

COLLECT

Almighty Father,
you have given your only Son to die for
our sins
and to rise again for our justification:
grant us so to put away the leaven of
malice and wickedness
that we may always serve you
in pureness of living and truth;
through the merits of your Son Jesus
Christ our 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 5:27-32

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

When the temple police had brought the apostles, they made them stand before the council. The high priest questioned them, saying, "We gave you strict orders not to teach in this name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching and you are determined to bring this man's blood on us." But Peter and the apostles answered, "We must obey God rather than any human authority. The God of our ancestors raised up Jesus, whom you had killed by hanging him on a tree. God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Saviour that he might give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey him."

Or Exodus 14:10-end; 15:20. 21

PSALM

Either Psalm 118:14-end

R *This is the day that the Lord has made;
we will rejoice and be glad in it.*

or

R *Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;
his mercy endures for ever.*

The Lord is my strength and my song,
and he has become my salvation.
There is a sound of exultation and victory
in the tents of the righteous:
"The right hand of the Lord has
triumphed!
the right hand of the Lord is exalted!
the right hand of the Lord has triumphed!"

R

I shall not die, but live,
and declare the works of the Lord.
The Lord has punished me sorely,
but he did not hand me over to death.
Open for me the gates of righteousness;
I will enter them; I will offer thanks to the
Lord. **R**

"This is the gate of the Lord;
whoever is righteous may enter."
I will give thanks to you, for you answered
me
and have become my salvation.
The same stone which the builders
rejected
has become the chief corner-stone.
This is the Lord's doing,
and it is marvellous in our eyes. **R**

On this day the Lord has acted;
we will rejoice and be glad in it.
Hosanna, Lord, hosanna!
Lord, send us now success.
Blessèd is he who comes in the name of
the Lord;
we bless you from the house of the Lord. **R**

God is the Lord; he has shined upon us;
form a procession with branches
up to the horns of the altar.

"You are my God and I will thank you;
you are my God and I will exalt you."
Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;
his mercy endures for ever. **R**

Or Psalm 150

R *Praise God in his holy temple.*

Alleluia!

Praise God in his holy temple;
Praise him in the firmament of his power.
Praise him for his mighty acts;
praise him for his excellent greatness. **R**

Praise him with the blast of the
ram's-horn;
praise him with lyre and harp.
Praise him with timbrel and dance;
praise him with strings and pipe. **R**

Praise him with resounding cymbals;
praise him with loud-clanging cymbals.
Let everything that has breath
praise the Lord. Alleluia! **R**

SECOND READING Revelation 1:4-8

A reading from the book of Revelation.

John to the seven churches that are in Asia:
Grace to you and peace from him who is
and who was and who is to come, and from
the seven spirits who are before his throne,
and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness,
the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of
the kings of the earth. To him who loves
us and freed us from our sins by his blood,
and made us to be a kingdom, priests
serving his God and Father, to him be glory
and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.
Look! He is coming with the clouds; every
eye will see him, even those who pierced
him; and on his account all the tribes of the
earth will wail. So it is to be. Amen. "I am
the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord
God, who is and who was and who is to
come, the Almighty.

Or Acts 5:27-32

GOSPEL John 20:19-end

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

It was evening on the first day of the
week, and the doors of the house where
the disciples had met were locked for
fear of the Jews. Jesus came and stood
among them and said, "Peace be with
you." After he said this, he showed them
his hands and his side. Then the disciples
rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus
said to them again, "Peace be with you.
As the Father has sent me, so I send you."
When he had said this, he breathed on
them and said to them, "Receive the Holy
Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they
are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of
any, they are retained." But Thomas (who
was called the Twin), one of the twelve,
was not with them when Jesus came. So
the other disciples told him, "We have
seen the Lord." But he said to them,
"Unless I see the mark of the nails in his
hands, and put my finger in the mark of
the nails and my hand in his side, I will
not believe." A week later his disciples
were again in the house, and Thomas was
with them. Although the doors were shut,
Jesus came and stood among them and
said, "Peace be with you." Then he said
to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see
my hands. Reach out your hand and put
it in my side. Do not doubt but believe."
Thomas answered him, "My Lord and
my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you
believed because you have seen me?
Blessed are those who have not seen and
yet have come to believe." Now Jesus
did many other signs in the presence
of his disciples, which are not written in
this book. But these are written so that
you may come to believe that Jesus is
the Messiah, the Son of God, and that
through believing you may have life in his
name.

POST COMMUNION

Lord God our Father,
through our Saviour Jesus Christ
you have assured your children of eternal
life
and in baptism have made us one with
him:
deliver us from the death of sin
and raise us to new life in your love,
in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,
by the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ.