

Collect

Heavenly Father,
By the power of your Holy Spirit,
You give your faithful people new life in the water
of baptism.
Guide and strengthen us by the same Spirit,
That we who are born again may serve you in faith
and love, and grow into the full stature of your Son,
Jesus Christ.
Who is alive and reigns with you in the unity of the
Holy Spirit now and for ever.

First Reading:

*The first reading is taken from Paul's letter to the
Colossians*

No one has seen God, but Jesus is exactly like him.
Christ ranks higher than all the things that have
been made.
Through his power all things were made—things in
heaven and on earth, things seen and unseen, all
powers, authorities, lords, and rulers.
All things were made through Christ and for Christ.
Christ was there before anything was made. And all
things continue because of him.
He is the head of the body. (The body is the
church.) Everything comes from him. And he is the
first one who was raised from death.
So in all things Jesus is most important.
God was pleased for all of himself to live in Christ.
And through Christ, God decided to bring all things
back to himself again
things on earth and things in heaven.
God made peace by using the blood of Christ's
death on the cross.

This is the Word of the Lord
THANKS BE TO GOD.

Second Reading:

The second reading is from Psalm 104:

"I, wisdom, was with God when he began his work.
This was before he made anything else long ago. I
was appointed in the very beginning, even before
the world began. I began before there were
oceans. There were no springs overflowing with
water. I began before the hills were there.
The mountains had not even been put in place.
God still had not made the earth or fields.

He had not even made the first dust of the earth.
I was there when God put the skies in place,
when he stretched the horizon over the oceans.
I was there when he made the clouds above.
I was there when he put the fountains in the
oceans. I was there when he ordered the sea
not to go beyond the borders he had set for it.
I was there when he laid the earth's foundation.
I was like a child by his side. I was happy every day
and enjoyed being in his presence. I enjoyed the
whole world. And I was happy with all its people.
"Now, my children, listen to me. Those who follow
my ways are happy.

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Gospel Reading

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was
with God, and the Word was God. He was in the
beginning with God. All things came into being
through him, and without him not one thing came
into being. What has come into being in him was
life, and the life was the light of all people. The
light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did
not overcome it. There was a man sent from God,
whose name was John. He came as a witness to
testify to the light, so that all might believe through
him. He himself was not the light, but he came to
testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens
everyone, was coming into the world. He was in
the world, and the world came into being through
him; yet the world did not know him. He came to
what was his own, and his own people did not
accept him. But to all who received him, who
believed in his name, he gave power to become
children of God, who were born, not of blood or of
the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of
God. And the Word became flesh and lived among
us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a
father's only son, full of grace and truth.

Post Communion

God our creator, by your gift the tree of life was set
at the heart of the earthly paradise, and the bread
of life at the heart of your Church: may we who
have been nourished at your table on earth be
transformed by the glory of the Saviour's cross and
enjoy the delights of eternity; through Jesus Christ
our Lord.