

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

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

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.

Additional Text and Prayers

Call to worship

In love we were made,
by love we are redeemed.
And love at last shall bring us home.
In gratitude for all that we have
and all that we are,
we come to give thanks to our loving God,
and to praise God's holy name.

A prayer of praise

Lord, you are the friend of the poor and
impoverished.
We praise you for sharing your riches.
You are the friend of the lost and forsaken.
We praise you for guiding us home.
You are the friend of the outcast and stranger.
We praise you for including us in.
Friend of the friendless, companion to the
lonely, host to all humanity.
We praise your holy name!
Amen.

A prayer of confession

Jesus taught us to love one another,
but often we argue, and hurt one another.
God of all goodness,
we are sorry.
Jesus taught us to love one another,
but often we think of ourselves,
and ignore each other.
God of all goodness,
we are sorry.
Jesus taught us to love one another,
but often we forget what he taught,
and forget one another's needs.
God of all goodness,
we are sorry.

Silence

God of all goodness,
help us to love one another,
as Jesus loves us;
and when we don't,
let us remember that you still love us and
forgive us,
so we can pick ourselves up
and start again.
Amen.

Dismissal

Go! You are friends of the most high!
Go and praise the maker of heaven and earth –
our God, our Friend.
In the name of the most high!
Amen.

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

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

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.

Additional Text and Prayers

Call to worship

We look to the East where the sun breaks the dawn,

Christ is there.

We look to the West where the sun slips from sight,

Christ is there.

We look to the North where the winter sun is scarce,

Christ is there.

We look to the South where the summer sun blazes warm,

Christ is there.

We look to the past where memories remind us of times gone by,

Christ is there.

We look to the future where dreams are dreamed and hope burns bright,

Christ is there.

We look at the faces revealed around me and the self buried within me,

Christ is here.

Dismissal

As we leave this place,

Jesus goes with us.

He loves us, he looks after us,

he protects us, he holds us.

As we leave this place,

Jesus goes with us.

Amen.

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

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

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.

Psalms 139.1–11

O LORD, thou hast searched me out and known me : thou knowest my down-sitting and mine up-rising, thou understandest my thoughts long before.

2 Thou art about my path, and about my bed : and spiest out all my ways.

3 For lo, there is not a word in my tongue : but thou, O Lord, knowest it altogether.

4 Thou hast fashioned me behind and before : and laid thine hand upon me.

5 Such knowledge is too wonderful and excellent for me : I cannot attain unto it.

6 Whither shall I go then from thy Spirit : or whither shall I go then from thy presence?

7 If I climb up into heaven, thou art there : if I go down to hell, thou art there also.

8 If I take the wings of the morning : and remain in the uttermost parts of the sea;

9 Even there also shall thy hand lead me : and thy right hand shall hold me.

10 If I say, Peradventure the darkness shall cover me : then shall my night be turned to day.

11 Yea, the darkness is no darkness with thee, but the night is as clear as the day : the darkness and light to thee are both alike

Glory be to the Father...

First Lesson**Ezekiel 36.22–28**

Therefore say to the house of Israel, Thus says the Lord God: It is not for your sake, O house of Israel, that I am about to act, but for the sake of my holy name, which you have profaned among the nations to which you came. ²³I will sanctify my great name, which has been profaned among the nations, and which you have profaned

among them; and the nations shall know that I am the Lord, says the Lord God, when through you I display my holiness before their eyes. ²⁴I will take you from the nations, and gather you from all the countries, and bring you into your own land. ²⁵I will sprinkle clean water upon you, and you shall be clean from all your uncleannesses, and from all your idols I will cleanse you. ²⁶A new heart I will give you, and a new spirit I will put within you; and I will remove from your body the heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh. ²⁷I will put my spirit within you, and make you follow my statutes and be careful to observe my ordinances. ²⁸Then you shall live in the land that I gave to your ancestors; and you shall be my people, and I will be your God.

Second Lesson**Acts 2.22–38**

'You that are Israelites, listen to what I have to say: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with deeds of power, wonders, and signs that God did through him among you, as you yourselves know— ²³this man, handed over to you according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of those outside the law. ²⁴But God raised him up, having freed him from death, because it was impossible for him to be held in its power. ²⁵For David says concerning him, "I saw the Lord always before me, for he is at my right hand so that I will not be shaken; ²⁶therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced; moreover, my flesh will live in hope. ²⁷For you will not abandon my soul to Hades, or let your Holy One experience corruption. ²⁸You have made known to me the ways of life; you will make me full of gladness with your presence." ²⁹'Fellow Israelites, I may say to you confidently of our ancestor David that

he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. ³⁰Since he was a prophet, he knew that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would put one of his descendants on his throne. ³¹Foreseeing this, David spoke of the resurrection of the Messiah, saying, "He was not abandoned to Hades, nor did his flesh experience corruption."

³²This Jesus God raised up, and of that all of us are witnesses. ³³Being therefore exalted at the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, he has poured out this that you both see and hear. ³⁴For David did not ascend into the heavens, but he himself says,

"The Lord said to my Lord, 'Sit at my right hand,

³⁵ until I make your enemies your footstool.' "

³⁶Therefore let the entire house of Israel know with certainty that God has made him both Lord and Messiah, this Jesus whom you crucified.'

³⁷Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and to the other apostles, 'Brothers, what should we do?' ³⁸Peter said to them, 'Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

Collect of the Day

God, who as at this time didst teach the hearts of thy faithful people, by the sending to them the light of thy 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 liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the same Spirit, one God, world without end.

Amen.

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 – if, 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.

