

COLLECT

Almighty God,
 who through your only-begotten Son
 Jesus Christ
 have overcome death and opened to us
 the gate of everlasting life:
 grant that, as by your grace going before
 us you put into our minds good desires,
 so by your continual help
 we may bring them to good effect;
 through Jesus Christ our risen 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 11:1-18**

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

The apostles and the believers who were in Judea heard that the Gentiles had also accepted the word of God. So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers criticized him, saying, "Why did you go to uncircumcised men and eat with them?" Then Peter began to explain it to them, step by step, saying, "I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision. There was something like a large sheet coming down from heaven, being lowered by its four corners; and it came close to me. As I looked at it closely I saw four-footed animals, beasts of prey, reptiles, and birds of the air. I also heard a voice saying to me, 'Get up, Peter; kill and eat.' But I replied, 'By no means, Lord; for nothing profane or unclean has ever entered my mouth.' But a second

time the voice answered from heaven, 'What God has made clean, you must not call profane.' This happened three times; then everything was pulled up again to heaven. At that very moment three men, sent to me from Caesarea, arrived at the house where we were. The Spirit told me to go with them and not to make a distinction between them and us. These six brothers also accompanied me, and we entered the man's house. He told us how he had seen the angel standing in his house and saying, 'Send to Joppa and bring Simon, who is called Peter; he will give you a message by which you and your entire household will be saved.' And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them just as it had upon us at the beginning. And I remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said, 'John baptised with water, but you will be baptised with the Holy Spirit.' If then God gave them the same gift that he gave us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could hinder God?" When they heard this, they were silenced. And they praised God, saying, "Then God has given even to the Gentiles the repentance that leads to life."

Or **Baruch 3:9-15. 32 – 4:4** or
Genesis 22:1-18

PSALM Psalm 148

R *Praise, O praise the name of the Lord.*

Alleluia.

Praise the Lord from the heavens;
 praise him in the heights.
 Praise him, all you his angels;
 praise him, all his host. R



Praise, O praise the name of the Lord

Praise him, sun and moon;
praise him, all you stars of light.
Praise him, heaven of heavens,
and you waters above the heavens. **R**

Let them praise the name of the Lord;
for he commanded and they were
created.

He made them fast for ever and ever;
he gave them a law which shall not pass
away. **R**

Praise the Lord from the earth,
you sea monsters and all deeps;
Fire and hail, snow and mist,
tempestuous wind, fulfilling his word;
Mountains and all hills,
fruit trees and all cedars;
Wild beasts and all cattle,
creeping things and birds on the wing; **R**

Kings of the earth and all peoples,
princes and all rulers of the world;
Young men and women, old and young
together;
let them praise the name of the Lord. **R**

For his name only is exalted,
his splendour above earth and heaven.
He has raised up the horn of his people
and praise for all his faithful servants,
the children of Israel, a people who are
near him. Alleluia. **R**

SECOND READING Revelation 21:1-6

A reading from the book of Revelation.

I, John, saw a new heaven and a new
earth; for the first heaven and the first
earth had passed away, and the sea was
no more. And I saw the holy city, the new
Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven
from God, prepared as a bride adorned
for her husband. And I heard a loud voice
from the throne saying, "See, the home
of God is among mortals. He will dwell
with them; they will be his peoples, and

God himself will be with them; he will
wipe every tear from their eyes. Death
will be no more; mourning and crying
and pain will be no more, for the first
things have passed away." And the one
who was seated on the throne said,
"See, I am making all things new." Also
he said, "Write this, for these words are
trustworthy and true." Then he said to
me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the
Omega, the beginning and the end. To
the thirsty I will give water as a gift from
the spring of the water of life."

GOSPEL John 13:31-35

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

During the supper, when Judas had
gone out, Jesus said, "Now the Son of
Man has been glorified, and God has
been glorified in him. If God has been
glorified in him, God will also glorify him
in himself and will glorify him at once.
Little children, I am with you only a little
longer. You will look for me; and as I said
to the Jews so now I say to you, 'Where
I am going, you cannot come.' I give you
a new commandment, that you love one
another. Just as I have loved you, you also
should love one another. By this everyone
will know that you are my disciples, if you
have love for one another."

POST COMMUNION

Eternal God,
whose Son Jesus Christ is the way, the
truth, and the life:
grant us to walk in his way,
to rejoice in his truth,
and to share his risen life;
who is alive and reigns, now and for ever.