

## COLLECT

Almighty God,  
you have given us your only-begotten  
Son  
to take our nature upon him  
and as at this time to be born of a pure  
virgin:  
grant that we, who have been born  
again  
and made your children by adoption  
and grace,  
may daily be renewed by your Holy Spirit;  
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 52:7-10

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

How beautiful upon the mountains  
are the feet of the messenger who  
announces peace, who brings good  
news, who announces salvation, who  
says to Zion, "Your God reigns." Listen!  
Your sentinels lift up their voices,  
together they sing for joy; for in plain  
sight they see the return of the LORD to  
Zion. Break forth together into singing,  
you ruins of Jerusalem; for the LORD has  
comforted his people, he has redeemed  
Jerusalem. The LORD has bared his holy  
arm before the eyes of all the nations;  
and all the ends of the earth shall see  
the salvation of our God.

## PSALM Psalm 98

**R** *Sing to the Lord a new song, for he  
has done marvellous things.*

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. **R**

The Lord has made known his salvation;  
his deliverance has he openly shown in  
the sight of the nations.

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. **R**

Sound praises to the Lord, all the earth  
break into singing and make music.  
Make the 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

**Hebrews 1:1-4 [5-12]**

*A reading from the letter to the Hebrews.*

Long ago God spoke to our ancestors  
in many and various ways by the  
prophets, but in these last days he  
has spoken to us by a Son, whom he  
appointed heir of all things, through  
whom he also created the worlds. He  
is the reflection of God's glory and the  
exact imprint of God's very being, and  
he sustains all things by his powerful  
word. When he had made purification  
for sins, he sat down at the right hand  
of the Majesty on high, having become  
as much superior to angels as the name  
he has inherited is more excellent than  
theirs. [For to which of the angels did  
God ever say, "You are my Son; today  
I have begotten you"? Or again, "I  
will be his Father, and he will be my  
Son"? And again, when he brings the  
firstborn into the world, he says, "Let  
all God's angels worship him." Of the  
angels he says, "He makes his angels  
winds, and his servants flames of fire."  
But of the Son he says, "Your throne,  
O God, is for ever and ever, and the  
righteous sceptre is the sceptre of your  
kingdom. You have loved righteousness  
and hated wickedness; therefore God,  
your God, has anointed you with the oil

of gladness beyond your companions."  
And, "In the beginning, Lord, you  
founded the earth, and the heavens are  
the work of your hands; they will perish,  
but you remain; they will all wear out  
like clothing; like a cloak you will roll  
them up, and like clothing they will be  
changed. But you are the same, and  
your years will never end."]

## GOSPEL John 1:1-14

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

In the beginning was the Word, and  
the Word was with God, and the Word  
was God. He was in the beginning  
with God. All things came into being  
through him, and without him not one  
thing came into being. What has come  
into being in him was life, and the life  
was the light of all people. The light  
shines in the darkness, and the darkness  
did not overcome it. There was a man  
sent from God, whose name was John.  
He came as a witness to testify to the  
light, so that all might believe through  
him. He himself was not the light, but  
he came to testify to the light. The true  
light, which enlightens everyone, was  
coming into the world. He was in the  
world, and the world came into being  
through him; yet the world did not  
know him. He came to what was his  
own, and his own people did not accept  
him. But to all who received him, who  
believed in his name, he gave power  
to become children of God, who were  
born, not of blood or of the will of the  
flesh or of the will of man but of God.  
And the Word became flesh and lived  
among us, and we have seen his glory,  
the glory as of a father's only son, full of  
grace and truth.

## POST COMMUNION

God our Father,  
whose Word has come among us  
in the Holy Child of Bethlehem:  
may the light of faith illumine our hearts  
and shine in our words and deeds;  
through him who is Christ the Lord.

