

Collect

O God, the protector of all who
trust in you,
without whom nothing is strong,
nothing is holy:
increase and multiply upon us your
mercy;
that with you as our ruler and
guide
we may so pass through things
temporal
that we lose not our hold on things
eternal;
grant this, heavenly Father,
for our Lord Jesus Christ's sake,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

Post Communion

Eternal God,
comfort of the afflicted and healer of
the broken,
you have fed us at the table of life
and hope:
teach us the ways of gentleness and
peace,
that all the world may acknowledge
the kingdom of your Son, Jesus
Christ our Lord.

Old Testament Reading

Psalm 145.8-15

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

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

10 All your works praise you, O Lord,
and your faithful servants bless you.

11 They tell of the glory of your kingdom
and speak of your mighty power,

12 To make known to all peoples your mighty acts
and the glorious splendour of your kingdom.

13 Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom;
your dominion endures throughout all ages.

14 The Lord is sure in all his words
and faithful in all his deeds.

15 The Lord upholds all those who fall
and lifts up all those who are bowed down.

This is the word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

New Testament Reading

Romans 7.15-25a

¹⁵I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. ¹⁶Now if I do what I do not want, I agree that the law is good. ¹⁷But in fact it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within me. ¹⁸For I know that nothing good dwells within me, that is, in my flesh. I can will what is right, but I cannot do it. ¹⁹For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I do. ²⁰Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within me.

²¹So I find it to be a law that when I want to do what is good, evil lies close at hand. ²²For I delight in the law of God in my inmost self, ²³but 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. ²⁴Wretched man that I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death? ²⁵Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!

This is the word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel

Matthew 11.16-19,25-30

When the Gospel is announced the reader says

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

All **Glory to you, O Lord.**

At that time Jesus said, ¹⁶“To what will I compare this generation? It is like children sitting in the market-places and calling to one another,

¹⁷“We played the flute for you, and you did not dance;
we wailed, and you did not mourn.”

¹⁸For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, “He has a demon”; ¹⁹the 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.

²⁵I 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; ²⁶yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. ²⁷All 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.

²⁸Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. ²⁹Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. ³⁰For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.’

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All **Praise to you, O Christ.**

I heard the voice of Jesus say,
"Come unto me and rest;
Lay down, thou weary one, lay down
Thy head upon my breast."
I came to Jesus as I was,
Weary and worn, and sad;
I found him in a resting place,
And he has made me glad.

I heard the voice of Jesus say,
"Behold, I freely give
The living water, thirsty one,
Stoop down and drink and live."
I came to Jesus, and I drank
Of that life-giving stream;
My thirst was quenched, my soul revived,
And now I live in him.

I heard the voice of Jesus say,
"I am this dark world's light;
Look unto me; thy morn shall rise,
And all thy day be bright."
I came to Jesus, and I found
In him my star, my sun;
And in that light of life I'll walk
Till traveling days are done.

Forth in thy name, O Lord, I go
my daily labour to pursue;
thee, only thee, resolved to know
in all I think or speak or do.

The task thy wisdom has assigned
O let me cheerfully fulfil;
in all my works thy presence find
and prove thy good and perfect will.

Thee may I set at my right hand
whose eyes my inmost substance see;
and labour on at thy command
and offer all my works to thee.

Give me to bear thy easy yoke
and every moment watch and pray;
and still to things eternal look
and hasten to thy glorious day.

For the delightfully employ
Whate'er thy bounteous grace hath given;
and run thy course with even joy,
and closely walk with thee to heaven.