

## **Readings: Wednesday of the Thirteenth Week in Ordinary Time**

### **1st Reading: Am 5:14–15, 21–24**

Seek good and shun evil, that you may live. Then Yahweh, the God of hosts, as you have claimed, will be with you.

Hate wickedness and love virtue, and let justice prevail in the courts; perhaps Yahweh, the God of hosts, will take pity on the remnant of Joseph.

I hate, I reject your feasts, I take no pleasure when you assemble to offer me your burnt offerings. Your cereal offerings, I will not accept! Your offerings of fattened beasts, I will not look upon!

Away with the noise of your chanting, away with your strumming on harps. But let justice run its course like water, and righteousness be like an ever-flowing river.

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### **Responsorial Psalm ps 50:7, 8-9, 10-11, 12-13, 16bc-17**

**R. (23b) To the upright I will show the saving power of God.**

“Hear, my people, and I will speak;  
Israel, I will testify against you;  
God, your God, am I.”

**R. To the upright I will show the saving power of God.**

“Not for your sacrifices do I rebuke you,  
for your burnt offerings are before me always.  
I take from your house no bullock,  
no goats out of your fold.”

**R. To the upright I will show the saving power of God.**

“For mine are all the animals of the forests,  
beasts by the thousand on my mountains.  
I know all the birds of the air,  
and whatever stirs in the plains, belongs to me.”

**R. To the upright I will show the saving power of God.**

“If I were hungry, I should not tell you,  
for mine are the world and its fullness.  
Do I eat the flesh of strong bulls,  
or is the blood of goats my drink?”

**R. To the upright I will show the saving power of God.**

“Why do you recite my statutes,  
and profess my covenant with your mouth,  
Though you hate discipline  
and cast my words behind you?”

**R. To the upright I will show the saving power of God.**

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**Gospel: Matthew 8:28-34**

When Jesus reached Gadara on the other side, he was met by two demoniacs who came out from the tombs. They were so fierce that no one dared to pass that way. Suddenly they shouted, “What do you want with us, you, Son of God? Have you come to torture us before the time?”

At some distance away there was a large herd of pigs feeding. So the demons begged him, “If you drive us out, send us into that herd of pigs.” Jesus ordered them, “Go.” So they left and went into the pigs. The whole herd rushed down the cliff into the lake and drowned.

The men in charge of them ran off to the town, where they told the whole story, also what had happened to the men possessed with the demons. Then the whole town went out to meet Jesus; and when they saw him, they begged him to leave their area.

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