

### COLLECT

Lord of all life and power,  
who through the mighty resurrection of  
your Son  
overcame the old order of sin and death  
to make all things new in him:  
grant that we, being dead to sin  
and alive to you in Jesus Christ,  
may reign with him in glory;  
to whom with you and the Holy Spirit  
be praise and honour, glory and might,  
now and in all eternity.

### FIRST READING (Alternative readings)

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

#### Either Acts 10:34-43

*A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.*

Peter began to speak to those assembled in the house of Cornelius: "I truly understand that God shows no partiality, but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ – he is Lord of all. That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

#### Or Isaiah 25:6-9

### PSALM Psalm 118:1-2. 14-24

**R** *I will give thanks to you,  
for you have become my salvation.*

O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;  
his mercy endures for ever.  
Let Israel now proclaim,  
"His mercy endures for ever." **R**

The Lord is my strength and my song,  
and he has become my salvation.  
Joyful shouts of salvation  
sound from the tents of the righteous:  
"The right hand of the Lord does mighty  
deeds;  
the right hand of the Lord raises up;  
the right hand of the Lord does mighty  
deeds." **R**

I shall not die, but live  
and declare the works of the Lord.  
The Lord has punished me sorely,  
but he has not given me over to death. **R**

Open to me the gates of righteousness,  
that I may enter and give thanks to the  
Lord.

This is the gate of the Lord;  
the righteous shall enter through it.  
I will give thanks to you, for you have  
answered me  
and have become my salvation. **R**

The stone which the builders rejected  
has become the chief cornerstone.  
This is the Lord's doing,  
and it is marvellous in our eyes.  
This is the day that the Lord has made;  
we will rejoice and be glad in it. **R**

#### Or Psalm 118:14-24

### SECOND READING (Alternative readings)

#### Either 1 Corinthians 15:1-11

*A reading from the first letter of Paul to the Corinthians.*

I would remind you, brothers and sisters, of the good news that I proclaimed to you, which you in turn received, in which also you stand, through which also you are being saved, if you hold firmly to the message that I proclaimed to you – unless you have come to believe in vain. For I handed on to you as of first importance what I in turn had received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures, and that he was buried, and that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures, and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers and sisters at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died. Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me. For I am the least of the apostles,

unfit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace towards me has not been in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them – though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me. Whether then it was I or they, so we proclaim and so you have come to believe.

#### Or Acts 10:34-43

### GOSPEL (Alternative readings)

#### Either John 20:1-18

#### Or Mark 16:1-8

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

When the sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him. And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. They had been saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?" When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back. As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man, dressed in a white robe, sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed. But he said to them, "Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the place they laid him. But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him just as he told you." So they went out and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

### POST COMMUNION

God of Life,  
who for our redemption gave your only-  
begotten Son to the death of the  
cross,  
and by his glorious resurrection  
have delivered us from the power of our  
enemy:  
grant us so to die daily to sin,  
that we may evermore live with him  
in the joy of his risen life;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.



## COLLECT

Almighty Father,  
you have given your only Son to die for  
our sins  
and to rise again for our justification:  
grant us so to put away the leaven of  
malice and wickedness  
that we may always serve you  
in pureness of living and truth;  
through the merits of your Son Jesus  
Christ 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 4:32-35

*A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.*

The whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common. With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. There was not a needy person among them, for as many as owned lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold. They laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.

Or **Exodus 14:10-end; 15:20-21**

## PSALM Psalm 133

**R** *Mercy and truth are met together,  
righteousness and peace have kissed  
each other.*

Behold how good and pleasant it is  
to dwell together in unity.

It is like the precious oil upon the  
head,

running down upon the beard,

Even on Aaron's beard,

running down upon the collar of his  
clothing. **R**

It is like the dew of Hermon

running down upon the hills of Zion.

For there the Lord has promised his  
blessing:

even life for evermore. **R**

## SECOND READING (Alternative readings)

Either **1 John 1:1 – 2:2**

*A reading from the first letter of John.*

We declare to you what was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the word of life – this life was revealed, and we have seen it and testify to it, and declare to you the eternal life that was with the Father and was revealed to us – we declare to you what we have seen and heard so that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. We are writing these things so that our joy may be complete. This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light and in him there is no darkness at all. If we say that we have fellowship with him while we are walking in darkness, we lie and do not do what is true; but if we walk in the light as he himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us. My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; and he is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

Or **Acts 4:32-35**

## GOSPEL John 20:19-end

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

It was evening on the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." After he said

this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained." But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe." A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe." Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

## POST COMMUNION

Lord God our Father,  
through our Saviour Jesus Christ  
you have assured your children of  
eternal life  
and in baptism have made us one with  
him:  
deliver us from the death of sin  
and raise us to new life in your love,  
in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,  
by the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ.



### COLLECT

Almighty Father,  
 who in your great mercy gladdened  
 the disciples  
 with the sight of the risen Lord:  
 give us such knowledge of his  
 presence with us,  
 that we may be strengthened and  
 sustained by his risen life  
 and serve you continually in  
 righteousness and truth;  
 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 3:12-19

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

Peter addressed the people, "You Israelites, why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we had made him walk? The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our ancestors has glorified his servant Jesus, whom you handed over and rejected in the presence of Pilate, though he had decided to release him. But you rejected the Holy and Righteous One and asked to have a murderer given to you, and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. And by faith in his name, his name itself has made this man strong, whom you see and know; and the faith that is through Jesus has given him this perfect health in the presence of all of you. And now, friends, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. In this way God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, that his Messiah would suffer. Repent therefore, and turn to God so that your sins may be wiped out."

Or **Zephaniah 3:14-end**

### PSALM Psalm 4

**R** *In peace, in peace I will lie down and sleep.*

Answer me when I call, O God of my righteousness;  
 you set me at liberty when I was in trouble;  
 have mercy on me and hear my prayer.  
 How long will you nobles dishonour my glory;  
 how long will you love vain things and seek after falsehood? **R**

But know that the Lord has shown me his marvellous kindness;  
 when I call upon the Lord, he will hear me.

Stand in awe, and sin not;  
 commune with your own heart upon your bed, and be still. **R**

Offer the sacrifices of righteousness and put your trust in the Lord.

There are many that say, "Who will show us any good?"

Lord, lift up the light of your countenance upon us.

You have put gladness in my heart, more than when their corn and wine and oil increase.

In peace I will lie down and sleep, for it is you Lord, only, who make me dwell in safety. **R**

### SECOND READING (Alternative readings)

#### Either 1 John 3:1-7

A reading from the first letter of John.

See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure. Everyone who commits sin is guilty of lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. You know that he was revealed to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. No one who abides in him sins; no one who sins has either seen him or known him. Little children, let no one deceive

you. Everyone who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous.

Or **Acts 3:12-19**

### GOSPEL Luke 24:36b-48

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

While the eleven and their companions were talking about what they had heard, Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you." They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. He said to them, "Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have." And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, "Have you anything here to eat?" They gave him a piece of broiled fish, and he took it and ate in their presence. Then he said to them, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you – that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled." Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things."

### POST COMMUNION

Living God,  
 your Son made himself known to his disciples  
 in the breaking of bread:  
 open the eyes of our faith,  
 that we may see him in all his  
 redeeming work;  
 who is alive and reigns, now and for ever.



## COLLECT

Almighty God,  
whose Son Jesus Christ is the  
resurrection and the life:  
raise us, who trust in him,  
from the death of sin to the life of  
righteousness,  
that we may seek those things which  
are above,  
where he 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 4:5-12

*A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.*

The Jewish rulers, elders, and scribes assembled in Jerusalem, with Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. When they had made the prisoners stand in their midst, they inquired, "By what power or by what name did you do this?" Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, "Rulers of the people and elders, if we are questioned today because of a good deed done to someone who was sick and are asked how this man has been healed, let it be known to all of you, and to all the people of Israel, that this man is standing before you in good health by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead. This Jesus is 'the stone that was rejected by you, the builders; it has become the cornerstone.' There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among mortals by which we must be saved."

Or **Genesis 7:1-5. 11-18;**  
**8:6-18; 9:8-13**

## PSALM Psalm 23

**R** *I will dwell in your house for ever.*

The Lord is my shepherd;  
therefore can I lack nothing.  
He makes me lie down in green  
pastures  
and leads me beside still waters. **R**

He shall refresh my soul  
and guide me in the paths of  
righteousness for his name's sake.  
Though I walk through the valley of  
the shadow of death,  
I will fear no evil;  
for you are with me;  
your rod and your staff, they  
comfort me. **R**

You spread a table before me  
in the presence of those who  
trouble me;  
you have anointed my head with oil  
and my cup shall be full.  
Surely goodness and loving mercy  
shall follow me all the days of my  
life,  
and I will dwell in the house of the  
Lord for ever. **R**

## SECOND READING (Alternative readings)

Either **1 John 3:16-end**

*A reading from the first letter of John.*

We know love by this, that the Son of God laid down his life for us – and we ought to lay down our lives for one another. How does God's love abide in anyone who has the world's goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help? Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action. And by this we will know that we are from the truth and will reassure our hearts before him whenever our hearts condemn us; for God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have boldness before God; and we receive from him whatever we ask, because we obey his commandments and do

what pleases God. And this is his commandment, that we should believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. All who obey his commandments abide in him, and he abides in them. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit that he has given us.

Or **Acts 4:5-12**

## GOSPEL John 10:11-18

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

Jesus said to the Pharisees: "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away – and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father."

## POST COMMUNION

Merciful Father,  
you gave your Son Jesus Christ to  
be the good shepherd,  
and in his love for us to lay down his  
life and rise again:  
keep us always under his protection,  
and give us grace to follow in his  
steps;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.



### 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-end

**R** *Be not far from me, O Lord.*

From you comes my praise in the great congregation;  
I will perform my vows  
in the presence of those that fear you.  
The poor shall eat and be satisfied;  
those who seek the Lord shall praise him;  
their hearts shall 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 the kingdom is the Lord's  
and he rules over the nations. **R**

How can those who sleep in the earth  
bow down in worship,  
or those who go down to the dust kneel  
before him?

He has saved my life for himself;  
my descendants shall serve him;  
this shall be told of the Lord for  
generations to come.  
They shall come and make known his  
salvation,  
to a people yet unborn,  
declaring that he, the Lord, has done it. **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.



Be not far from me, O Lord.

**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 salvation.*

Sing to the Lord a new song,  
 for he has done marvellous things.  
 His own right hand and his holy arm  
 have won for him the victory.  
 The Lord has made known his  
 salvation;

his deliverance has he openly shown  
 in the sight of the nations. **R**

He has remembered his mercy and  
 faithfulness  
 towards the house of Israel,  
 and all the ends of the earth have  
 seen the salvation of our God.  
 Sound praises to the Lord, all the  
 earth;  
 break into singing and make music. **R**

Make music to the Lord with the lyre,  
 with the lyre and the voice of  
 melody.  
 With trumpets and the sound of the  
 horn  
 sound praises before the Lord, the  
 King. **R**

Let the sea thunder and all that fills it,  
 the world and all that dwell upon it.  
 Let the rivers clap their hands  
 and let the hills ring out together  
 before the Lord,  
 for 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.



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

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

Like a tree planted by streams of water  
 bearing fruit in due season, with  
 leaves that do not wither,  
 whatever they do, it shall prosper. **R**

As for the wicked, it is not so with  
 them;  
 they are like chaff which the wind blows  
 away.

Therefore the wicked shall not be able  
 to stand in the judgement,  
 nor the sinner in the congregation of  
 the righteous.  
 For the Lord knows the way of the  
 righteous,  
 but the way of the wicked shall perish. **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.

