

COLLECT

Almighty and everlasting God,
by whose Spirit the whole body of the
Church is governed and sanctified:
hear our prayer which we offer for all
your faithful people,
that in their vocation and ministry
they may serve you in holiness and
truth
to the glory of your name;
through our Lord and Saviour Jesus
Christ,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

FIRST READING Ezekiel 2:1-5

A reading from the book of the prophet Ezekiel.

The heavens were opened, and I saw visions of God. When I saw this, I fell on my face, and I heard the voice of someone speaking. He said to me: O mortal, stand up on your feet, and I will speak with you. And when he spoke to me, a spirit entered into me and set me on my feet; and I heard him speaking to me. He said to me, Mortal, I am sending you to the people of Israel, to a nation of rebels who have rebelled against me; they and their ancestors have transgressed against me to this very day. The descendants are impudent and stubborn. I am sending you to them, and you shall say to them, "Thus says the Lord GOD." Whether they hear or refuse to hear (for they are a rebellious house), they shall know that there has been a prophet among them.

PSALM Psalm 123

R *Our eyes look to the Lord our God, until he shows us his mercy.*

To you I lift up my eyes,
to you enthroned in the heavens.
As the eyes of servants look to the
hand of their masters,
and the eyes of a maid to the hand of
her mistress,
So our eyes look to the Lord our God,
until he show us his mercy. **R**

Have mercy upon us, O Lord, have mercy,
for we have had more than enough of contempt,
Too much of the scorn of the indolent rich,
and of the derision of the proud. **R**

SECOND READING

2 Corinthians 12:2-10

A reading from the second letter of Paul to the Corinthians.

I know a person in Christ who fourteen years ago was caught up to the third heaven – whether in the body or out of the body I do not know; God knows. And I know that such a person – whether in the body or out of the body I do not know; God knows – was caught up into Paradise and heard things that are not to be told, that no mortal is permitted to repeat. On behalf of such a one I will boast, but on my own behalf I will not boast, except of my weaknesses. But if I wish to boast, I will not be a fool, for I will be speaking the truth. But I refrain from it, so that no one may think better of me than what is seen in me or heard from me, even considering the exceptional character of the revelations. Therefore, to keep me from being too elated, a thorn was given me in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to torment me, to keep me from being too elated. Three times I appealed to the Lord about this, that it would leave me, but he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for power is made perfect in weakness." So, I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may dwell in me. Therefore I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities for the sake of Christ; for whenever I am weak, then I am strong.

GOSPEL Mark 6:1-13

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

Jesus came to his home town, and his disciples followed him. On the

sabbath he began to teach in the synagogue, and many who heard him were astounded. They said, "Where did this man get all this? What is this wisdom that has been given to him? What deeds of power are being done by his hands! Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary and brother of James and Joses and Judas and Simon, and are not his sisters here with us?" And they took offence at him. Then Jesus said to them, "Prophets are not without honour, except in their home town, and among their own kin, and in their own house." And he could do no deed of power there, except that he laid his hands on a few sick people and cured them. And he was amazed at their unbelief. Then he went about among the villages teaching. He called the twelve and began to send them out two by two, and gave them authority over the unclean spirits. He ordered them to take nothing for their journey except a staff; no bread, no bag, no money in their belts; but to wear sandals and not to put on two tunics. He said to them, "Wherever you enter a house, stay there until you leave the place. If any place will not welcome you and they refuse to hear you, as you leave, shake off the dust that is on your feet as a testimony against them." So they went out and proclaimed that all should repent. They cast out many demons, and anointed with oil many who were sick and cured them.

POST COMMUNION

Grant, O Lord, we beseech you,
that the course of this world may be
so peaceably ordered by your
governance,
that your Church may joyfully serve
you in all godly quietness;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

COLLECT

Merciful God,
you have prepared for those who love you
such good things as pass our
understanding:
pour into our hearts such love toward you
that we, loving you in all things and above
all things,
may obtain your promises,
which exceed all that we can desire;
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 Amos 7:7-15

A reading from the book of the prophet Amos.

This is what the Lord God showed me: the Lord was standing beside a wall built with a plumb line, with a plumb line in his hand. And the LORD said to me, "Amos, what do you see?" And I said, "A plumb line." Then the Lord said, "See, I am setting a plumb line in the midst of my people Israel; I will never again pass them by; the high places of Isaac shall be made desolate, and the sanctuaries of Israel shall be laid waste, and I will rise against the house of Jeroboam with the sword." Then Amaziah, the priest of Bethel, sent to King Jeroboam of Israel, saying, "Amos has conspired against you in the very centre of the house of Israel; the land is not able to bear all his words. For thus Amos has said, 'Jeroboam shall die by the sword, and Israel must go into exile away from his land.'" And Amaziah said to Amos, "O seer, go, flee away to the land of Judah, earn your bread there, and prophesy there; but never again prophesy at Bethel, for it is the king's sanctuary, and it is a temple of the kingdom." Then Amos answered Amaziah, "I am no prophet, nor a prophet's son; but I am a herdsman, and a dresser of sycamore trees, and the LORD took me from following the flock, and the LORD said to me, 'Go, prophesy to my people Israel.'"

PSALM Psalm 85:8-end

R Show us your mercy, O Lord,
and grant us your salvation.

I will listen to what the Lord God is saying,
for he is speaking peace to his faithful
people
and to those who turn their hearts to him.
Truly, his salvation is very near to those
who fear him,
that his glory may dwell in our land. **R**

Mercy and truth have met together;
righteousness and peace have kissed each
other.

Truth shall spring up from the earth,
and righteousness shall look down from
heaven. **R**

The Lord will indeed grant prosperity,
and our land will yield its increase.
Righteousness shall go before him,
and peace shall be a pathway for his
feet. **R**

SECOND READING Ephesians 1:3-14

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Ephesians.

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and insight he has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ, as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in Christ, things in heaven and things on earth. In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will, so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory. In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; this is the pledge of our inheritance towards redemption as God's own people, to the praise of his glory.

GOSPEL Mark 6:14-29

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

King Herod heard of the healings and other miracles, for Jesus' name had become known. Some were saying, "John the baptizer has been raised from the dead; and for this reason these powers are at work in him." But others said, "It is Elijah." And others said, "It is a prophet,

like one of the prophets of old." But when Herod heard of it, he said, "John, whom I beheaded, has been raised." For Herod himself had sent men who arrested John, bound him, and put him in prison on account of Herodias, his brother Philip's wife, because Herod had married her. For John had been telling Herod, "It is not lawful for you to have your brother's wife." And Herodias had a grudge against him, and wanted to kill him. But she could not, for Herod feared John, knowing that he was a righteous and holy man, and he protected him. When he heard him, he was greatly perplexed; and yet he liked to listen to him. But an opportunity came when Herod on his birthday gave a banquet for his courtiers and officers and for the leaders of Galilee. When Herodias' daughter came in and danced, she pleased Herod and his guests; and the king said to the girl, "Ask me for whatever you wish, and I will give it." And he solemnly swore to her, "Whatever you ask me, I will give you, even half of my kingdom." She went out and said to her mother, "What should I ask for?" She replied, "The head of John the Baptist." Immediately she rushed back to the king and requested, "I want you to give me at once the head of John the Baptizer on a platter." The king was deeply grieved; yet out of regard for his oaths and for the guests, he did not want to refuse her. Immediately the king sent a soldier of the guard with orders to bring John's head. He went and beheaded him in the prison, brought his head on a platter, and gave it to the girl. Then the girl gave it to her mother. When his disciples heard about it, they came and took his body, and laid it in a tomb.

POST COMMUNION

God of our pilgrimage,
you have led us to the living water:
refresh and sustain us
as we go forward on our journey,
in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

COLLECT

Lord of all power and might,
the author and giver of all good things:
graft in our hearts the love of your name,
increase in us true religion,
nourish us with all goodness,
and of your great mercy keep us in the same;
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 Jeremiah 23:1-6

A reading from the book of the prophet Jeremiah.

Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture! says the LORD. Therefore thus says the LORD, the God of Israel, concerning the shepherds who shepherd my people: It is you who have scattered my flock, and have driven them away, and you have not attended to them. So I will attend to you for your evil doings, says the LORD. Then I myself will gather the remnant of my flock out of all the lands where I have driven them, and I will bring them back to their fold, and they shall be fruitful and multiply. I will raise up shepherds over them who will shepherd them, and they shall not fear any longer, or be dismayed, nor shall any be missing, says the LORD. The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In his days Judah will be saved and Israel will live in safety. And this is the name by which he will be called: "The LORD is our righteousness."

PSALM Psalm 23

R *The Lord is my shepherd;
I shall not be in want.*

The Lord is my shepherd;
I shall not be in want.
He makes me lie down in green pastures
and leads me beside still waters. **R**

He revives my soul
and guides me along right pathways
for his name's sake.
Though I walk through the valley of
the shadow of death,
I shall 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 is running over.
Surely your goodness and 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

Ephesians 2:11-end

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Ephesians.

Remember that at one time you Gentiles by birth, called "the uncircumcision" by those who are called "the circumcision" – a physical circumcision made in the flesh by human hands – remember that you were at that time without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. For he is our peace; in his flesh he has made both groups into one and has broken down the dividing wall, that is, the hostility between us. He has abolished the law with its commandments and ordinances, that he might create in himself one new humanity in place of the two, thus making peace, and might reconcile both groups to God in one body through the cross, thus putting to death that hostility through it. So he came and proclaimed peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near; for through him both of us have access in one Spirit to the Father. So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are citizens with the saints and also members of the household of

God, built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the cornerstone. In him the whole structure is joined together and grows into a holy temple in the Lord; in whom you also are built together spiritually into a dwelling-place for God.

GOSPEL Mark 6:30-34. 53-end

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

The apostles returned from their mission. They gathered around Jesus, and told him all that they had done and taught. He said to them, "Come away to a deserted place all by yourselves and rest a while." For many were coming and going, and they had no leisure even to eat. And they went away in the boat to a deserted place by themselves. Now many saw them going and recognized them, and they hurried there on foot from all the towns and arrived ahead of them. As he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had compassion for them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd; and he began to teach them many things. When they had crossed over, they came to land at Gennesaret and moored the boat. When they got out of the boat, people at once recognized him, and rushed about that whole region and began to bring the sick on mats to wherever they heard he was. And wherever he went, into villages or cities or farms, they laid the sick in the market-places, and begged him that they might touch even the fringe of his cloak; and all who touched it were healed.

POST COMMUNION

Lord God, whose Son is the true vine
and the source of life,
ever giving himself that the world
may live:
may we so receive within ourselves
the power of his death and passion
that, in his saving cup,
we may share his glory and be made
perfect in his love;
for he is alive and reigns, now
and for ever.

COLLECT

Almighty Lord and everlasting God,
we beseech you to direct, sanctify
and govern both our hearts and
bodies
in the ways of your laws and the
works of your commandments;
that through your most mighty
protection, both here and ever,
we may be preserved in body and
soul;
through our Lord and Saviour Jesus
Christ,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

FIRST READING 2 Kings 4:42-end

A reading from the second book of Kings.

A man came bringing food from the first fruits to Elisha, the man of God: twenty loaves of barley and fresh ears of grain in his sack. Elisha said, "Give it to the people and let them eat." But his servant said, "How can I set this before a hundred people?" So he repeated, "Give it to the people and let them eat, for thus says the LORD, 'They shall eat and have some left.'" He set it before them, they ate, and had some left, according to the word of the LORD.

PSALM Psalm 145:10-19

R *You open wide your hand, O Lord, and satisfy our needs.*

All your works praise you, O Lord,
and your faithful servants bless you. **R**

They make known the glory of your
kingdom
and speak of your power;
That the peoples may know of your
power
and the glorious splendour of your
kingdom. **R**

Your kingdom is an everlasting
kingdom;
your dominion endures throughout all
ages.

The Lord is faithful in all his words
and merciful in all his deeds.
The Lord upholds all those who fall;
he lifts up those who are bowed
down. **R**

The eyes of all wait upon you, O Lord,
and you give them their food in due
season.

You open wide your hand
and satisfy the needs of every living
creature. **R**

The Lord is righteous in all his ways
and loving in all his works.
The Lord is near to those who call upon
him,
to all who call upon him faithfully. **R**

SECOND READING

Ephesians 3:14-end

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Ephesians.

I bow my knees before the Father,
from whom every family in heaven
and on earth takes its name. I pray
that, according to the riches of his
glory, he may grant that you may be
strengthened in your inner being with
power through his Spirit, and that Christ
may dwell in your hearts through faith,
as you are being rooted and grounded
in love. I pray that you may have the
power to comprehend, with all the
saints, what is the breadth and length
and height and depth, and to know the
love of Christ that surpasses knowledge,
so that you may be filled with all the
fullness of God. Now to him who by
the power at work within us is able to
accomplish abundantly far more than all
we can ask or imagine, to him be glory
in the church and in Christ Jesus to all
generations, for ever and ever. Amen.

GOSPEL John 6:1-21

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

Jesus went to the other side of the
Sea of Galilee, also called the Sea of
Tiberias. A large crowd kept following
him, because they saw the signs that
he was doing for the sick. Jesus went
up the mountain and sat down there
with his disciples. Now the Passover,
the festival of the Jews, was near.
When he looked up and saw a large
crowd coming towards him, Jesus said
to Philip, "Where are we to buy bread
for these people to eat?" He said this
to test him, for he himself knew what
he was going to do. Philip answered
him, "Six months' wages would not buy
enough bread for each of them to get

a little." One of his disciples, Andrew,
Simon Peter's brother, said to Jesus,
"There is a boy here who has five barley
loaves and two fish. But what are they
among so many people?" Jesus said,
"Make the people sit down." Now
there was a great deal of grass in the
place; so they sat down, about five
thousand in all. Then Jesus took the
loaves, and when he had given thanks,
he distributed them to those who were
seated; so also the fish, as much as
they wanted. When they were satisfied,
he told his disciples, "Gather up the
fragments left over, so that nothing
may be lost." So they gathered them
up, and from the fragments of the five
barley loaves, left by those who had
eaten, they filled twelve baskets. When
the people saw the sign that he had
done, they began to say, "This is indeed
the prophet who is to come into the
world." When Jesus realized that they
were about to come and take him by
force to make him king, he withdrew
again to the mountain by himself.
When evening came, his disciples went
down to the lake, got into a boat, and
started across the lake to Capernaum.
It was now dark, and Jesus had not yet
come to them. The lake became rough
because a strong wind was blowing.
When they had rowed about three or
four miles, they saw Jesus walking on
the lake and coming near the boat, and
they were terrified. But he said to them,
"It is I; do not be afraid." Then they
wanted to take him into the boat, and
immediately the boat reached the land
towards which they were going.

POST COMMUNION

Strengthen for service, Lord,
the hands that have taken holy things;
may the ears which have heard your
word be deaf to clamour and dispute;
may the tongues which have sung your
praise be free from deceit;
may the eyes which have seen the
tokens of your love shine with the
light of hope;
and may the bodies which have been
fed with your body be refreshed with
the fullness of your life;
glory to you for ever.