

Sunday

5 July 2026 Fifth Sunday after Trinity

COLLECT

Almighty and everlasting God,
by whose Spirit the whole body of the
Church is governed and sanctified:
hear our prayer which we offer for all
your faithful people,
that in their vocation and ministry
they may serve you in holiness and
truth
to the glory of your name;
through our Lord and Saviour Jesus
Christ,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

FIRST READING Zechariah 9:9-12

A reading from the book of the prophet Zechariah.

Rejoice greatly, O daughter Zion!
Shout aloud, O daughter Jerusalem!
Lo, your king comes to you;
triumphant and victorious is he,
humble and riding on a donkey, on
a colt, the foal of a donkey. He will
cut off the chariot from Ephraim
and the war horse from Jerusalem;
and the battle-bow shall be cut off,
and he shall command peace to the
nations; his dominion shall be from
sea to sea, and from the River to the
ends of the earth. As for you also,
because of the blood of my covenant
with you, I will set your prisoners free
from the waterless pit. Return to your
stronghold, O prisoners of hope;
today I declare that I will restore to
you double.

Or **Genesis 24:34-38. 42-49. 58-end**

PSALM Psalm 145:8-15

R *Great is the Lord and highly to
be praised.*

The Lord is gracious and merciful,
long-suffering and of great goodness.
The Lord is loving to everyone
and his mercy is over all his creatures. **R**

All your works praise you, O Lord,
and your faithful servants bless you.
They tell of the glory of your kingdom
and speak of your mighty power, **R**

To make known to all peoples your
mighty acts
and the glorious splendour of your
kingdom.
Your kingdom is an everlasting
kingdom;
your dominion endures throughout all
ages. **R**

The Lord is sure in all his words
and faithful in all his deeds.
The Lord upholds all those who fall
and lifts up all those who are bowed
down. **R**

SECOND READING

Romans 7:15-25a

*A reading from the letter of Paul to
the Romans.*

I do not understand my own actions.
For I do not do what I want, but I do
the very thing I hate. Now if I do what
I do not want, I agree that the law is
good. But in fact it is no longer I that
do it, but sin that dwells within me.
For I know that nothing good dwells
within me, that is, in my flesh. I can
will what is right, but I cannot do it.
For I do not do the good I want, but
the evil I do not want is what I do.
Now if I do what I do not want, it is no
longer I that do it, but sin that dwells
within me. So I find it to be a law that
when I want to do what is good, evil
lies close at hand. For I delight in the
law of God in my inmost self, but I see
in my members another law at war
with the law of my mind, making me
captive to the law of sin that dwells
in my members. Wretched man that
I am! Who will rescue me from this
body of death? Thanks be to God
through Jesus Christ our Lord!

GOSPEL

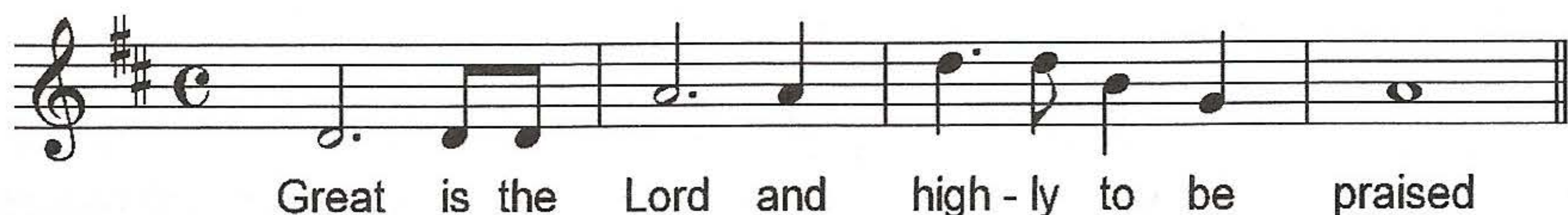
Matthew 11:16-19. 25-end

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

At that time Jesus said, "To what will I
compare this generation?
It is like children sitting in the market-
places and calling to one another,
'We played the flute for you, and you
did not dance; we wailed, and you did
not mourn.' For John came neither
eating nor drinking, and they say, 'He
has a demon'; the Son of Man came
eating and drinking, and they say,
'Look, a glutton and a drunkard, a
friend of tax-collectors and sinners!' Yet
wisdom is vindicated by her deeds.
I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven
and earth, because you have hidden
these things from the wise and the
intelligent and have revealed them to
infants; yes, Father, for such was your
gracious will. All things have been
handed over to me by my Father;
and no one knows the Son except the
Father, and no one knows the Father
except the Son and anyone to whom
the Son chooses to reveal him. Come
to me, all you that are weary and are
carrying heavy burdens, and I will give
you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and
learn from me; for I am gentle and
humble in heart, and you will find rest
for your souls. For my yoke is easy,
and my burden is light."

POST COMMUNION

Grant, O Lord, we beseech you,
that the course of this world may be
so peaceably ordered by
your governance,
that your Church may joyfully serve
you in all godly quietness;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.



Sunday

12 July 2026 Sixth Sunday after Trinity

COLLECT

Merciful God,
you have prepared for those who love you
such good things as pass our
understanding:
pour into our hearts such love toward you
that we, loving you in all things and above
all things,
may obtain your promises,
which exceed all that we can desire;
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 55:10-13

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

Thus says the LORD: As the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return there until they have watered the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and succeed in the thing for which I sent it. For you shall go out in joy, and be led back in peace; the mountains and the hills before you shall burst into song, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands. Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress; instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle; and it shall be to the LORD for a memorial, for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.

Or **Genesis 25:19-end**

PSALM Psalm 65 [or 65:8-end]

R *Be joyful in God, all the earth.*

Praise is due to you, O God, in Zion;
to you that answer prayer shall vows be
paid.
To you shall all flesh come to confess their
sins;
when our misdeeds prevail against us,
you will purge them away. **R**

Happy are they whom you choose
and draw to your courts to dwell there.
We shall be satisfied with the blessings of
your house, even of your holy temple.
With wonders you will answer us in your
righteousness, O God of our salvation,
O hope of all the ends of the earth
and of the farthest seas. **R**

In your strength you set fast the mountains
and are girded about with might.
You still the raging of the seas,
the roaring of their waves
and the clamour of the peoples.
Those who dwell at the ends of the earth
tremble at your marvels;
the gates of the morning and evening sing
your praise. **R**

[You visit the earth and water it;
you make it very plenteous.
The river of God is full of water;
you prepare grain for your people,
for so you provide for the earth.
You drench the furrows and smooth out
the ridges;
you soften the ground with showers and
bless its increase. **R**

You crown the year with your goodness,
and your paths overflow with plenty.
May the pastures of the wilderness flow
with goodness
and the hills be girded with joy.
May the meadows be clothed with flocks
of sheep
and the valleys stand so thick with corn
that they shall laugh and sing.] **R**

SECOND READING Romans 8:1-11

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans.

There is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death. For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do: by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and to deal with sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, so that the just requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law – indeed it cannot, and those who are in the flesh cannot please God. But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. But if Christ is in you,

though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

GOSPEL Matthew 13:1-9. 18-23

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

Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the lake. Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. And he told them many things in parables, saying: "Listen! A sower went out to sow. And as he sowed, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up. Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and since they had no root, they withered away. Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. Let anyone with ears listen! Hear then the parable of the sower. When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path. As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; yet such a person has no root, but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away. As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty."

POST COMMUNION

God of our pilgrimage,
you have led us to the living water:
refresh and sustain us
as we go forward on our journey,
in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.



COLLECT

Lord of all power and might,
the author and giver of all good things:
graft in our hearts the love of your name,
increase in us true religion,
nourish us with all goodness,
and of your great mercy keep us in the same;
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

Either **Wisdom of Solomon 12:13. 16-19**
A reading from the book of Wisdom.

There is not any god besides you, Lord,
whose care is for all people, to whom you
should prove that you have not judged
unjustly; for your strength is the source
of righteousness, and your sovereignty
over all causes you to spare all. For you
show your strength when people doubt
the completeness of your power, and you
rebuke any insolence among those who
know it. Although you are sovereign in
strength, you judge with mildness, and with
great forbearance you govern us; for you
have power to act whenever you choose.
Through such works you have taught your
people that the righteous must be kind,
and you have filled your children with good
hope, because you give repentance for sins.

Or **Isaiah 44:6-8**

*A reading from the book of the prophet
Isaiah.*

Thus says the LORD, the King of Israel,
and his Redeemer, the LORD of hosts:
I am the first and I am the last; besides
me there is no god. Who is like me? Let
them proclaim it, let them declare and set
it forth before me. Who has announced
from of old the things to come? Let them
tell us what is yet to be. Do not fear, or be
afraid; have I not told you from of old and
declared it? You are my witnesses! Is there
any god besides me? There is no other
rock; I know not one.

Or **Genesis 28:10-19a**

PSALM Psalm 86:11-end

R *All nations you have made shall
come and worship you, O Lord.*

Teach me your way, O Lord, and I will
walk in your truth;
knit my heart to you, that I may fear your
name.
I will thank you, O Lord my God, with all
my heart,
and glorify your name for evermore; **R**

For great is your steadfast love towards
me,
for you have delivered my soul from the
depths of the grave.

O God, the proud rise up against me
and a ruthless horde seek after my life;
they have not set you before their eyes. **R**

But you, Lord, are gracious and full of
compassion,
slow to anger and full of kindness and
truth.

Turn to me and have mercy upon me;
give your strength to your servant
and save the child of your handmaid.
Show me a token of your favour,
that those who hate me may see it and
be ashamed;
because you, O Lord, have helped and
comforted me. **R**

SECOND READING Romans 8:12-25

*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 – if, in fact, we suffer with
him so that we may also be glorified with
him. I consider that the sufferings of this
present time are not worth comparing with
the glory about to be revealed to us. For
the creation waits with eager longing for
the revealing of the children of God; for
the creation was subjected to futility, not
of its own will but by the will of the one
who subjected it, in hope that the creation
itself will be set free from its bondage
to decay and will obtain the freedom
of the glory of the children of God. We
know that the whole creation has been
groaning in labour pains until now; and
not only the creation, but we ourselves,
who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan
inwardly while we wait for adoption, the
redemption of our bodies. For in hope we
were saved. Now hope that is seen is not
hope. For who hopes for what is seen?
But if we hope for what we do not see, we
wait for it with patience.

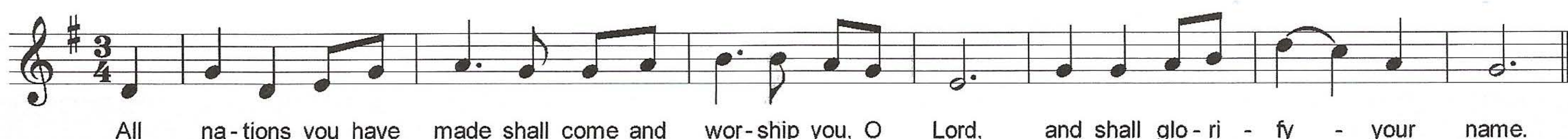
GOSPEL Matthew 13:24-30. 36-43

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

Jesus put before the crowd another
parable: “The kingdom of heaven may be
compared to someone who sowed good
seed in his field; but while everybody was
asleep, an enemy came and sowed weeds
among the wheat, and then went away.
So when the plants came up and bore
grain then the weeds appeared as well.
And the slaves of the householder came
and said to him, ‘Master, did you not sow
good seed in your field? Where, then, did
these weeds come from?’ He answered,
‘An enemy has done this.’ The slaves said
to him, ‘Then do you want us to go and
gather them?’ But he replied, ‘No; for in
gathering the weeds you would uproot
the wheat along with them. Let both of
them grow together until the harvest;
and at harvest time I will tell the reapers,
Collect the weeds first and bind them
in bundles to be burned, but gather the
wheat into my barn.’” Then Jesus left the
crowds and went into the house. And his
disciples approached him, saying, “Explain
to us the parable of the weeds of the
field.” He answered, “The one who sows
the good seed is the Son of Man; the field
is the world, and the good seed are the
children of the kingdom; the weeds are
the children of the evil one and the enemy
who sowed them is the devil; the harvest
is the end of the age, and the reapers are
angels. Just as the weeds are collected
and burned up with fire, so will it be at the
end of the age. The Son of Man will send
his angels, and they will collect out of his
kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers,
and they will throw them into the furnace
of fire, where there will be weeping and
gnashing of teeth. Then the righteous will
shine like the sun in the kingdom of their
Father. Let anyone with ears listen!”

POST COMMUNION

Lord God, whose Son is the true vine and
the source of life,
ever giving himself that the world may
live:
may we so receive within ourselves the
power of his death and passion
that, in his saving cup, we may share his
glory and be made perfect in his love;
for he is alive and reigns, now and for
ever.



COLLECT

Almighty Lord and everlasting God,
we beseech you to direct, sanctify and
govern both our hearts and bodies
in the ways of your laws and the works of
your commandments;
that through your most mighty protection,
both here and ever,
we may be preserved in body and soul;
through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

FIRST READING 1 Kings 3:5-12

A reading from the first book of Kings.

At Gibeon the LORD appeared to Solomon in a dream by night; and God said, "Ask what I should give you." And Solomon said, "You have shown great and steadfast love to your servant my father David, because he walked before you in faithfulness, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart towards you; and you have kept for him this great and steadfast love, and have given him a son to sit on his throne today. And now, O LORD my God, you have made your servant king in place of my father David, although I am only a little child; I do not know how to go out or come in. And your servant is in the midst of the people whom you have chosen, a great people, so numerous they cannot be numbered or counted. Give your servant therefore an understanding mind to govern your people, able to discern between good and evil; for who can govern this your great people?" It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. God said to him, "Because you have asked this, and have not asked for yourself long life or riches, or for the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, I now do according to your word. Indeed I give you a wise and discerning mind; no one like you has been before you and no one like you shall arise after you."

Or **Genesis 29:15-28**

PSALM Psalm 119:129-136

R *The opening of your word gives light.*

Your testimonies are wonderful;
therefore my soul keeps them.
The opening of your word gives light;
it gives understanding to the simple. **R**

I open my mouth and draw in my breath,
as I long for your commandments.
Turn to me and be gracious to me,
as is your way with those who love
your name. **R**

Order my steps by your word,
and let no wickedness have dominion
over me.
Redeem me from earthly oppressors
so that I may keep your commandments. **R**

Show the light of your countenance upon
your servant
and teach me your statutes.
My eyes run down with streams of water,
because the wicked do not keep your
law. **R**

SECOND READING Romans 8:26-end

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans.

The Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words. And God, who searches the heart, knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God. We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn within a large family. And those whom he predestined he also called; and those whom he called he also justified; and those whom he justified he also glorified. What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died, yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? As it is written, "For your sake we are being killed all day long; we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered." No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present,

nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

GOSPEL Matthew 13:31-33. 44-52

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

Jesus put before the crowd another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches." He told them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened. The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field. Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls; on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it. Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a net that was thrown into the sea and caught fish of every kind; when it was full, they drew it ashore, sat down, and put the good into baskets but threw out the bad. So it will be at the end of the age. The angels will come out and separate the evil from the righteous and throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Have you understood all this?" They answered, "Yes." And he said to them, "Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like the master of a household who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old."

POST COMMUNION

Strengthen for service, Lord,
the hands that have taken holy things;
may the ears which have heard your word
be deaf to clamour and dispute;
may the tongues which have sung your
praise be free from deceit;
may the eyes which have seen the tokens
of your love shine with the light of hope;
and may the bodies which have been fed
with your body be refreshed with the
fullness of your life;
glory to you for ever.



The op'-ning of your word gives light.

Sunday

2 August 2026 Ninth Sunday after Trinity

COLLECT

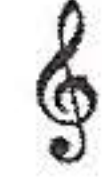
Almighty God,
who sent your Holy Spirit
to be the life and light of your
Church:
open our hearts to the riches of
your grace,
that we may bring forth the fruit of
the Spirit
in love and joy and peace;
through Jesus Christ your Son our
Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

FIRST READING Isaiah 55:1-5

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

The LORD says this: Everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and you that have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labour for that which does not satisfy? Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food. Incline your ear, and come to me; listen, so that you may live. I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David. See, I made him a witness to the peoples, a leader and commander for the peoples. See, you shall call nations that you do not know, and nations that do not know you shall run to you, because of the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, for he has glorified you.

Or **Genesis 32:22-31**

PSALM Psalm 145:8-9. 15-end 
[or 145:15-end]

R Great is the Lord and highly to be praised.

The Lord is gracious and merciful,
long-suffering and of great
goodness.

The Lord is loving to everyone
and his mercy is over all his
creatures. **R**

[The Lord upholds all those who
fall
and lifts up all those who are
bowed down.
The eyes of all wait upon you,
O Lord,
and you give them their food in
due season. **R**

You open wide your hand
and fill all things living with plenty.
The Lord is righteous in all his
ways
and loving in all his works.
The Lord is near to those who call
upon him,
to all who call upon him faithfully. **R**
He fulfils the desire of those who
fear him;
he hears their cry and saves them.
The Lord watches over those who
love him,
but all the wicked shall he destroy.
My mouth shall speak the praise of
the Lord,
and let all flesh bless his holy
name for ever and ever.] **R**

SECOND READING

Romans 9:1-5

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans.

I am speaking the truth in Christ.
I am not lying; my conscience
confirms it by the Holy Spirit. I
have great sorrow and unceasing
anguish in my heart. For I could
wish that I myself were accursed
and cut off from Christ for the sake
of my own people, my kindred
according to the flesh. They are
Israelites, and to them belong the
adoption, the glory, the covenants,
the giving of the law, the worship,
and the promises; to them belong
the patriarchs, and from them,
according to the flesh, comes
the Messiah, who is over all, God
blessed for ever. Amen.

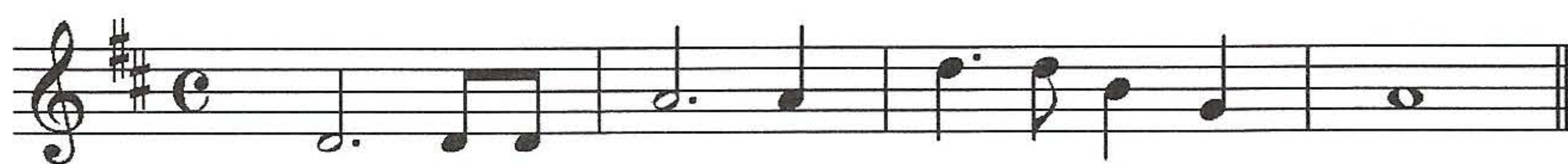
GOSPEL Matthew 14:13-21

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

When Jesus heard that Herod had beheaded John the Baptist, he withdrew in a boat to a deserted place by himself. But when the crowds heard it, they followed him on foot from the towns. When he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had compassion for them and cured their sick. When it was evening, the disciples came to him and said, "This is a deserted place, and the hour is now late; send the crowds away so that they may go into the villages and buy food for themselves." Jesus said to them, "They need not go away; you give them something to eat." They replied, "We have nothing here but five loaves and two fish." And he said, "Bring them here to me." Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven, and blessed and broke the loaves, and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds. And all ate and were filled; and they took up what was left over of the broken pieces, twelve baskets full. And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children.

POST COMMUNION

Holy Father,
who gathered us here around the
table of your Son
to share this meal with the whole
household of God:
in that new world where you reveal
the fullness of your peace,
gather people of every race and
language to share in the eternal
banquet of Jesus Christ our
Lord.



Great is the Lord and high - ly to be praised

COLLECT

Let your merciful ears, O Lord,
be open to the prayers of your humble
servants;
and that they may obtain their petitions
make them to ask such things as shall
please you;
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 1 Kings 19:9-18

A reading from the first book of Kings.

When Elijah reached Horeb, the mountain of God, he came to a cave, and spent the night there. Then the word of the LORD came to him, saying, "What are you doing here, Elijah?" He answered, "I have been very zealous for the LORD, the God of hosts; for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away." He said, "Go out and stand on the mountain before the LORD, for the LORD is about to pass by." Now there was a great wind, so strong that it was splitting mountains and breaking rocks in pieces before the LORD, but the LORD was not in the wind; and after the wind an earthquake, but the LORD was not in the earthquake; and after the earthquake a fire, but the LORD was not in the fire; and after the fire a sound of sheer silence. When Elijah heard it, he wrapped his face in his mantle and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave. Then there came a voice to him that said, "What are you doing here, Elijah?" He answered, "I have been very zealous for the LORD, the God of hosts; for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away." Then the LORD said to him, "Go, return on your way to the wilderness of Damascus; when you arrive, you shall anoint Hazael as king over Aram. Also you shall anoint Jehu son of Nimshi as king over Israel; and you shall anoint Elisha son of Shaphat of Abel-meholah as prophet in your place. Whoever escapes from the sword of Hazael, Jehu shall kill; and whoever

escapes from the sword of Jehu, Elisha shall kill. Yet I will leave seven thousand in Israel, all the knees that have not bowed to Baal, and every mouth that has not kissed him."

Or **Genesis 37:1-4. 12-28**

PSALM Psalm 85:8-13

R Show us your mercy, O Lord.

I will listen to what the Lord God will say,
for he shall speak peace to his people
and to the faithful, that they turn not
again to folly.
Truly, his salvation is near to those who
fear him,
that his glory may dwell in our land. **R**

Mercy and truth are met together,
righteousness and peace have kissed
each other;
Truth shall spring up from the earth
and righteousness look down from
heaven. **R**

The Lord will indeed give all that is
good,
and our land will yield its increase.
Righteousness shall go before him
and direct his steps in the way. **R**

SECOND READING Romans 10:5-15

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans.

Moses writes concerning the righteousness that comes from the law, that "the person who does these things will live by them." But the righteousness that comes from faith says, "Do not say in your heart, 'Who will ascend into heaven?'" (that is, to bring Christ down) "or 'Who will descend into the abyss?'" (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead). But what does it say? "The word is near you, on your lips and in your heart" (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); because if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For one believes with the heart and so is justified, and one confesses with the mouth and so is saved. The scripture says, "No one who believes in him will be put to shame." For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous

to all who call on him. For, "Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved." But how are they to call on one in whom they have not believed? And how are they to believe in one of whom they have never heard? And how are they to hear without someone to proclaim him? And how are they to proclaim him unless they are sent? As it is written, "How beautiful are the feet of those who bring good news!"

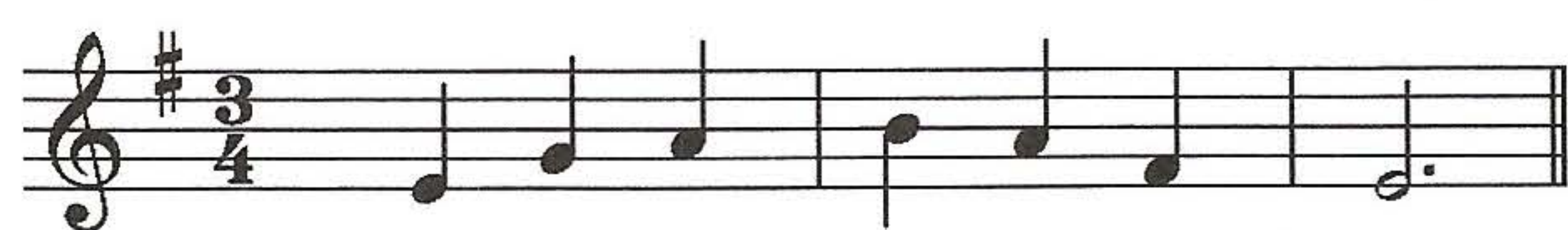
GOSPEL Matthew 14:22-33

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

Immediately after feeding the crowd with the five loaves and two fish, Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, but by this time the boat, battered by the waves, was far from the land, for the wind was against them. And early in the morning he came walking towards them on the lake. But when the disciples saw him walking on the lake, they were terrified, saying, "It is a ghost!" And they cried out in fear. But immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, "Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid." Peter answered him, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water." He said, "Come." So Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water, and came towards Jesus. But when he noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and beginning to sink, he cried out, "Lord, save me!" Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, "You of little faith, why did you doubt?" When they got into the boat, the wind ceased. And those in the boat worshipped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God."

POST COMMUNION

God of our pilgrimage,
you have willed that the gate of mercy
should stand open for those who trust
in you:
look upon us with your favour
that we who follow the path of your will
may never wander from the way of life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.



Show us your mer-cy, O Lord.

Sunday

16 August 2026 Eleventh Sunday after Trinity

COLLECT

O God, you declare your almighty power most chiefly in showing mercy and pity: mercifully grant to us such a measure of your grace, that we, running the way of your commandments, may receive your gracious promises, and be made partakers of your heavenly treasure; 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 56:1. 6-8

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

Thus says the LORD: Maintain justice, and do what is right, for soon my salvation will come, and my deliverance be revealed. And the foreigners who join themselves to the LORD, to minister to him, to love the name of the LORD, and to be his servants, all who keep the sabbath, and do not profane it, and hold fast my covenant – these I will bring to my holy mountain, and make them joyful in my house of prayer; their burnt-offerings and their sacrifices will be accepted on my altar; for my house shall be called a house of prayer for all peoples. Thus says the Lord GOD, who gathers the outcasts of Israel, I will gather others to them besides those already gathered.

Or **Genesis 45:1-15**

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

Romans 11:1-2a. 29-32

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans.

I ask, then, has God rejected his people? By no means! I myself am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, a member of the tribe of Benjamin. God has not rejected his people whom he foreknew. For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. Just as you were once disobedient to God but have now received mercy because of their disobedience, so they have now been disobedient in order that, by the mercy shown to you, they too may now receive mercy. For God has imprisoned all in disobedience so that he may be merciful to all.

GOSPEL (Short or long reading)

Matthew 15:[10-20] 21-28

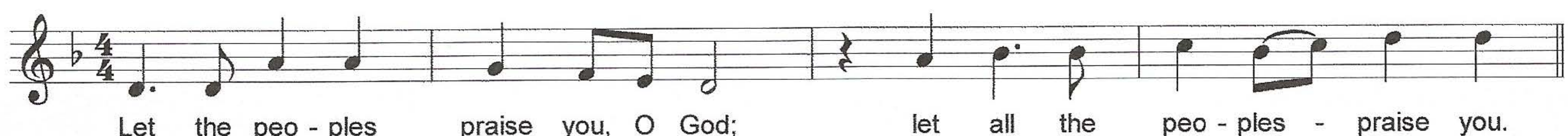
Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

[Then Jesus called the crowd to him and said to them, "Listen and understand: it is not what goes into the mouth that defiles a person, but it is what comes out of the mouth that defiles." Then the disciples approached and said to him, "Do you know that the Pharisees took offence when they heard what you said?" He answered, "Every plant that my heavenly Father has not planted will be uprooted. Let them alone; they are blind guides of the blind. And if one blind person guides another, both will fall into a pit." But Peter said to him, "Explain this parable to us." Then he said, "Are you also still without

understanding? Do you not see that whatever goes into the mouth enters the stomach, and goes out into the sewer? But what comes out of the mouth proceeds from the heart, and this is what defiles. For out of the heart come evil intentions, murder, adultery, fornication, theft, false witness, slander. These are what defile a person, but to eat with unwashed hands does not defile." Jesus went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. A Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, "Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon." But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, "Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us." He answered, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." But she came and knelt before him, saying, "Lord, help me." He answered, "It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." She said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' table." Then Jesus answered her, "Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish." And her daughter was healed instantly.

POST COMMUNION

Lord of all mercy,
we your faithful people have
celebrated that one true sacrifice
which takes away our sins and brings
pardon and peace:
by our communion
keep us firm on the foundation of the
gospel
and preserve us from all sin;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.



COLLECT

Almighty and everlasting God,
you are always more ready to hear than
we to pray
and to give more than either we desire
or deserve:
pour down upon us the abundance of
your mercy,
forgiving us those things of which our
conscience is afraid
and giving us those good things which
we are not worthy to ask
but through the merits and mediation
of 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 51:1-6

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

Listen to me, you that pursue
righteousness, you that seek the LORD.
Look to the rock from which you were
hewn, and to the quarry from which you
were dug. Look to Abraham your father
and to Sarah who bore you; for he was
but one when I called him, but I blessed
him and made him many. For the LORD
will comfort Zion; he will comfort all
her waste places, and will make her
wilderness like Eden, her desert like the
garden of the LORD; joy and gladness
will be found in her, thanksgiving and
the voice of song. Listen to me, my
people, and give heed to me, my
nation; for a teaching will go out from
me, and my justice for a light to the
peoples. I will bring near my deliverance
swiftly, my salvation has gone out and
my arms will rule the peoples; the
coastlands wait for me, and for my arm
they hope. Lift up your eyes to the
heavens, and look at the earth beneath;
for the heavens will vanish like smoke,
the earth will wear out like a garment,
and those who live on it will die like
gnats; but my salvation will be for ever,
and my deliverance will never be ended.

Or **Exodus 1:8 – 2:10**

PSALM Psalm 138

R Your loving-kindness, O Lord,
endures for ever.

I will give thanks to you, O Lord, with
my whole heart;
before the gods will I sing praise to you.
I will bow down towards your holy
temple and praise your name, because
of your love and faithfulness;
for you have glorified your name
and your word above all things. **R**

In the day that I called to you, you
answered me;
you put new strength in my soul.
All the kings of the earth shall praise
you, O Lord,
for they have heard the words of your
mouth. **R**

They shall sing of the ways of the Lord,
that great is the glory of the Lord.
Though the Lord be high, he watches
over the lowly;
as for the proud, he regards them
from afar. **R**

Though I walk in the midst of trouble,
you will preserve me;
you will stretch forth your hand against
the fury of my enemies; your right
hand will save me.
The Lord shall make good his purpose
for me;
your loving-kindness, O Lord, endures
for ever; forsake not the work of your
hands. **R**

SECOND READING Romans 12:1-8

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans.

I appeal to you therefore, brothers
and sisters, by the mercies of God,
to present your bodies as a living
sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God,
which is your spiritual worship. Do not
be conformed to this world, but be
transformed by the renewing of your
minds, so that you may discern what
is the will of God – what is good and
acceptable and perfect. For by the
grace given to me I say to everyone
among you not to think of yourself
more highly than you ought to think,
but to think with sober judgement, each
according to the measure of faith that

God has assigned. For as in one body
we have many members, and not all
the members have the same function,
so we, who are many, are one body in
Christ, and individually we are members
one of another. We have gifts that
differ according to the grace given to
us: prophecy, in proportion to faith;
ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in
teaching; the exhorter, in exhortation;
the giver, in generosity; the leader,
in diligence; the compassionate, in
cheerfulness.

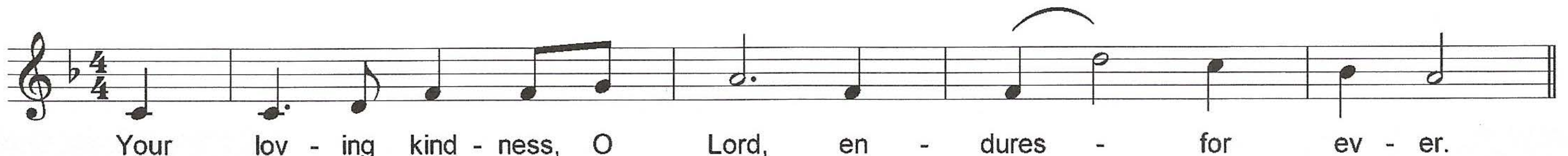
GOSPEL Matthew 16:13-20

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

Now when Jesus came into the district
of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his
disciples, "Who do people say that the
Son of Man is?" And they said, "Some
say John the Baptist, but others Elijah,
and still others Jeremiah or one of the
prophets." He said to them, "But who
do you say that I am?" Simon Peter
answered, "You are the Messiah, the
Son of the living God." And Jesus
answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon
son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has
not revealed this to you, but my Father
in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter,
and on this rock I will build my church,
and the gates of Hades will not prevail
against it. I will give you the keys of the
kingdom of heaven, and whatever you
bind on earth will be bound in heaven,
and whatever you loose on earth will
be loosed in heaven." Then he sternly
ordered the disciples not to tell anyone
that he was the Messiah.

POST COMMUNION

God of all mercy,
in this eucharist you have set aside our
sins
and given us your healing:
grant that we who are made whole in
Christ
may bring that healing to this broken
world,
in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.



COLLECT

Almighty God,
who called your Church to bear witness
that you were in Christ reconciling the
world to yourself:
help us to proclaim the good news of
your love,
that all who hear it may be drawn to
you;
through him who was lifted up on the
cross,
and reigns with you in the unity of the
Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

FIRST READING Jeremiah 15:15-21

A reading from the book of the prophet Jeremiah.

O LORD, you know; remember me and visit me, and bring down retribution for me on my persecutors. In your forbearance do not take me away; know that on your account I suffer insult. Your words were found, and I ate them, and your words became to me a joy and the delight of my heart; for I am called by your name, O LORD, God of hosts. I did not sit in the company of merry-makers, nor did I rejoice; under the weight of your hand I sat alone, for you had filled me with indignation. Why is my pain unceasing, my wound incurable, refusing to be healed? Truly, you are to me like a deceitful brook, like waters that fail. Therefore thus says the LORD: If you turn back, I will take you back, and you shall stand before me. If you utter what is precious, and not what is worthless, you shall serve as my mouth. It is they who will turn to you, not you who will turn to them. And I will make you to this people a fortified wall of bronze; they will fight against you, but they shall not prevail over you, for I am with you to save you and deliver you, says the LORD. I will deliver you out of the hand of the wicked, and redeem you from the grasp of the ruthless.

Or **Exodus 3:1-15**

PSALM Psalm 26:1-8

R Lord, I love the place where your glory abides.

Give judgement for me, O Lord,
for I have walked with integrity;
I have trusted in the Lord and have not
faltered.

Test me, O Lord, and try me;
examine my heart and my mind. **R**

For your love is before my eyes;
I have walked in your truth.
I have not joined the company of the
false,
nor consorted with the deceitful. **R**

I hate the gathering of evildoers
and I will not sit down with the wicked.
I will wash my hands in innocence,
O Lord,
that I may go about your altar, **R**

To make heard the voice of thanksgiving
and tell of all your wonderful deeds.
Lord, I love the house of your habitation
and the place where your glory abides. **R**

SECOND READING Romans 12:9-end

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans.

Let love be genuine; hate what is evil,
hold fast to what is good; love one
another with mutual affection; outdo
one another in showing honour. Do
not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit,
serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope, be
patient in suffering, persevere in prayer.
Contribute to the needs of the saints;
extend hospitality to strangers. Bless
those who persecute you; bless and do
not curse them. Rejoice with those who
rejoice, weep with those who weep.
Live in harmony with one another; do
not be haughty, but associate with the
lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you
are. Do not repay anyone evil for evil,
but take thought for what is noble in
the sight of all. If it is possible, so far as
it depends on you, live peaceably with
all. Beloved, never avenge yourselves,
but leave room for the wrath of God;
for it is written, "Vengeance is mine, I
will repay, says the Lord." No, "if your
enemies are hungry, feed them; if they

are thirsty, give them something to
drink; for by doing this you will heap
burning coals on their heads." Do not
be overcome by evil, but overcome evil
with good.

GOSPEL Matthew 16:21-end

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

From that time on, Jesus began to
show his disciples that he must go to
Jerusalem and undergo great suffering
at the hands of the elders and chief
priests and scribes, and be killed, and
on the third day be raised. And Peter
took him aside and began to rebuke
him, saying, "God forbid it, Lord! This
must never happen to you." But he
turned and said to Peter, "Get behind
me, Satan! You are a stumbling-block to
me; for you are setting your mind not
on divine things but on human things."
Then Jesus told his disciples, "If any
want to become my followers, let them
deny themselves and take up their cross
and follow me. For those who want to
save their life will lose it, and those who
lose their life for my sake will find it.
For what will it profit them if they gain
the whole world but forfeit their life?
Or what will they give in return for their
life? For the Son of Man is to come with
his angels in the glory of his Father, and
then he will repay everyone for what has
been done. Truly I tell you, there are
some standing here who will not taste
death before they see the Son of Man
coming in his kingdom."

POST COMMUNION

God our creator,
you feed your children with the true
manna,
the living bread from heaven:
let this holy food sustain us through our
earthly pilgrimage
until we come to that place
where hunger and thirst are no more;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.



COLLECT

Almighty God,
whose only Son has opened for us
a new and living way into your
presence:
give us pure hearts and steadfast
wills
to worship you in spirit and in truth;
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 Ezekiel 33:7-11

A reading from the book of the prophet Ezekiel.

The word of the Lord came to me: So you, mortal, I have made a sentinel for the house of Israel; whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me. If I say to the wicked, "O wicked ones, you shall surely die," and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but their blood I will require at your hand. But if you warn the wicked to turn from their ways, and they do not turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but you will have saved your life. Now you, mortal, say to the house of Israel, Thus you have said: "Our transgressions and our sins weigh upon us, and we waste away because of them; how then can we live?" Say to them, As I live, says the Lord GOD, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from their ways and live; turn back, turn back from your evil ways; for why will you die, O house of Israel?

Or **Exodus 12:1-14**

PSALM Psalm 119:33-40

R *My delight shall be in your commandments.*

Teach me, O Lord, the way of your statutes
and I shall keep it to the end.

Give me understanding and I shall keep your law;
I shall keep it with my whole heart. **R**

Lead me in the path of your commandments,
for therein is my delight.
Incline my heart to your testimonies
and not to unjust gain.
Turn away my eyes lest they gaze on vanities;
O give me life in your ways. **R**

Confirm to your servant your promise,
which stands for all who fear you.
Turn away the reproach which I dread,
because your judgements are good.
Behold, I long for your commandments;
in your righteousness give me life. **R**

SECOND READING

Romans 13:8-end

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans.

Owe no one anything, except to love one another; for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. The commandments, "You shall not commit adultery; You shall not murder; You shall not steal; You shall not covet"; and any other commandment, are summed up in this word, "Love your neighbour as yourself." Love does no wrong to a neighbour; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law. Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armour of light; let us live honourably as in the day, not in

revelling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarrelling and jealousy. Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

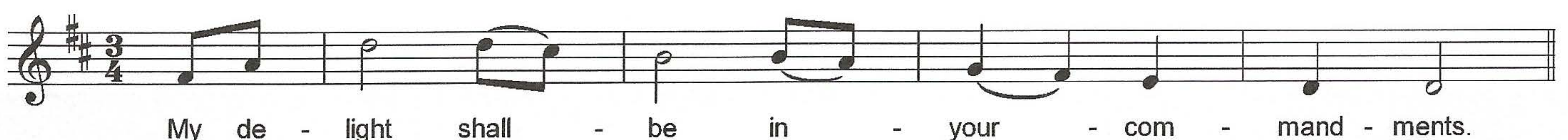
GOSPEL Matthew 18:15-20

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

Jesus spoke to his disciples. "If another member of the church sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If the member listens to you, you have regained that one. But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. If the member refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a Gentile and a tax-collector. Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them."

POST COMMUNION

Lord God, the source of truth and love,
keep us faithful to the apostles' teaching and fellowship,
united in prayer and the breaking of bread,
and one in joy and simplicity of heart,
in Jesus Christ our Lord.



COLLECT

God, who in generous mercy sent the Holy Spirit upon your Church in the burning fire of your love: grant that your people may be fervent in the fellowship of the gospel that, always abiding in you, they may be found steadfast in faith and active in service; 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 Genesis 50:15-21

A reading from the book of Genesis.

Realising that their father was dead, Joseph's brothers said, "What if Joseph still bears a grudge against us and pays us back in full for all the wrong that we did to him?" So they approached Joseph, saying, "Your father gave this instruction before he died, 'Say to Joseph: I beg you, forgive the crime of your brothers and the wrong they did in harming you.' Now therefore please forgive the crime of the servants of the God of your father." Joseph wept when they spoke to him. Then his brothers also wept, fell down before him, and said, "We are here as your slaves." But Joseph said to them, "Do not be afraid! Am I in the place of God? Even though you intended to do harm to me, God intended it for good, in order to preserve a numerous people, as he is doing today. So have no fear; I myself will provide for you and your little ones." In this way he reassured them, speaking kindly to them.

Or **Exodus 14:19-end**

PSALM Psalm 103:1-13 [or 103:8-13]

R *The Lord is full of compassion and mercy.*

Bless the Lord, O my soul,
and all that is within me bless his holy name.

Bless the Lord, O my soul,
and forget not all his benefits; **R**

Who forgives all your sins
and heals all your infirmities;
Who redeems your life from the Pit
and crowns you with faithful love and compassion; **R**

Who satisfies you with good things,
so that your youth is renewed like an eagle's.
The Lord executes righteousness
and judgement for all who are oppressed. **R**

He made his ways known to Moses
and his works to the children of Israel.
[The Lord is full of compassion and mercy,
slow to anger and of great kindness. **R**

He will not always accuse us,
neither will he keep his anger for ever.
He has not dealt with us according to
our sins,
nor rewarded us according to our
wickedness. **R**

For as the heavens are high above
the earth,
so great is his mercy upon those who
fear him.

As far as the east is from the west,
so far has he set our sins from us.
As a father has compassion on his children,
so is the Lord merciful towards those who
fear him.] **R**

SECOND READING Romans 14:1-12

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans.

Welcome those who are weak in faith, but not for the purpose of quarrelling over opinions. Some believe in eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgement on those who eat; for God has welcomed them. Who are you to pass judgement on servants of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand. Some judge one day to be better than another, while others judge all days to be alike. Let all be fully convinced in their own minds. Those who observe the day, observe it in honour of the Lord. Also those who eat, eat in honour of the Lord, since they give thanks to God; while those who abstain, abstain in honour of the Lord and give thanks to God. We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living. Why do you pass judgement on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgement seat of God. For it is written, "As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to me, and every tongue shall give praise to God." So then, each of us will be accountable to God.

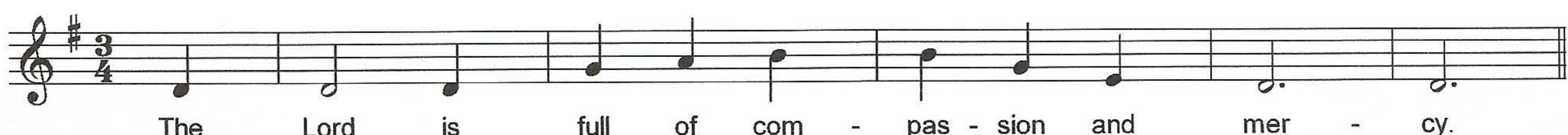
GOSPEL Matthew 18:21-35

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

Peter came and said to Jesus, "Lord, if another member of the church sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?" Jesus said to him, "Not seven times, but, I tell you, seventy-seven times. For this reason the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who wished to settle accounts with his slaves. When he began the reckoning, one who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him; and, as he could not pay, his lord ordered him to be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, and payment to be made. So the slave fell on his knees before him, saying, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you everything.' And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt. But that same slave, as he went out, came upon one of his fellow-slaves who owed him a hundred denarii; and seizing him by the throat, he said, 'Pay what you owe.' Then his fellow-slave fell down and pleaded with him, 'Have patience with me, and I will pay you.' But he refused; then he went and threw him into prison until he would pay the debt. When his fellow-slaves saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed, and they went and reported to their lord all that had taken place. Then his lord summoned him and said to him, 'You wicked slave! I forgave you all that debt because you pleaded with me. Should you not have had mercy on your fellow-slave, as I had mercy on you?' And in anger his lord handed him over to be tortured until he would pay his entire debt. So my heavenly Father will also do to every one of you, if you do not forgive your brother or sister from your heart."

POST COMMUNION

Keep, O Lord, your Church,
with your perpetual mercy;
and, because without you our human
frailty cannot but fall,
keep us ever by your help from all things
hurtful,
and lead us to all things profitable to our
salvation;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.



COLLECT

O Lord, we beseech you mercifully to hear the prayers of your people who call upon you;

and grant that they may both perceive and know what things they ought to do, and also may have grace and power faithfully to fulfil them;

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 Jonah 3:10 – end of 4

A reading from the book of Jonah.

When God saw what the people of Nineveh did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it. But this was very displeasing to Jonah, and he became angry. He prayed to the LORD and said, "O LORD! Is not this what I said while I was still in my own country? That is why I fled to Tarshish at the beginning; for I knew that you are a gracious God and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love, and ready to relent from punishing. And now, O LORD, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live." And the LORD said, "Is it right for you to be angry?" Then Jonah went out of the city and sat down east of the city, and made a booth for himself there. He sat under it in the shade, waiting to see what would become of the city. The LORD God appointed a bush, and made it come up over Jonah, to give shade over his head, to save him from his discomfort; so Jonah was very happy about the bush. But when dawn came up the next day, God appointed a worm that attacked the bush, so that it withered. When the sun rose, God prepared a sultry east wind, and the sun beat down on the head of Jonah so that he was faint and asked that he might die. He said, "It is better for me to die than to live." But God said to Jonah, "Is it right for you to be angry about the bush?" And he said, "Yes, angry enough to die." Then the LORD said, "You are concerned about the bush, for which you did not labour and which you did not grow; it came into being in a night and perished in a night. And should I not be concerned about Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand people who do not

know their right hand from their left, and also many animals?"

Or **Exodus 16:2-15**

PSALM Psalm 145:1-8

R Great is the Lord and highly to be praised.

I will exalt you, O God my King, and bless your name for ever and ever. Every day will I bless you and praise your name for ever and ever. Great is the Lord and highly to be praised; his greatness is beyond all searching out. **R**

One generation shall praise your works to another and declare your mighty acts. They shall speak of the majesty of your glory, and I will tell of all your wonderful deeds. **R**

They shall speak of the might of your marvellous acts, and I will also tell of your greatness. They shall pour forth the story of your abundant kindness and joyfully sing of your righteousness. The Lord is gracious and merciful, long-suffering and of great goodness. **R**

SECOND READING Philippians 1:21-end

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Philippians.

For to me, living is Christ and dying is gain. If I am to live in the flesh, that means fruitful labour for me; and I do not know which I prefer. I am hard pressed between the two: my desire is to depart and be with Christ, for that is far better; but to remain in the flesh is more necessary for you. Since I am convinced of this, I know that I will remain and continue with all of you for your progress and joy in faith, so that I may share abundantly in your boasting in Christ Jesus when I come to you again. Only, live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, so that, whether I come and see you or am absent and hear about you, I will know that you are standing firm in one spirit, striving side by side with one mind for the faith of the gospel, and are in no way intimidated by your opponents. For them this is evidence of their destruction, but of your salvation. And this is God's doing. For he has graciously granted you the privilege not only of believing in Christ, but of suffering for him as well – since you are having the

same struggle that you saw I had and now hear that I still have.

GOSPEL Matthew 20:1-16

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

Jesus said to his disciples: "The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire labourers for his vineyard. After agreeing with the labourers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the market-place; and he said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.' So they went. When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, 'Why are you standing here idle all day?' They said to him, 'Because no one has hired us.' He said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard.' When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, 'Call the labourers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.' When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, saying, 'These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.' But he replied to one of them, 'Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?' So the last will be first, and the first will be last."

POST COMMUNION

Almighty God, you have taught us through your Son that love is the fulfilling of the law: grant that we may love you with our whole heart and our neighbours as ourselves; through Jesus Christ our Lord.



Great is the Lord and highly to be praised

COLLECT

Almighty God,
you have made us for yourself,
and our hearts are restless till they find
their rest in you:
pour your love into our hearts and draw
us to yourself,
and so bring us at last to your heavenly
city
where we shall see you face to face;
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

Either **Ezekiel 18:1-4. 25-end**

A reading from the book of the prophet Ezekiel.

The word of the LORD came to me:
What do you mean by repeating this
proverb concerning the land of Israel,
"The parents have eaten sour grapes,
and the children's teeth are set on
edge"? As I live, says the Lord GOD, this
proverb shall no more be used by you in
Israel. Know that all lives are mine; the
life of the parent as well as the life of the
child is mine: it is only the person who
sins that shall die. Yet you say, "The way
of the Lord is unfair." Hear now, O house
of Israel: Is my way unfair? Is it not your
ways that are unfair? When the righteous
turn away from their righteousness and
commit iniquity, they shall die for it; for
the iniquity that they have committed
they shall die. Again, when the wicked
turn away from the wickedness they have
committed and do what is lawful and
right, they shall save their life. Because
they considered and turned away from
all the transgressions that they had
committed, they shall surely live; they
shall not die. Yet the house of Israel
says, "The way of the Lord is unfair." O
house of Israel, are my ways unfair? Is it
not your ways that are unfair? Therefore
I will judge you, O house of Israel, all
of you according to your ways, says the
Lord GOD. Repent and turn from all your
transgressions; otherwise iniquity will
be your ruin. Cast away from you all the
transgressions that you have committed
against me, and get yourselves a new
heart and a new spirit! Why will you die,
O house of Israel? For I have no pleasure
in the death of anyone, says the Lord
GOD. Turn, then, and live.

Or **Exodus 17:1-7**



PSALM Psalm 25:1-8

R Remember, Lord, your compassion
and love.

To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul;
O my God, in you I trust;
let me not be put to shame;
let not my enemies triumph over me.
Let none who look to you be put to
shame,
but let the treacherous be shamed and
frustrated. **R**

Make me to know your ways, O Lord,
and teach me your paths.
Lead me in your truth and teach me,
for you are the God of my salvation;
for you have I hoped all the day long. **R**

Remember, Lord, your compassion
and love,
for they are from everlasting.
Remember not the sins of my youth
or my transgressions,
but think on me in your goodness,
O Lord,
according to your steadfast love. **R**

Gracious and upright is the Lord;
therefore shall he teach sinners in the
way.

He will guide the humble in doing right
and teach his way to the lowly. **R**

SECOND READING Philippians 2:1-13

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Philippians.

If then there is any encouragement in
Christ, any consolation from love, any
sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and
sympathy, make my joy complete: be of
the same mind, having the same love,
being in full accord and of one mind. Do
nothing from selfish ambition or conceit,
but in humility regard others as better
than yourselves. Let each of you look not
to your own interests, but to the interests
of others. Let the same mind be in you
that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he
was in the form of God, did not regard
equality with God as something to be
exploited, but emptied himself, taking
the form of a slave, being born in human
likeness. And being found in human
form, he humbled himself and became
obedient to the point of death – even
death on a cross. Therefore God also
highly exalted him and gave him the
name that is above every name, so that
at the name of Jesus every knee should
bend, in heaven and on earth and under
the earth, and every tongue should

confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the
glory of God the Father. Therefore, my
beloved, just as you have always obeyed
me, not only in my presence, but much
more now in my absence, work out your
own salvation with fear and trembling;
for it is God who is at work in you,
enabling you both to will and to work for
his good pleasure.

GOSPEL Matthew 21:23-32

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

When Jesus entered the temple, the
chief priests and the elders of the people
came to him as he was teaching, and
said, "By what authority are you doing
these things, and who gave you this
authority?" Jesus said to them, "I will
also ask you one question; if you tell
me the answer, then I will also tell you
by what authority I do these things. Did
the baptism of John come from heaven,
or was it of human origin?" And they
argued with one another, "If we say,
'From heaven,' he will say to us, 'Why
then did you not believe him?' But if
we say, 'Of human origin,' we are afraid
of the crowd; for all regard John as a
prophet." So they answered Jesus, "We
do not know." And he said to them,
"Neither will I tell you by what authority
I am doing these things. What do you
think? A man had two sons; he went to
the first and said, 'Son, go and work in
the vineyard today.' He answered, 'I will
not'; but later he changed his mind and
went. The father went to the second and
said the same; and he answered, 'I go,
sir'; but he did not go. Which of the two
did the will of his father?" They said,
"The first." Jesus said to them, "Truly
I tell you, the tax-collectors and the
prostitutes are going into the kingdom of
God ahead of you. For John came to you
in the way of righteousness and you did
not believe him, but the tax-collectors
and the prostitutes believed him; and
even after you saw it, you did not change
your minds and believe him."

POST COMMUNION

Lord, we pray that your grace
may always precede and follow us,
and make us continually to be given to
all good works;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.