

COLLECT

Almighty and everlasting God,
you have given us your servants grace,
by the confession of a true faith,
to acknowledge the glory of the eternal
Trinity
and in the power of the divine majesty
to worship the Unity:
keep us steadfast in this faith,
that we may evermore be defended
from all adversities;
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 6:1-8

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

In the year that King Uzziah died I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lofty; and the hem of his robe filled the temple. Seraphs were in attendance above him; each had six wings: with two they covered their faces, and with two they covered their feet, and with two they flew. And one called to another and said: "Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory." The pivots on the thresholds shook at the voices of those who called, and the house filled with smoke. And I said: "Woe is me! I am lost, for I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips; yet my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts!" Then one of the seraphs flew to me, holding a live coal that had been taken from the altar with a pair of tongs. The seraph touched my mouth with it and said: "Now that this has touched your lips, your guilt has departed and your sin is blotted out." Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?" And I said, "Here am I; send me!"

PSALM Psalm 29

R *The Lord shall give his people the blessing of peace.*

or

R *In God's temple all cry "Glory!"*

Ascribe to the Lord, you gods,
ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.
Ascribe to the Lord the glory due to his
name;
worship the Lord in the beauty of
holiness. **R**

The voice of the Lord is upon the waters;
the God of glory thunders;
the Lord is upon the mighty waters.
The voice of the Lord is a powerful
voice;
the voice of the Lord is a voice of
splendour. **R**

The voice of the Lord breaks the cedar
trees;
the Lord breaks the cedars of Lebanon;
He makes Lebanon skip like a calf,
and Mount Hermon like a young wild
ox. **R**

The voice of the Lord splits the flames
of fire;
the voice of the Lord shakes the
wilderness;
the Lord shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.
The voice of the Lord makes the oak
trees writhe
and strips the forests bare.
And in the temple of the Lord
all are crying, "Glory!"
The Lord sits enthroned above the flood;
the Lord sits enthroned as king for
evermore.
The Lord shall give strength to his
people;
the Lord shall give his people the
blessing of peace. **R**

SECOND READING Romans 8:12-17

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans.

Brothers and sisters, we are debtors,
not to the flesh, to live according to the
flesh – for if you live according to the
flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit
you put to death the deeds of the body,
you will live. For all who are led by the
Spirit of God are children of God. For
you did not receive a spirit of slavery
to fall back into fear, but you have
received a spirit of adoption. When we
cry, "Abba! Father!" it is that very Spirit
bearing witness with our spirit that we
are children of God, and if children, then
heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with
Christ – in fact, we suffer with him so
that we may also be glorified with him.

GOSPEL John 3:1-17

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

There was a Pharisee named Nicodemus,
a leader of the Jews. He came to Jesus
by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we

know that you are a teacher who has
come from God; for no one can do
these signs that you do apart from the
presence of God." Jesus answered him,
"Very truly, I tell you, no one can see
the kingdom of God without being born
from above." Nicodemus said to him,
"How can anyone be born after having
grown old? Can one enter a second
time into the mother's womb and be
born?" Jesus answered, "Very truly, I
tell you, no one can enter the kingdom
of God without being born of water
and Spirit. What is born of the flesh is
flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is
spirit. Do not be astonished that I said
to you, 'You must be born from above.'
The wind blows where it chooses, and
you hear the sound of it, but you do
not know where it comes from or where
it goes. So it is with everyone who is
born of the Spirit." Nicodemus said to
him, "How can these things be?" Jesus
answered him, "Are you a teacher of
Israel, and yet you do not understand
these things? Very truly, I tell you, we
speak of what we know and testify to
what we have seen; yet you do not
receive our testimony. If I have told you
about earthly things and you do not
believe, how can you believe if I tell
you about heavenly things? No one has
ascended into heaven except the one
who descended from heaven, the Son
of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the
serpent in the wilderness, so must the
Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever
believes in him may have eternal life. For
God so loved the world that he gave his
only Son, so that everyone who believes
in him may not perish but may have
eternal life. Indeed, God did not send
the Son into the world to condemn the
world, but in order that the world might
be saved through him."

POST COMMUNION

Almighty and eternal God,
you have revealed yourself as Father,
Son and Holy Spirit,
and live and reign in the perfect unity of
love:
hold us firm in this faith,
that we may know you in all your ways
and evermore rejoice in your eternal
glory,
who are three Persons yet one God,
now and for ever.