

## COLLECT

Almighty and everlasting God,  
you have given us your servants  
grace,  
by the confession of a true faith,  
to acknowledge the glory of the  
eternal Trinity  
and in the power of the divine  
majesty to worship the Unity:  
keep us steadfast in this faith,  
that we may evermore be  
defended from all adversities;  
through Jesus Christ your Son our  
Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

## FIRST READING

(Alternative readings)

*Either* **Isaiah 40:12-17. 27-31**

*A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.*

Who has measured the waters  
in the hollow of his hand and  
marked off the heavens with a  
span, enclosed the dust of the  
earth in a measure, and weighed  
the mountains in scales and  
the hills in a balance? Who has  
directed the spirit of the LORD,  
or as his counsellor has instructed  
him? Whom did he consult for  
his enlightenment, and who  
taught him the path of justice?  
Who taught him knowledge,  
and showed him the way of  
understanding? Even the nations  
are like a drop from a bucket,  
and are accounted as dust on the  
scales; see, he takes up the isles  
like fine dust. Lebanon would  
not provide fuel enough, nor are  
its animals enough for a burnt-  
offering. All the nations are as  
nothing before him; they are  
accounted by him as less than  
nothing and emptiness. Why do  
you say, O Jacob, and speak, O  
Israel, "My way is hidden from the  
LORD, and my right is disregarded  
by my God"? Have you not  
known? Have you not heard? The

LORD is the everlasting God, the  
Creator of the ends of the earth.  
He does not faint or grow weary;  
his understanding is unsearchable.  
He gives power to the faint, and  
strengthens the powerless. Even  
youths will faint and be weary, and  
the young will fall exhausted; but  
those who wait for the LORD shall  
renew their strength, they shall  
mount up with wings like eagles,  
they shall run and not be weary,  
they shall walk and not faint.

Or **Genesis 1:1 – 2:4a**

## PSALM Psalm 8

**R** [O Lord our governor,] how  
exalted is your name in all  
the earth.

O Lord our governor,  
how exalted is your name in all  
the world!  
Out of the mouths of infants and  
children  
your majesty is praised above the  
heavens.  
You have set up a stronghold  
against your adversaries,  
to quell the enemy and the  
avenger. **R**

When I consider your heavens,  
the work of your fingers,  
the moon and the stars you have  
set in their courses,  
What are mortals, that you should  
be mindful of them?  
mere human beings, that you  
should seek them out?  
You have made them little lower  
than the angels;  
you adorn them with glory and  
honour. **R**

You give them mastery over the  
works of your hands;  
and put all things under their feet,  
All sheep and oxen,  
even the wild beasts of the field,  
The birds of the air, the fish of the  
sea,  
and whatsoever walks in the paths  
of the sea. **R**

## SECOND READING

**2 Corinthians 13:11-13**

*A reading from the second letter of Paul to the Corinthians.*

Brothers and sisters, put things  
in order, listen to my appeal,  
agree with one another, live in  
peace; and the God of love and  
peace will be with you. Greet one  
another with a holy kiss. All the  
saints greet you. The grace of the  
Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,  
and the communion of the Holy  
Spirit be with all of you.

## GOSPEL Matthew 28:16-20

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

The eleven disciples went to  
Galilee, to the mountain to which  
Jesus had directed them. When  
they saw him, they worshipped  
him; but some doubted. And  
Jesus came and said to them,  
"All authority in heaven and on  
earth has been given to me. Go  
therefore and make disciples of  
all nations, baptizing them in the  
name of the Father and of the  
Son and of the Holy Spirit, and  
teaching them to obey everything  
that I have commanded you. And  
remember, I am with you always,  
to the end of the age."

## POST COMMUNION

Almighty and eternal God,  
you have revealed yourself as  
Father, Son and Holy Spirit,  
and live and reign in the perfect  
unity of love:  
hold us firm in this faith,  
that we may know you in all your  
ways  
and evermore rejoice in your  
eternal glory,  
who are three Persons yet one  
God,  
now and for ever.