

## COLLECT

Almighty God,  
 you have broken the tyranny of sin  
 and have sent the Spirit of your Son  
 into our hearts whereby we call  
 you Father:  
 give us grace to dedicate our freedom  
 to your service,  
 that we and all creation may be  
 brought to the glorious liberty of  
 the children of God;  
 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

### Jeremiah 28:5-9

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

The prophet Jeremiah spoke to the prophet Hananiah in the presence of the priests and all the people who were standing in the house of the LORD; and the prophet Jeremiah said, "Amen! May the LORD do so; may the LORD fulfil the words that you have prophesied, and bring back to this place from Babylon the vessels of the house of the LORD, and all the exiles. But listen now to this word that I speak in your hearing and in the hearing of all the people. The prophets who preceded you and me from ancient times prophesied war, famine, and pestilence against many countries and great kingdoms. As for the prophet who prophesies peace, when the word of that prophet comes true, then it will be known that the LORD has truly sent the prophet."

## PSALM

### Psalms 89:1-4, 15-18 [or 89:8-18]

**R** *Truly the Lord is our shield.*

My song shall be always of the loving-kindness of the Lord:  
 with my mouth will I proclaim  
 your faithfulness throughout all  
 generations.

I will declare that your love is  
 established for ever;  
 you have set your faithfulness as firm  
 as the heavens. **R**

For you said: "I have made a  
 covenant with my chosen one;  
 I have sworn an oath to David my  
 servant:

"Your seed will I establish for ever  
 and build up your throne for all  
 generations." **R**

Happy are the people who know the  
 shout of triumph:  
 they walk, O Lord, in the light of your  
 countenance.

In your name they rejoice all the day  
 long  
 and are exalted in your righteousness. **R**

For you are the glory of their  
 strength,  
 and in your favour you lift up our  
 heads.

Truly the Lord is our shield,  
 the Holy One of Israel is our king. **R**

## SECOND READING

### Romans 6:12-end

*A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans.*

Do not let sin exercise dominion in  
 your mortal bodies, to make you obey  
 their passions. No longer present  
 your members to sin as instruments of  
 wickedness, but present yourselves to  
 God as those who have been brought  
 from death to life, and present your  
 members to God as instruments of  
 righteousness. For sin will have no  
 dominion over you, since you are not  
 under law but under grace. What  
 then? Should we sin because we  
 are not under law but under grace?  
 By no means! Do you not know  
 that if you present yourselves to  
 anyone as obedient slaves, you are  
 slaves of the one whom you obey,  
 either of sin, which leads to death,  
 or of obedience, which leads to  
 righteousness? But thanks be to God  
 that you, having once been slaves of  
 sin, have become obedient from the

heart to the form of teaching to which  
 you were entrusted, and that you,  
 having been set free from sin, have  
 become slaves of righteousness. I am  
 speaking in human terms because of  
 your natural limitations. For just as  
 you once presented your members as  
 slaves to impurity and to greater and  
 greater iniquity, so now present your  
 members as slaves to righteousness  
 for sanctification. When you were  
 slaves of sin, you were free in regard  
 to righteousness. So what advantage  
 did you then get from the things of  
 which you now are ashamed? The  
 end of those things is death. But now  
 that you have been freed from sin and  
 enslaved to God, the advantage you  
 get is sanctification. The end is eternal  
 life. For the wages of sin is death, but  
 the free gift of God is eternal life in  
 Christ Jesus our Lord.

## GOSPEL Matthew 10:40-end

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

Jesus said to the twelve: "Whoever  
 welcomes you welcomes me, and  
 whoever welcomes me welcomes the  
 one who sent me. Whoever welcomes  
 a prophet in the name of a prophet  
 will receive a prophet's reward;  
 and whoever welcomes a righteous  
 person in the name of a righteous  
 person will receive the reward of the  
 righteous; and whoever gives even  
 a cup of cold water to one of these  
 little ones in the name of a disciple –  
 truly I tell you, none of these will lose  
 their reward."

## POST COMMUNION

O God, whose beauty is beyond our  
 imagining  
 and whose power we cannot  
 comprehend:  
 show us your glory as far as we can  
 grasp it,  
 and shield us from knowing more than  
 we can bear  
 until we may look upon you without  
 fear;  
 through Jesus Christ our Saviour.



Tru - ly the Lord is our shield.