

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 *Your love is before my eyes;
[I have walked faithfully with you].*

Give judgement for me, O Lord,
for I have lived 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 faithfully with you.
I have not sat with the worthless,
nor do I consort with the deceitful.

I have hated the company of
evildoers;
I will not sit down with the wicked. **R**

I will wash my hands in innocence,
O Lord,
that I may go in procession round
your altar,
Singing aloud a song of thanksgiving
and recounting all your wonderful
deeds.

Lord, I love the house in which you
dwell
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.