

Collect

Gracious God, you call us to fullness of life:
deliver us from unbelief and banish our anxieties
with the liberating love of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Psalm 78:1-7

1 Hear my teaching, O my people;
incline your ears to the words of my mouth.
2 I will open my mouth in a parable;
I will pour forth mysteries from of old,
3 Such as we have heard and known,
which our forebears have told us.
4 We will not hide from their children,
but will recount to generations to come,
the praises of the Lord and his power
and the wonderful works he has done.
5 He laid a solemn charge on Jacob
and made it a law in Israel,
which he commanded them to teach their children,
6 That the generations to come might know,
and the children yet unborn,
that they in turn might tell it to their children;
7 So that they might put their trust in God
and not forget the deeds of God,
but keep his commandments.

Exodus 17:1-7

17 From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation
of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as
the LORD commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but
there was no water for the people to drink. ²The people
quarrelled with Moses, and said, 'Give us water to
drink.' Moses said to them, 'Why do you quarrel with
me? Why do you test the LORD?' ³But the people
thirsted there for water; and the people complained
against Moses and said, 'Why did you bring us out of
Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with
thirst?' ⁴So Moses cried out to the LORD, 'What shall I
do with this people? They are almost ready to stone
me.' ⁵The LORD said to Moses, 'Go on ahead of the
people, and take some of the elders of Israel with you;

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take in your hand the staff with which you struck the
Nile, and go. ⁶I will be standing there in front of you
on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will
come out of it, so that the people may drink.' Moses
did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. ⁷He called
the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites
quarrelled and tested the LORD, saying, 'Is
the LORD among us or not?'

Philippians 2:1-13

2 If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any
consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any
compassion and sympathy, ²make my joy complete:
be of the same mind, having the same love, being in
full accord and of one mind. ³Do nothing from selfish
ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as
better than yourselves. ⁴Let each of you look not to
your own interests, but to the interests of
others. ⁵Let the same mind be in you that was in
Christ Jesus, ⁶who, though he was in the form of God,
did not regard equality with God as something to be
exploited, ⁷but emptied himself, taking the form of a
slave, being born in human likeness. And being found
in human form, ⁸he humbled himself and became
obedient to the point of death—even death on a
cross. ⁹Therefore God also highly exalted him and
gave him the name that is above every name, ¹⁰so
that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in
heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹and
every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father. ¹²Therefore, my
beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only
in my presence, but much more now in my absence,
work out your own salvation with fear and
trembling; ¹³for it is God who is at work in you,
enabling you both to will and to work for his good
pleasure.

Matthew 21:23-32

²³When Jesus entered the temple, the chief priests
and the elders of the people came to him as he was
teaching, and said, 'By what authority are you doing
these things, and who gave you this
authority?' ²⁴Jesus said to them, 'I will also ask you
one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will
also tell you by what authority I do these
things. ²⁵Did the baptism of John come from heaven,
or was it of human origin?' And they argued with one
another, 'If we say, "From heaven", he will say to us,
"Why then did you not believe him?" ²⁶But if we say,
"Of human origin", we are afraid of the crowd; for all
regard John as a prophet.' ²⁷So they answered Jesus,
'We do not know.' And he said to them, 'Neither will I
tell you by what authority I am doing these things.
²⁸'What do you think? A man had two sons; he went
to the first and said, "Son, go and work in the
vineyard today." ²⁹He answered, "I will not"; but
later he changed his mind and went. ³⁰The
father went to the second and said the same; and he
answered, "I go, sir"; but he did not go. ³¹Which of
the two did the will of his father?' They said, 'The
first.' Jesus said to them, 'Truly I tell you, the tax-
collectors and the prostitutes are going into the
kingdom of God ahead of you. ³²For John came to
you in the way of righteousness and you did not
believe him, but the tax-collectors and the
prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it,
you did not change your minds and believe him.'

Post Communion Prayer

Lord, we pray that your grace
may always precede and follow us,
and make us continually to be given to all good
works; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**