

COLLECT

Almighty Father,
 who in your great mercy gladdened the
 disciples with the sight of the risen Lord:
 give us such knowledge of his presence
 with us,
 that we may be strengthened and
 sustained by his risen life
 and serve you continually in righteousness
 and truth;
 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)

The reading from Acts must be used as
 either the first or second reading.

Acts 2:14a. 36-41

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

On the day of Pentecost, Peter, standing
 with the eleven, raised his voice and
 addressed the crowd, "Let the entire
 house of Israel know with certainty that
 God has made him both Lord and Messiah,
 this Jesus whom you crucified." Now
 when they heard this, they were cut to
 the heart and said to Peter and to the
 other apostles, "Brothers, what should we
 do?" Peter said to them, "Repent, and
 be baptized every one of you in the name
 of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be
 forgiven; and you will receive the gift of
 the Holy Spirit. For the promise is for you,
 for your children, and for all who are far
 away, everyone whom the Lord our God
 calls to him." And he testified with many
 other arguments and exhorted them,
 saying, "Save yourselves from this corrupt
 generation." So those who welcomed
 his message were baptized, and that day
 about three thousand persons were added.

Or Zephaniah 3:14-end

PSALM Psalm 116:1-3. 10-end
(or 116:1-7)

R *Gracious is the Lord and righteous.*

I love the Lord,
 for he has heard the voice of my
 supplication;
 because he inclined his ear to me
 on the day I called to him.
 The snares of death encompassed me;
 the pains of hell took hold of me;
 by grief and sorrow was I held. **R**

Then I called upon the name of the Lord:
 "O Lord, I beg you, deliver my soul."
 How shall I repay the Lord
 for all the benefits he has given to me? **R**

I will lift up the cup of salvation
 and call upon the name of the Lord.
 I will fulfil my vows to the Lord
 in the presence of all his people.
 Precious in the sight of the Lord
 is the death of his faithful servants. **R**

O Lord, I am your servant,
 your servant, the child of your handmaid;
 you have freed me from my bonds.
 I will offer to you a sacrifice of thanksgiving
 and call upon the name of the Lord. **R**

I will fulfil my vows to the Lord
 in the presence of all his people,
 In the courts of the house of the Lord,
 in the midst of you, O Jerusalem.
 Alleluia. **R**

SECOND READING

(Alternative readings)

Either 1 Peter 1:17-23

A reading from the first letter of Peter.

If you invoke as Father the one who judges
 all people impartially according to their
 deeds, live in reverent fear during the
 time of your exile. You know that you were
 ransomed from the futile ways inherited
 from your ancestors, not with perishable
 things like silver or gold, but with the
 precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb
 without defect or blemish. He was destined
 before the foundation of the world, but
 was revealed at the end of the ages for
 your sake. Through him you have come
 to trust in God, who raised him from the
 dead and gave him glory, so that your faith
 and hope are set on God. Now that you
 have purified your souls by your obedience
 to the truth so that you have genuine
 mutual love, love one another deeply from
 the heart. You have been born anew, not
 of perishable but of imperishable seed,
 through the living and enduring word of
 God.

Or Acts 2:14a. 36-41 (as above)

GOSPEL Luke 24:13-35

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

On that same day, two of the disciples
 were going to a village called Emmaus,
 about seven miles from Jerusalem, and
 talking with each other about all these
 things that had happened. While they
 were talking and discussing, Jesus himself
 came near and went with them, but their
 eyes were kept from recognizing him.
 And he said to them, "What are you
 discussing with each other while you walk
 along?" They stood still, looking sad. Then
 one of them, whose name was Cleopas,
 answered him, "Are you the only stranger

in Jerusalem who does not know the
 things that have taken place there in these
 days?" Jesus asked them, "What things?"
 They replied, "The things about Jesus of
 Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in
 deed and word before God and all the
 people, and how our chief priests and
 leaders handed him over to be condemned
 to death and crucified him. But we had
 hoped that he was the one to redeem
 Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now
 the third day since these things took place.
 Moreover, some women of our group
 astounded us. They were at the tomb early
 this morning, and when they did not find
 his body there, they came back and told
 us that they had indeed seen a vision of
 angels who said that he was alive. Some
 of those who were with us went to the
 tomb and found it just as the women had
 said; but they did not see Jesus." Then
 he said to them, "Oh, how foolish you
 are, and how slow of heart to believe all
 that the prophets have declared! Was it
 not necessary that the Messiah should
 suffer these things and then enter into his
 glory?" Then beginning with Moses and all
 the prophets, he interpreted to them the
 things about himself in all the scriptures. As
 they came near the village to which they
 were going, he walked ahead as if he were
 going on. But they urged him strongly,
 saying, "Stay with us, because it is almost
 evening and the day is now nearly over."
 So he went in to stay with them. When he
 was at the table with them, he took bread,
 blessed and broke it, and gave it to them.
 Then their eyes were opened, and they
 recognized Jesus; and he vanished from
 their sight. They said to each other, "Were
 not our hearts burning within us while he
 was talking to us on the road, while he
 was opening the scriptures to us?" That
 same hour they got up and returned to
 Jerusalem; and they found the eleven and
 their companions gathered together. They
 were saying, "The Lord has risen indeed,
 and he has appeared to Simon!" Then they
 told what had happened on the road, and
 how he had been made known to them in
 the breaking of the bread.

POST COMMUNION

Living God,
 your Son made himself known to his
 disciples
 in the breaking of bread:
 open the eyes of our faith,
 that we may see him in all his redeeming
 work;
 who is alive and reigns, now and for ever.

