, your God.
8. I do not accuse you because of your sacrifices; *
your offerings are always before me.
9. I will take no bull-calf from your stalls, *
nor he-goats out of your pens;
10. For all the beasts of the forest are mine, *
the herds in their thousands upon the hills.
11. I know every bird in the sky, *
and the creatures of the fields are in my sight.
12. If I were hungry, I would not tell you, *
for the whole world is mine and all that is in it.
13. Do you think I eat the flesh of bulls, *
or drink the blood of goats?
14. Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving *
and make good your vows to the Most High.
15. Call upon me in the day of trouble; *
I will deliver you, and you shall honor me."

22. “I have made my accusation; *
I have put my case in order before your eyes.
23. Consider this well, you who forget God, *
lest I rend you and there be none to deliver you.
24. Whoever offers me the sacrifice of thanksgiving honors me; *
but to those who keep in my way will I show the salvation of God.”

THE GOSPEL: MATTHEW 23:1–12

Jesus said to the crowds and to his disciples, “The scribes and the Pharisees sit on Moses’ seat; therefore, do whatever they teach you and follow it; but do not do as they do, for they do not practice what they teach. They tie up heavy burdens, hard to bear, and lay them on the shoulders of others; but they themselves are unwilling to lift a finger to move them. They do all their deeds to be seen by others; for they make their phylacteries broad and their fringes long. They love to have the place of honor at banquets and the best seats in the synagogues, and to be greeted with respect in the marketplaces, and to have people call them rabbi. But you are not to be called rabbi, for you have one teacher, and you are all students. And call no one your father on earth, for you have one Father—the one in heaven. Nor are you to be called instructors, for you have one instructor, the Messiah. The greatest among you will be your servant. All who exalt themselves will be humbled, and all who humble themselves will be exalted.