

## 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.



The Lord knows the way of the right-eous.