

The Collect

Almighty and merciful God, of whose only gift cometh that thy faithful people do unto thee true and laudable service: grant, we beseech thee, that we may so faithfully serve thee in this life, that we fail not finally to attain thy heavenly promises; through the merits of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Old Testament Reading is taken from the Book of Deuteronomy, beginning to read in Chapter 30 at the 15th verse.

30:15 “See, I have set before you this day life and good, death and evil. 16 If you obey the commandments of the Lord your God which I command you this day,
by loving the Lord your God, by walking in his ways, and by keeping his commandments and his statutes and his ordinances,
then you shall live and multiply, and the Lord your God will bless you in the land which you are entering to take possession of it.
17 But if your heart turns away, and you will not hear, but are drawn away to worship other gods and serve them,
18 I declare to you this day, that you shall perish;
you shall not live long in the land which you are going over the Jordan to enter and possess.
19 I call heaven and earth to witness against you this day, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and curse;
therefore choose life, that you and your descendants may live,
20 loving the Lord your God, obeying his voice, and cleaving to him;
for that means life to you and length of days,
that you may dwell in the land which the Lord swore to your fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, to give them.”

The word of the Lord. All: Thanks be to God.

The New Testament Reading is taken from the Epistle to the Hebrews, beginning to read in Chapter 12 at the 18th verse

12:18 For you have not come to what may be touched,
a blazing fire, and darkness, and gloom, and a tempest,
19 and the sound of a trumpet, and a voice whose words made the hearers entreat that no further messages be spoken to them.
20 For they could not endure the order that was given, “If even a beast touches the mountain, it shall be stoned.”
21 Indeed, so terrifying was the sight that Moses said, “I tremble with fear.”
22 But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to innumerable angels in festal gathering,

23 and to the assembly of the first-born who are enrolled in heaven,
and to a judge who is God of all, and to the spirits of just men made perfect,
24 and to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant,
and to the sprinkled blood that speaks more graciously than the blood of Abel.
25 See that you do not refuse him who is speaking.
For if they did not escape when they refused him who warned them on earth,
much less shall we escape if we reject him who warns from heaven.

The word of the Lord. All: Thanks be to God.

Psalm appointed 95:6-end

Priest: The Lord be with you.
All: And also with you.

Hear the Holy Gospel according to St Luke.
Glory to you, O Lord.

14:15 When one of those who sat at table with him heard this, he said to him,
“Blessed is he who shall eat bread in the kingdom of God!”
16 But he said to him, “A man once gave a great banquet, and invited many;
17 and at the time for the banquet he sent his servant to say to those who had
been invited, ‘Come; for all is now ready.’
18 But they all alike began to make excuses.
The first said to him, ‘I have bought a field, and I must go out and see it; I pray
you, have me excused.’
19 And another said, ‘I have bought five yoke of oxen, and I go to examine
them; I pray you, have me excused.’
20 And another said, ‘I have married a wife, and therefore I cannot come.’
21 So the servant came and reported this to his master.
Then the householder in anger said to his servant, ‘Go out quickly to the streets
and lanes of the city, and bring in the poor and maimed and blind and lame.’
22 And the servant said, ‘Sir, what you commanded has been done, and still
there is room.’
23 And the master said to the servant, ‘Go out to the highways and hedges, and
compel people to come in, that my house may be filled.
24 For I tell you, none of those men who were invited shall taste my banquet.’”

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

Postcommunion Collect

PO Lord, who hast here vouchsafed to grant unto us to be partakers of thy bounty: grant, we beseech thee, that we may so continue to draw near unto the same, that, growing more and more in grace, we may attain in the end to life everlasting. Through Jesus Christ our Lord, who livest and reignest with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, One God, now and forever. Amen.