

# Liturgy Alive of Feria

## Opening Prayer

God, you are high above us  
and get nearer to us  
than we are to ourselves;  
you hate evil and yet you give a chance  
to people who fail;  
you know us as we are  
and still you love us.  
Teach us your surprising ways,  
that your thoughts may become ours  
and that we may generously share  
with those around us all the good gifts  
and the life you have given us  
in the generosity of your heart.

through Jesus Christ our Lord.

## Introduction to the First Reading

After the fall of Jerusalem, Ezekiel criticizes the kings who have led the people into their misery as bad shepherds. They should have pastured the people in the name of God, and not played politicians.

## Introduction to Gospel Reading

The parable of the laborers in the vineyard tells us, contrary to what we often hear, that God is not a bookkeeper. Of course, he loves those who lead exemplary Christian lives. But in his heart there is also room for the stragglers and latecomers as well as for the pioneers. God loves us and is generous to us, not because we are good but because he is good.

## General Intercessions

- That Christians may contribute to our world a sense of giving out of pure generosity and goodness and a sense of celebration, we pray:

- That in our communities everyone may be accepted as he or she is; that we may not exclude any one from our love and that we may learn to forgive everyone, we pray:

- That those who are jobless, sad or bitter because they think they are useless and nobody needs them, that we may give them the chance to contribute to the good of society, we pray:

## Prayer over the Gifts

Generous Father,  
in these signs of bread and wine  
you give us, weak and tired as we sometimes are,  
your Son as our companion.  
We open ourselves to his strength and love.  
May he help us in the heat of the day  
to bear the burdens of our struggles  
and to seek your will in all we do.

Grant this through Christ our Lord.

## Prayer after Communion

Generous Father,

in this eucharist we have experienced again  
that life and all that we are  
is nothing else than a gift from you.  
May the demanding word of your Son  
stir us to accept and serve our neighbor  
as you have accepted and loved us  
without any merit on our part.  
And may the body of your Son sustain us  
to put your word into practice.

We ask you this in the name of Jesus the Lord.

**Blessing**

We have looked at God today as an unbelievably good God. For God, every person is valuable, also the weak and those we consider good for nothing. Everyone counts. May almighty God bless you all, the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.