

COLLECT

Almighty and everlasting God,
by whose Spirit the whole body of the
Church is governed and sanctified:
hear our prayer which we offer for all
your faithful people,
that in their vocation and ministry
they may serve you in holiness and
truth
to the glory of your name;
through our Lord and Saviour Jesus
Christ,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

FIRST READING Ezekiel 2:1-5

A reading from the book of the prophet Ezekiel.

The heavens were opened, and I saw visions of God. When I saw this, I fell on my face, and I heard the voice of someone speaking. He said to me: O mortal, stand up on your feet, and I will speak with you. And when he spoke to me, a spirit entered into me and set me on my feet; and I heard him speaking to me. He said to me, Mortal, I am sending you to the people of Israel, to a nation of rebels who have rebelled against me; they and their ancestors have transgressed against me to this very day. The descendants are impudent and stubborn. I am sending you to them, and you shall say to them, "Thus says the Lord GOD." Whether they hear or refuse to hear (for they are a rebellious house), they shall know that there has been a prophet among them.

PSALM Psalm 123

R *Our eyes look to the Lord our God,
until he shows us his mercy.*

To you I lift up my eyes,
to you enthroned in the heavens.
As the eyes of servants look to the
hand of their masters,
and the eyes of a maid to the hand of
her mistress,
So our eyes look to the Lord our God,
until he show us his mercy. **R**

Have mercy upon us, O Lord, have
mercy,
for we have had more than enough of
contempt,
Too much of the scorn of the indolent
rich,
and of the derision of the proud. **R**

SECOND READING

2 Corinthians 12:2-10

A reading from the second letter of Paul to the Corinthians.

I know a person in Christ who
fourteen years ago was caught up
to the third heaven – whether in the
body or out of the body I do not
know; God knows. And I know that
such a person – whether in the body
or out of the body I do not know;
God knows – was caught up into
Paradise and heard things that are not
to be told, that no mortal is permitted
to repeat. On behalf of such a one I
will boast, but on my own behalf I will
not boast, except of my weaknesses.
But if I wish to boast, I will not be a
fool, for I will be speaking the truth.
But I refrain from it, so that no one
may think better of me than what is
seen in me or heard from me, even
considering the exceptional character
of the revelations. Therefore, to
keep me from being too elated, a
thorn was given me in the flesh, a
messenger of Satan to torment me,
to keep me from being too elated.
Three times I appealed to the Lord
about this, that it would leave me,
but he said to me, "My grace is
sufficient for you, for power is made
perfect in weakness." So, I will boast
all the more gladly of my weaknesses,
so that the power of Christ may
dwell in me. Therefore I am content
with weaknesses, insults, hardships,
persecutions, and calamities for the
sake of Christ; for whenever I am
weak, then I am strong.

GOSPEL Mark 6:1-13

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

Jesus came to his home town, and
his disciples followed him. On the

sabbath he began to teach in the
synagogue, and many who heard him
were astounded. They said, "Where
did this man get all this? What is this
wisdom that has been given to him?
What deeds of power are being done
by his hands! Is not this the carpenter,
the son of Mary and brother of James
and Joses and Judas and Simon,
and are not his sisters here with us?"
And they took offence at him. Then
Jesus said to them, "Prophets are
not without honour, except in their
home town, and among their own
kin, and in their own house." And he
could do no deed of power there,
except that he laid his hands on a few
sick people and cured them. And he
was amazed at their unbelief. Then
he went about among the villages
teaching. He called the twelve and
began to send them out two by two,
and gave them authority over the
unclean spirits. He ordered them to
take nothing for their journey except
a staff; no bread, no bag, no money
in their belts; but to wear sandals and
not to put on two tunics. He said to
them, "Wherever you enter a house,
stay there until you leave the place. If
any place will not welcome you and
they refuse to hear you, as you leave,
shake off the dust that is on your
feet as a testimony against them." So
they went out and proclaimed that
all should repent. They cast out many
demons, and anointed with oil many
who were sick and cured them.

POST COMMUNION

Grant, O Lord, we beseech you,
that the course of this world may be
so peaceably ordered by your
governance,
that your Church may joyfully serve
you in all godly quietness;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.