

**T**he Collect

God, who knows us to be set in the midst of so many and great dangers that by reason of the frailty of our nature we cannot always stand upright: grant us such strength and protection, as may support us in all dangers, and carry us through all temptations; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

**T**he Old Testament Reading is taken from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah, beginning to read in Chapter 44 at the 6<sup>th</sup> verse

44:6 Thus says the Lord, the King of Israel  
and his Redeemer, the Lord of hosts:

“I am the first and I am the last;  
besides me there is no god.

7 Who is like me? Let him proclaim it,  
let him declare and set it forth before me.

Who has announced from of old the things to come?  
Let them tell us what is yet to be.

8 Fear not, nor be afraid;  
have I not told you from of old and declared it?  
And you are my witnesses!

Is there a God besides me?  
There is no Rock; I know not any.”

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

**T**he New Testament Reading is taken from the First Epistle of St Paul to the Corinthians, beginning to read in Chapter 3 at the 10<sup>th</sup> verse.

3:10 According to the commission of God given to me, like a skilled master builder I laid a foundation, and another man is building upon it.

Let each man take care how he builds upon it.

11 For no other foundation can any one lay than that which is laid, which is Jesus Christ.

12 Now if any one builds on the foundation with gold, silver, precious stones, wood, hay, stubble—

13 each man’s work will become manifest; for the Day will disclose it, because it will be revealed with fire, and the fire will test what sort of work each one has done.

14 If the work which any man has built on the foundation survives, he will receive a reward.

15 If any man’s work is burned up, he will suffer loss, though he himself will be saved, but only as through fire.

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

**P**salms 40:1-6

Priest: The Lord be with you.

All: And with your Spirit.

**H**ear the Holy Gospel according to St Matthew.  
Glory to you, O Lord.

7:21 “Not every one who says to me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ shall enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of my Father who is in heaven.

22 On that day many will say to me, ‘Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and cast out demons in your name, and do many mighty works in your name?’

23 And then will I declare to them, ‘I never knew you; depart from me, you evildoers.’

24 “Every one then who hears these words of mine and does them will be like a wise man who built his house upon the rock;

25 and the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat upon that house, but it did not fall, because it had been founded on the rock.

26 And every one who hears these words of mine and does not do them will be like a foolish man who built his house upon the sand;

27 and the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell; and great was the fall of it.”

28 And when Jesus finished these sayings, the crowds were astonished at his teaching,

29 for he taught them as one who had authority, and not as their scribes.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

**P**ostcommunion Collect

We beseech thee, O Lord, mercifully to cleanse and renew our souls with thy heavenly sacraments: that we may thereby both now and ever be effectually defended from all bodily temptations. Through Jesus Christ our Lord, who livest and reignest with Thee in the unity of the Holy Spirit, world without end. Amen.