

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

(Alternative readings)

Either **Isaiah 40:12-17. 27-31**

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.

Or **Genesis 1:1 – 2:4a**

PSALM Psalm 8

R [O Lord our governor,] how
exalted is your name in all
the earth.

O Lord our governor,
how exalted is your name in all
the world!
Out of the mouths of infants and
children
your majesty is praised above the
heavens.
You have set up a stronghold
against your adversaries,
to quell the enemy and the
avenger. **R**

When I consider your heavens,
the work of your fingers,
the moon and the stars you have
set in their courses,
What are mortals, that you should
be mindful of them?
mere human beings, that you
should seek them out?
You have made them little lower
than the angels;
you adorn them with glory and
honour. **R**

You give them mastery over the
works of your hands;
and put all things under their feet,
All sheep and oxen,
even the wild beasts of the field,
The birds of the air, the fish of the
sea,
and whatsoever walks in the paths
of the sea. **R**

SECOND READING

2 Corinthians 13:11-13

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 28:16-20

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, baptizing 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.