

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 merrymakers, 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 *Lord, I love the place where your glory abides.*

Give judgement for me, O Lord,
for I have walked 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 in your truth.
I have not joined the company of the
false,
nor consorted with the deceitful. **R**

I hate the gathering of evildoers
and I will not sit down with the wicked.
I will wash my hands in innocence,
O Lord,
that I may go about your altar, **R**

To make heard the voice of
thanksgiving
and tell of all your wonderful deeds.
Lord, I love the house of your habitation
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.

