

## COLLECT

Almighty God,  
who through your only-begotten Son  
Jesus Christ  
have overcome death and opened to us  
the gate of everlasting life:  
grant that, as by your grace going before  
us you put into our minds good desires,  
so by your continual help  
we may bring them to good effect;  
through Jesus Christ our risen Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

## FIRST READING

(Alternative readings)  
*The reading from Acts must be read as either the First or Second Reading.*

Either **Acts 8:26-end**

*A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.*

An angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Get up and go toward the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." (This is a wilderness road.) So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. Then the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over to this chariot and join it." So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, "Do you understand what you are reading?" He replied, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this: "Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter, and like a lamb silent before its shearer, so he does not open his mouth. In his humiliation justice was denied him. Who can describe his generation? For his life is taken away from the earth." The eunuch asked Philip, "About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?" Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, "Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?" He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. When they came up out of the water, the Spirit

of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

Or **Baruch 3:9-15. 32 – 4:4**  
or **Genesis 22:1-18**

**PSALM Psalm 22:25-31**

**R** *All the ends of the earth shall turn to you, O Lord.*

My praise is of him in the great assembly,  
I will perform my vows  
in the presence of those who worship  
him.

The poor shall eat and be satisfied,  
and those who seek the Lord shall praise  
him:

"May your heart live for ever!" **R**

All the ends of the earth  
shall remember and turn to the Lord,  
and all the families of the nations  
shall bow before him.

For kingship belongs to the Lord;  
he rules over the nations. **R**

To him alone all who sleep in the earth  
bow down in worship;  
all who go down to the dust fall before  
him.

My soul shall live for him;  
my descendants shall serve him;  
they shall be known as the Lord's for ever.  
They shall come and make known to a  
people yet unborn  
the saving deeds that he has done. **R**

## SECOND READING

(Alternative readings)

Either **1 John 4:7-end**

*A reading from the first letter of John.*

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us. By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. And we have seen

and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Saviour of the world. God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. So we have known and believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgement, because as he is, so are we in this world. There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. We love because he first loved us. Those who say, "I love God," and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

Or **Acts 8:26-end**

**GOSPEL John 15:1-8**

*Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.*

Jesus said to his disciples: "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine-grower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples."

## POST COMMUNION

Eternal God,  
whose Son Jesus Christ is the way, the  
truth, and the life:  
grant us to walk in his way,  
to rejoice in his truth,  
and to share his risen life;  
who is alive and reigns, now and for ever.

## COLLECT

God our redeemer,  
you have delivered us from the  
power of darkness  
and brought us into the kingdom  
of your Son:  
grant, that as by his death he has  
recalled us to life,  
so by his continual presence in us  
he may raise us to eternal joy;  
through Jesus Christ your Son our  
Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

## FIRST READING

(Alternative readings)

*The reading from Acts must be read as either the First or Second Reading.*

Either **Acts 10:44-end**

*A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.*

While Peter was speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word. The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles, for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said, "Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?" So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.

Or **Isaiah 55:1-11**

## PSALM Psalm 98

**R** *The Lord has made known his victory  
in the sight of the nations.*

Sing to the Lord a new song,  
for he has done marvellous things.  
With his right hand and his holy  
arm  
has he won for himself the victory. **R**

The Lord has made known his  
victory;  
his righteousness has he openly  
shown  
in the sight of the nations.  
He remembers his mercy and  
faithfulness  
to the house of Israel,  
and all the ends of the earth have  
seen  
the victory of our God. **R**

Shout with joy to the Lord, all you  
lands;  
lift up your voice, rejoice and sing.  
Sing to the Lord with the harp,  
with the harp and the voice of  
song.  
With trumpets and the sound of  
the horn  
shout with joy before the King, the  
Lord. **R**

Let the sea make a noise and all  
that is in it,  
the lands and those who dwell  
therein.  
Let the rivers clap their hands,  
and let the hills ring out with joy  
before the Lord,  
when he comes to judge the earth.  
In righteousness shall he judge the  
world,  
and the peoples with equity. **R**

## SECOND READING

(Alternative readings)

Either **1 John 5:1-6**

*A reading from the first letter of John.*

Everyone who believes that Jesus  
is the Christ has been born of  
God, and everyone who loves  
the parent loves the child. By  
this we know that we love the  
children of God, when we love  
God and obey his commandments.  
For the love of God is this, that  
we obey his commandments.  
And his commandments are not  
burdensome, for whatever is born  
of God conquers the world. And  
this is the victory that conquers  
the world, our faith. Who is it that

conquers the world but the one  
who believes that Jesus is the Son  
of God? This is the one who came  
by water and blood, Jesus Christ,  
not with the water only but with  
the water and the blood. And the  
Spirit is the one that testifies, for  
the Spirit is the truth.

Or **Acts 10:44-end**

## GOSPEL John 15:9-17

*Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.*

Jesus said to his disciples: "As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete. This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another."

## POST COMMUNION

God our Father,  
whose Son Jesus Christ gives the  
water of eternal life:  
may we thirst for you,  
the spring of life and source of  
goodness,  
through him who is alive and  
reigns, now and for ever.

## COLLECT

O God the King of glory,  
you have exalted your only Son Jesus  
Christ  
with great triumph to your kingdom in  
heaven:  
we beseech you, leave us not  
comfortless,  
but send your Holy Spirit to  
strengthen us  
and exalt us to the place where our  
Saviour Christ is gone before,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

## FIRST READING

(Alternative readings)

*The reading from Acts must be read  
as either the First or Second Reading.*

**Either Acts 1:15-17. 21-end**

*A reading from the Acts of the  
Apostles.*

In those days Peter stood up among  
the believers (together the crowd  
numbered about one hundred and  
twenty people). He said, "Friends,  
the scripture had to be fulfilled, which  
the Holy Spirit through David foretold  
concerning Judas, who became a  
guide for those who arrested Jesus  
– for he was numbered among us  
and was allotted his share in this  
ministry. So one of the men who  
have accompanied us throughout the  
time that the Lord Jesus went in and  
out among us, beginning from the  
baptism of John until the day when  
he was taken up from us – one of  
these must become a witness with us  
to his resurrection." So they proposed  
two, Joseph called Barsabbas, who  
was also known as Justus, and  
Matthias. Then they prayed and said,  
"Lord, you know everyone's heart.  
Show us which one of these two you  
have chosen to take the place in this  
ministry and apostleship from which  
Judas turned aside to go to his own  
place." And they cast lots for them,  
and the lot fell on Matthias; and he  
was added to the eleven apostles.

**Or Ezekiel 36:24-28**

## PSALM Psalm 1

**R** *Happy are they who trust in the  
Lord.*

or

**R** *The Lord knows the way of the  
righteous.*

Happy are they who have not walked  
in the counsel of the wicked,  
nor lingered in the way of sinners,  
nor sat in the seats of the scornful!  
Their delight is in the law of the Lord,  
and they meditate on his law day and  
night. **R**

They are like trees planted by streams  
of water,  
bearing fruit in due season,  
with leaves that do not wither;  
everything they do shall prosper. **R**

It is not so with the wicked:  
they are like chaff which the wind  
blows away;  
Therefore the wicked shall not stand  
upright  
when judgement comes,  
nor the sinner in the council of the  
righteous.  
For the Lord knows the way of the  
righteous,  
but the way of the wicked is  
doomed. **R**

## SECOND READING

(Alternative readings)

**Either 1 John 5:9-13**

*A reading from the first letter of  
John.*

If we receive human testimony, the  
testimony of God is greater; for  
this is the testimony of God that  
he has testified to his Son. Those  
who believe in the Son of God have  
the testimony in their hearts. Those  
who do not believe in God have  
made him a liar by not believing in  
the testimony that God has given  
concerning his Son. And this is the  
testimony: God gave us eternal life,  
and this life is in his Son. Whoever  
has the Son has life; whoever does  
not have the Son of God does not  
have life. I write these things to you  
who believe in the name of the Son of  
God, so that you may know that you  
have eternal life.

**Or Acts 1:15-17. 21-end**

## GOSPEL John 17:6-19

*Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus  
Christ according to John.*

Jesus looked up to heaven and  
prayed: "Father, I have made your

name known to those whom you  
gave me from the world. They were  
yours, and you gave them to me,  
and they have kept your word. Now  
they know that everything you have  
given me is from you; for the words  
that you gave to me I have given to  
them, and they have received them  
and know in truth that I came from  
you; and they have believed that you  
sent me. I am asking on their behalf; I  
am not asking on behalf of the world,  
but on behalf of those whom you  
gave me, because they are yours. All  
mine are yours, and yours are mine;  
and I have been glorified in them.  
And now I am no longer in the world,  
but they are in the world, and I am  
coming to you. Holy Father, protect  
them in your name that you have  
given me, so that they may be one,  
as we are one. While I was with them,  
I protected them in your name that  
you have given me. I guarded them,  
and not one of them was lost except  
the one destined to be lost, so that  
the scripture might be fulfilled. But  
now I am coming to you, and I speak  
these things in the world so that they  
may have my joy made complete in  
themselves. I have given them your  
word, and the world has hated them  
because they do not belong to the  
world, just as I do not belong to the  
world. I am not asking you to take  
them out of the world, but I ask you  
to protect them from the evil one.  
They do not belong to the world,  
just as I do not belong to the world.  
Sanctify them in the truth; your word  
is truth. As you have sent me into the  
world, so I have sent them into the  
world. And for their sakes I sanctify  
myself, so that they also may be  
sanctified in truth."

## POST COMMUNION

Eternal God, giver of love and power,  
your Son Jesus Christ has sent us into  
all the world  
to preach the gospel of his kingdom:  
confirm us in this mission,  
and help us to live the good news we  
proclaim;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

## COLLECT

God, who as at this time taught the hearts of your faithful people by sending to them the light of your Holy Spirit: grant us by the same Spirit to have a right judgement in all things and evermore to rejoice in his holy comfort; through the merits of Christ Jesus our Saviour, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

## FIRST READING

(Alternative readings)

*The reading from Acts must be read as either the First or Second Reading.*

Either **Acts 2:1-21**

*A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.*

When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability. Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in their native language. Amazed and astonished, they asked, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and Arabs – in our own languages we hear them speaking about God's deeds of power." All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, "What does this mean?" But others sneered and said, "They are filled with new wine." But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them, "Men of Judea and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say. Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o'clock in the morning. No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel: 'In the last days it will be, God declares, that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams. Even

upon my slaves, both men and women, in those days I will pour out my Spirit; and they shall prophesy. And I will show portents in the heaven above and signs on the earth below, blood, and fire, and smoky mist. The sun shall be turned to darkness and the moon to blood, before the coming of the Lord's great and glorious day. Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved."

Or **Ezekiel 37:1-14**

**PSALM Psalm 104:25-35. 37**

**R** *Send forth your Spirit, O Lord, and renew the face of the earth.*

O Lord, how manifold are your works! in wisdom you have made them all; the earth is full of your creatures. **R**

Yonder is the great and wide sea with its living things too many to number, creatures both small and great. There move the ships, and there is that Leviathan, which you have made for the sport of it. **R**

All of them look to you to give them their food in due season. You give it to them, they gather it; you open your hand and they are filled with good things. You hide your face and they are terrified; you take away their breath and they die and return to their dust. **R** You send forth your Spirit and they are created; and so you renew the face of the earth. May the glory of the Lord endure for ever; may the Lord rejoice in all his works. He looks at the earth and it trembles; he touches the mountains and they smoke. **R**

I will sing to the Lord as long as I live; I will praise my God while I have my being. May these words of mine please him; I will rejoice in the Lord. Bless the Lord, O my soul, Alleluia! **R**

**SECOND READING**

(Alternative readings)

Either **Romans 8:22-27**

*A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans.*

We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labour pains until now; and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen?

But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience. Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

Or **Acts 2:1-21**

**GOSPEL John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15**

*Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.*

Jesus spoke to his disciples: "When the Advocate comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who comes from the Father, he will testify on my behalf. You also are to testify because you have been with me from the beginning. I have said these things to you so that when their hour comes you may remember that I told you about them. I did not say these things to you from the beginning, because I was with you. But now I am going to him who sent me; yet none of you asks me, 'Where are you going?' But because I have said these things to you, sorrow has filled your hearts. Nevertheless I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Advocate will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you. And when he comes, he will prove the world wrong about sin and righteousness and judgement: about sin, because they do not believe in me; about righteousness, because I am going to the Father and you will see me no longer; about judgement, because the ruler of this world has been condemned. I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth; for he will not speak on his own, but will speak whatever he hears, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. He will glorify me, because he will take what is mine and declare it to you. All that the Father has is mine. For this reason I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you."

**POST COMMUNION**

Faithful God, who fulfilled the promises of Easter by sending us your Holy Spirit and opening to every race and nation the way of life eternal: open our lips by your Spirit, that every tongue may tell of your glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

## COLLECT

Almighty and everlasting God,  
you have given us your servants grace,  
by the confession of a true faith,  
to acknowledge the glory of the eternal  
Trinity  
and in the power of the divine majesty  
to worship the Unity:  
keep us steadfast in this faith,  
that we may evermore be defended  
from all adversities;  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

## FIRST READING Isaiah 6:1-8

*A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.*

In the year that King Uzziah died I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lofty; and the hem of his robe filled the temple. Seraphs were in attendance above him; each had six wings: with two they covered their faces, and with two they covered their feet, and with two they flew. And one called to another and said: "Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory." The pivots on the thresholds shook at the voices of those who called, and the house filled with smoke. And I said: "Woe is me! I am lost, for I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips; yet my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts!" Then one of the seraphs flew to me, holding a live coal that had been taken from the altar with a pair of tongs. The seraph touched my mouth with it and said: "Now that this has touched your lips, your guilt has departed and your sin is blotted out." Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?" And I said, "Here am I; send me!"

## PSALM Psalm 29

**R** *The Lord shall give his people the blessing of peace.*

or

**R** *In God's temple all cry "Glory!"*

Ascribe to the Lord, you gods,  
ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.  
Ascribe to the Lord the glory due to his  
name;  
worship the Lord in the beauty of  
holiness. **R**

The voice of the Lord is upon the waters;  
the God of glory thunders;  
the Lord is upon the mighty waters.  
The voice of the Lord is a powerful  
voice;  
the voice of the Lord is a voice of  
splendour. **R**

The voice of the Lord breaks the cedar  
trees;  
the Lord breaks the cedars of Lebanon;  
He makes Lebanon skip like a calf,  
and Mount Hermon like a young wild  
ox. **R**

The voice of the Lord splits the flames  
of fire;  
the voice of the Lord shakes the  
wilderness;  
the Lord shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.  
The voice of the Lord makes the oak  
trees writhe  
and strips the forests bare.  
And in the temple of the Lord  
all are crying, "Glory!"  
The Lord sits enthroned above the flood;  
the Lord sits enthroned as king for  
evermore.  
The Lord shall give strength to his  
people;  
the Lord shall give his people the  
blessing of peace. **R**

## SECOND READING Romans 8:12-17

*A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans.*

Brothers and sisters, we are debtors,  
not to the flesh, to live according to the  
flesh – for if you live according to the  
flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit  
you put to death the deeds of the body,  
you will live. For all who are led by the  
Spirit of God are children of God. For  
you did not receive a spirit of slavery  
to fall back into fear, but you have  
received a spirit of adoption. When we  
cry, "Abba! Father!" it is that very Spirit  
bearing witness with our spirit that we  
are children of God, and if children, then  
heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with  
Christ – in fact, we suffer with him so  
that we may also be glorified with him.

## GOSPEL John 3:1-17

*Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.*

There was a Pharisee named Nicodemus,  
a leader of the Jews. He came to Jesus  
by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we

know that you are a teacher who has  
come from God; for no one can do  
these signs that you do apart from the  
presence of God." Jesus answered him,  
"Very truly, I tell you, no one can see  
the kingdom of God without being born  
from above." Nicodemus said to him,  
"How can anyone be born after having  
grown old? Can one enter a second  
time into the mother's womb and be  
born?" Jesus answered, "Very truly, I  
tell you, no one can enter the kingdom  
of God without being born of water  
and Spirit. What is born of the flesh is  
flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is  
spirit. Do not be astonished that I said  
to you, 'You must be born from above.'  
The wind blows where it chooses, and  
you hear the sound of it, but you do  
not know where it comes from or where  
it goes. So it is with everyone who is  
born of the Spirit." Nicodemus said to  
him, "How can these things be?" Jesus  
answered him, "Are you a teacher of  
Israel, and yet you do not understand  
these things? Very truly, I tell you, we  
speak of what we know and testify to  
what we have seen; yet you do not  
receive our testimony. If I have told you  
about earthly things and you do not  
believe, how can you believe if I tell  
you about heavenly things? No one has  
ascended into heaven except the one  
who descended from heaven, the Son  
of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the  
serpent in the wilderness, so must the  
Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever  
believes in him may have eternal life. For  
God so loved the world that he gave his  
only Son, so that everyone who believes  
in him may not perish but may have  
eternal life. Indeed, God did not send  
the Son into the world to condemn the  
world, but in order that the world might  
be saved through him."

## POST COMMUNION

Almighty and eternal God,  
you have revealed yourself as Father,  
Son and Holy Spirit,  
and live and reign in the perfect unity of  
love:  
hold us firm in this faith,  
that we may know you in all your ways  
and evermore rejoice in your eternal  
glory,  
who are three Persons yet one God,  
now and for ever.