

## 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** *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

(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.