

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 used as
either the first or second reading.*

Either Acts 16:9-15

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

During the night Paul had a vision: there
stood a man of Macedonia pleading
with him and saying, "Come over to
Macedonia and help us." When he
had seen the vision, we immediately
tried to cross over to Macedonia, being
convinced that God had called us to
proclaim the good news to them. We
set sail from Troas and took a straight
course to Samothrace, the following day
to Neapolis, and from there to Philippi,
which is a leading city of the district of
Macedonia and a Roman colony. We
remained in this city for some days. On
the sabbath day we went outside the
gate by the river, where we supposed
there was a place of prayer; and we sat
down and spoke to the women who had
gathered there. A certain woman named
Lydia, a worshipper of God, was listening
to us; she was from the city of Thyatira
and a dealer in purple cloth. The Lord
opened her heart to listen eagerly to
what was said by Paul. When she and
her household were baptised, she urged
us, saying, "If you have judged me to be
faithful to the Lord, come and stay at my
home." And she prevailed upon us.

Or Ezekiel 37:1-14

PSALM Psalm 67

R *Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you.*

God be gracious to us and bless us
and make his face to shine upon us,
That your way may be known upon earth,
your saving power among all nations. **R**

O let the nations rejoice and be glad,
for you will judge the peoples righteously
and govern the nations upon earth.
Then shall the earth bring forth her
increase,
and God, our own God, will bless us.
God will bless us,
and all the ends of the earth shall fear
him. **R**

SECOND READING

Revelation 21:10. 22 – 22:5

A reading from the book of Revelation.

In the spirit the angel carried me away to
a great, high mountain and showed me
the holy city Jerusalem coming down out
of heaven from God. I saw no temple in
the city, for its temple is the Lord God the
Almighty and the Lamb. And the city has
no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for
the glory of God is its light, and its lamp
is the Lamb. The nations will walk by its
light, and the kings of the earth will bring
their glory into it. Its gates will never be
shut by day – and there will be no night
there. People will bring into it the glory
and the honour of the nations. But nothing
unclean will enter it, nor anyone who
practises abomination or falsehood, but
only those who are written in the Lamb's
book of life. Then the angel showed me
the river of the water of life, bright as
crystal, flowing from the throne of God
and of the Lamb through the middle of
the street of the city. On either side of the
river is the tree of life with its twelve kinds
of fruit, producing its fruit each month;
and the leaves of the tree are for the
healing of the nations. Nothing accursed
will be found there any more. But the
throne of God and of the Lamb will be in
it, and his servants will worship him; they
will see his face, and his name will be on
their foreheads. And there will be no more
night; they need no light of lamp or sun,
for the Lord God will be their light, and
they will reign for ever and ever.

Or Acts 16:9-15

GOSPEL

Either John 14:23-29

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

Jesus said to his disciples: "Those who
love me will keep my word, and my
Father will love them, and we will come
to them and make our home with them.

Whoever does not love me does not keep
my words; and the word that you hear is
not mine, but is from the Father who sent
me. I have said these things to you while
I am still with you. But the Advocate, the
Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in
my name, will teach you everything, and
remind you of all that I have said to you.
Peace I leave with you; my peace I give
to you. I do not give to you as the world
gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled,
and do not let them be afraid. You heard
me say to you, 'I am going away, and
I am coming to you.' If you loved me,
you would rejoice that I am going to the
Father, because the Father is greater than
I. And now I have told you this before it
occurs, so that when it does occur, you
may believe."

Or John 5:1-9

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

After this there was a festival of the Jews,
and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. Now in
Jerusalem by the Sheep Gate there is a
pool, called in Hebrew Bethzatha, which
has five porticoes. In these lay many
invalids – blind, lame, and paralysed. One
man was there who had been ill for thirty-
eight years. When Jesus saw him lying
there and knew that he had been there a
long time, he said to him, "Do you want
to be made well?" The sick man answered
him, "Sir, I have no one to put me into
the pool when the water is stirred up; and
while I am making my way, someone else
steps down ahead of me." Jesus said to
him, "Stand up, take your mat and walk."
At once the man was made well, and he
took up his mat and began to walk. Now
that day was a sabbath.

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.

