

The Collect

Almighty God, who shows to those who are in error the light of thy truth, that they may return into the way of righteousness: grant that all those who are admitted into the fellowship of Christ's religion may forsake those things which are contrary to their profession, and follow such things as are agreeable to the same; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Old Testament Reading is taken from the Book of the Prophet Ezekiel, beginning to read in Chapter 18 at the 25th verse.

18:25 "Yet you say, 'The way of the Lord is not just.'

Hear now, O house of Israel:

Is my way not just? Is it not your ways that are not just?

26 When a righteous man turns away from his righteousness and commits iniquity, he shall die for it;

for the iniquity which he has committed he shall die.

27 Again, when a wicked man turns away from the wickedness he has committed and does what is lawful and right, he shall save his life.

28 Because he considered and turned away from all the transgressions which he had committed, he shall surely live, he shall not die.

29 Yet the house of Israel says, 'The way of the Lord is not just.'

O house of Israel, are my ways not just? Is it not your ways that are not just?

30 "Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, every one according to his ways, says the Lord God.

Repent and turn from all your transgressions, lest iniquity be your ruin.

31 Cast away from you all the transgressions which you have committed against me, and get yourselves a new heart and a new spirit!

Why will you die, O house of Israel?

32 For I have no pleasure in the death of any one, says the Lord God; so turn, and live."

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

The New Testament Reading is taken from St Paul's Epistle to the Romans, beginning to read in Chapter 6 at the 20th verse.

6:20 When you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness.

21 But then, what return did you get from the things of which you are now ashamed?

The end of those things is death.

22 But now that you have been set free from sin and have become slaves of God, the return you get is sanctification and its end, eternal life.

23 For the wages of sin is death,

but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

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

Psalm appointed 30:1-3 & 13

Priest: The Lord be with you.

All: And with your spirit.

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

15:11 And he said, "There was a man who had two sons; 12 and the younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of property that falls to me.' And he divided his living between them.

13 Not many days later, the younger son gathered all he had and took his journey into a far country, and there he squandered his property in loose living. 14 And when he had spent everything, a great famine arose in that country, and he began to be in want.

15 So he went and joined himself to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him into his fields to feed swine. 16 And he would gladly have fed on the pods that the swine ate; and no one gave him anything.

17 But when he came to himself he said, 'How many of my father's hired servants have bread enough and to spare, but I perish here with hunger!

18 I will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; 19 I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me as one of your hired servants."' "

20 And he arose and came to his father. But while he was yet at a distance, his father saw him and had compassion, and ran and embraced him and kissed him.

21 And the son said to him, 'Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.'

22 But the father said to his servants, 'Bring quickly the best robe, and put it on him; and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet; 23 and bring the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and make merry; 24 for this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found.' And they began to make merry.

25 "Now his elder son was in the field; and as he came and drew near to the house, he heard music and dancing.

26 And he called one of the servants and asked what this meant.

27 And he said to him, 'Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has received him safe and sound.'

28 But he was angry and refused to go in.

His father came out and entreated him,

29 but he answered his father, ‘Lo, these many years I have served you, and I never disobeyed your command; yet you never gave me a kid, that I might make merry with my friends.

30 But when this son of yours came, who has devoured your living with harlots, you killed for him the fatted calf!’

31 And he said to him, ‘Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours.

32 It was fitting to make merry and be glad, for this your brother was dead, and is alive; he was lost, and is found.’”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Postcommunion Collect

O Lord, who dost vouchsafe to feed us with these holy gifts: grant, we beseech thee; that we may be ever rendered worthy of the same, by walking obediently after thy commandments. Through Jesus Christ our Lord, who livest and reignest with Thee in the Unity of the Holy Spirit, One God, world without end. Amen.