

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 40:12-17. 27-end

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

Who has measured the waters in the hollow of his hand and marked off the heavens with a span, enclosed the dust of the earth in a measure, and weighed the mountains in scales and the hills in a balance? Who has directed the spirit of the LORD, or as his counsellor has instructed him? Whom did he consult for his enlightenment, and who taught him the path of justice? Who taught him knowledge, and showed him the way of understanding? Even the nations are like a drop from a bucket, and are accounted as dust on the scales; see, he takes up the isles like fine dust. Lebanon would not provide fuel enough, nor are its animals enough for a burnt-offering. All the nations are as nothing before him; they are accounted by him as less than nothing and emptiness. Why do you say, O Jacob, and speak, O Israel, "My way is hidden from the LORD, and my right is disregarded by my God"? Have you not known? Have you not heard? The LORD is the everlasting God,

the Creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint or grow weary; his understanding is unsearchable. He gives power to the faint, and strengthens the powerless. Even youths will faint and be weary, and the young will fall exhausted; but those who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.

PSALM Psalm 8

R O Lord our governor,
how glorious is your name in all the world!

Your majesty above the heavens is praised
 out of the mouths of babes at the breast.
 You have founded a stronghold
 against your foes,
 that you might still the enemy and
 the avenger. **R**

When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers,
 the moon and the stars that you have ordained,
 What are mortals, that you should be mindful of them;
 mere human beings, that you should seek them out? **R**

You have made them little lower than the angels
 and crown them with glory and honour.
 You have given them dominion over the works of their hands
 and put all things under their feet. **R**

All sheep and oxen,
 even the wild beasts of the field,
 The birds of the air, the fish of the sea
 and whatsoever moves in the paths of the sea. **R**

SECOND READING

2 Corinthians 13:11-end

A reading from the second letter of Paul to the Corinthians.

Brothers and sisters, put things in order, listen to my appeal, agree with one another, live in peace; and the God of love and peace will be with you. Greet one another with a holy kiss. All the saints greet you. The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with all of you.

GOSPEL Matthew 28:16-end

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

The eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. When they saw him, they worshipped him; but some doubted. And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

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.

