

## Collect

O God the king of glory, you have exalted your only Son Jesus Christ with great triumph to your kingdom in heaven: we beseech you, leave us not comfortless, but send your Holy Spirit to strengthen us and exalt us to the place where our Saviour Christ is gone before, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

## FIRST READING Ezekiel 36:24-28

*A reading from the Book of the Prophet Ezekiel*

I will take you from the nations, and gather you from all the countries, and bring you into your own land. I will sprinkle clean water upon you, and you shall be clean from all your uncleannesses, and from all your idols I will cleanse you. A new heart I will give you, and a new spirit I will put within you; and I will remove from your body the heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh. I will put my spirit within you, and make you follow my statutes and be careful to observe my ordinances. Then you shall live in the land that I gave to your ancestors; and you shall be my people, and I will be your God.

## PSALM 68.1-10

- 1 God shall arise and his enemies shall be scattered:  
those that hate him shall flee before his face.
- 2 As smoke is dispersed so shall they be dispersed:  
as wax melts before a fire  
so shall the wicked perish at the presence of God.
- 3 But the righteous shall be glad and exult before God:  
they shall rejoice with gladness.
- 4 O sing to God sing praises to his name:  
glorify him that rode through the deserts  
him whose name his the Lord and exult before him.
- 5 He is the father of the fatherless  
he upholds the cause of the widow:  
God in his holy dwelling place.
- 6 He gives the desolate a home to dwell in  
and brings the prisoners out into prosperity:  
but rebels must dwell in a barren land.
- 7 O God when you went out before your people:  
when you marched through the wilderness,
- 8 the earth shook the heavens poured down water:  
before the God of Sinai before God the God of Israel.
- 9 You showered down a generous rain O God:  
you prepared the land of your possession  
when it was weary.
- 10 And there your people settled:  
in the place that your goodness O God  
had made ready for the poor.

## SECOND READING Acts 1.6-14

*A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.*

When the apostles had come together, they asked him, 'Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?' He replied, 'It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.' When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. While he was going and they were gazing up towards heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. They said, 'Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up towards heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.' Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a sabbath day's journey away. When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying, Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

## GOSEL John 17.1-11

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

Jesus looked up to heaven and said, 'Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed. I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one.'

## Post Communion Prayer

Eternal God, giver of love and power, your Son Jesus Christ has sent us into all the world to preach the gospel of his kingdom: confirm us in this mission, and help us to live the good news we proclaim; through Jesus Christ our Lord.