

*Priest:* Wisdom!

*Reader:* The Reading from the Second Book of Moses called Exodus. *Composite 6 (Exodus 12:51-13:3; Lev 12:2-7; Num 8:16-17)*

*Priest:* Let us attend!

*Reader:* The Lord spoke to Moses on the day on which he brought the children of Israel out of the land of Egypt, saying, "Sanctify to me every first-born, first produced that opens every womb among the children of Israel". And Moses said to the people, "Remember this day, on which you came out of Egypt, from the house of slavery, for the Lord has brought you out from there with a mighty hand. And keep his law. And it shall be that when the Lord God brings you into the land of the Canaanites, in the way that he swore to your fathers, you shall set apart everything that opens the womb; the males to the Lord. But if after this your son asks you, saying, "What is this?", you shall say to him, "God brought us out of Egypt, from the house of slavery, with a mighty hand.

And when Pharaoh hardened his heart against sending us out, the Lord slew every first-born in the land of Egypt, from the first-born of humans to the first-born of animals. This is why I sacrifice everything that opens the womb; the males to the Lord, and every first-born of my sons I will redeem". And it shall be for a sign upon your hand, and immovable before your eyes, because thus said the Lord the Almighty, "All the first-born of your sons you shall give me. And it shall be that everyone who gives birth to a male child shall circumcise the flesh of its foreskin on the eighth day. And for thirty three days he shall not come into the sanctuary of God to the Priest, until the days of purification are completed. And after this he shall offer an unblemished yearling lamb to the Lord for a holocaust, and a young pigeon or turtle dove to the Priest at the door of the Tabernacle of Witness. Or instead of these he shall offer two young pigeons or two turtle doves. And the Priest shall make atonement for him.

Because these have been offered to me as an offering out of all the children of Israel. And I have taken them and sanctified them for myself in place of the first-born of the Egyptians, on the day when I smote every first-born in the land of Egypt from human to beast of burden," said God the Most High, the Holy One of Israel.

*Priest:* Wisdom!

*Reader:* The Reading from the Prophecy of Isaiah. (*Isaiah 6:1-12*)

*Priest:* Let us attend!

*Reader:* In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord, seated on a high and exalted throne. And the house was full of his glory. And Seraphim stood around him, the one having six wings and the other having six wings, and with two they covered their faces and with two the feet and with two they flew. And one cried to other and they said, "Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord Sabaoth. The whole earth is full of his glory. " The threshold was lifted up at the voice with which they cried, and the house was filled with smoke. And I said, "Woe is me . For I am pricked to the heart, because I, a human being, and with unclean lips dwell among a people with unclean lips, and with my eyes I have seen the King, the Lord Sabaoth." And one of the Seraphim was sent to me, and in his hand he held a burning coal, which he had taken with tongs from the altar. And touched my mouth and said, "See, this has touched your lips and it shall take away your iniquities and cleanse your sins. " And I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send? And who will go to this people?" And I said, "See, here am I. Send me. " And he said, "Go, and say to this people, "You shall hear and not understand, and seeing, you shall see and not perceive. " For the heart of this people has grown fat, and they have heard with heavy ears and they have shut their eyes, lest perhaps they perceive with their eyes and hear with their ears and understand with their heart and turn back, and I will heal them. " And I said, "Until when, Lord?" And he said, "Until the cities are deserted from being inhabited and the houses from there being no people, and the land shall be abandoned as desert. And after this God will remove the people far away, and those who are left behind shall be multiplied on the land".

*Priest:* Wisdom!

*Reader:* The Reading from the Prophecy of Isaiah. *Composite 7 (Isaiah 19:1, 3, 4-5, 12, 16, 19-21)*

*Priest:* Let us attend!

*Reader:* See, the Lord will be seated on a light cloud and will come to Egypt and the idols of Egypt shall be shaken at his presence and their heart shall be wasted within them. "And their spirit shall be troubled within them, and I will frustrate their counsel and hand Egypt over into the hands of harsh lords," says the Lord Sabaoth. And the Egyptians shall drink water that is beside the sea, while the river shall fail and be dried up. Thus says the Lord, "Where now are your wise men? And let them declare to you and let them say, "What has the Lord Sabaoth planned against Egypt?" On that day the Egyptians shall be like women, in fear and trembling in the presence of the hand of the Lord Sabbath, which he will bring against them. And there shall be an Altar to the Lord in the country of the Egyptians and a pillar to Lord at its border. And it shall be for a sign for ever to the Lord in the country of Egypt, because they shall cry to the Lord and he will send them a man who shall save them. And the Lord will be known to the Egyptians. And the Egyptians shall know the Lord in that day, and they shall offer sacrifice and gift, and they will vow vows to the Lord and pay them.