

COLLECT

Almighty Father,
 who in your great mercy gladdened
 the disciples
 with the sight of the risen Lord:
 give us such knowledge of his
 presence with us,
 that we may be strengthened and
 sustained by his risen life
 and serve you continually in
 righteousness and truth;
 through Jesus Christ your Son our
 Lord,
 who is alive and reigns with you,
 in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
 one God, now and for ever.

FIRST READING

*The reading from Acts must be read
 as either the First or Second Reading.*

Either Acts 3:12-19

*A reading from the Acts of the
 Apostles.*

Peter addressed the people, "You Israelites, why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we had made him walk? The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our ancestors has glorified his servant Jesus, whom you handed over and rejected in the presence of Pilate, though he had decided to release him. But you rejected the Holy and Righteous One and asked to have a murderer given to you, and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. And by faith in his name, his name itself has made this man strong, whom you see and know; and the faith that is through Jesus has given him this perfect health in the presence of all of you. And now, friends, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. In this way God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, that his Messiah would suffer. Repent therefore, and turn to God so that your sins may be wiped out."

Or Zephaniah 3:14-end

PSALM Psalm 4

R *Lift up the light of your
 countenance upon us, O Lord.*

Answer me when I call, O God,
 defender of my cause;
 you set me free when I am hard-
 pressed;
 have mercy on me and hear my prayer.
 "You mortals, how long will you
 dishonour my glory;
 how long will you worship dumb idols
 and run after false gods?" **R**

Know that the Lord does wonders for
 the faithful;
 when I call upon the Lord, he will hear
 me.

Tremble, then, and do not sin;
 speak to your heart in silence upon
 your bed. **R**

Offer the appointed sacrifices
 and put your trust in the Lord.
 Many are saying,
 "O that we might see better times!"
 Lift up the light of your countenance
 upon us, O Lord. **R**

You have put gladness in my heart,
 more than when grain and wine and
 oil increase.
 I lie down in peace; at once I fall
 asleep;
 for only you, Lord, make me dwell in
 safety. **R**

SECOND READING

Either 1 John 3:1-7

A reading from the first letter of John.

See what love the Father has given
 us, that we should be called children
 of God; and that is what we are. The
 reason the world does not know us
 is that it did not know him. Beloved,
 we are God's children now; what we
 will be has not yet been revealed.
 What we do know is this: when he is
 revealed, we will be like him, for we
 will see him as he is. And all who have
 this hope in him purify themselves,
 just as he is pure. Everyone who
 commits sin is guilty of lawlessness;
 sin is lawlessness. You know that he
 was revealed to take away sins, and
 in him there is no sin. No one who
 abides in him sins; no one who sins
 has either seen him or known him.
 Little children, let no one deceive you.

Everyone who does what is right is
 righteous, just as he is righteous.

Or Acts 3:12-19

GOSPEL Luke 24:36b-48

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

While the eleven and their
 companions were talking about
 what they had heard, Jesus himself
 stood among them and said to them,
 "Peace be with you." They were
 startled and terrified, and thought that
 they were seeing a ghost. He said to
 them, "Why are you frightened, and
 why do doubts arise in your hearts?
 Look at my hands and my feet; see
 that it is I myself. Touch me and see;
 for a ghost does not have flesh and
 bones as you see that I have." And
 when he had said this, he showed
 them his hands and his feet. While
 in their joy they were disbelieving
 and still wondering, he said to them,
 "Have you anything here to eat?"
 They gave him a piece of broiled
 fish, and he took it and ate in their
 presence. Then he said to them,
 "These are my words that I spoke to
 you while I was still with you – that
 everything written about me in the
 law of Moses, the prophets, and the
 psalms must be fulfilled." Then he
 opened their minds to understand
 the scriptures, and he said to them,
 "Thus it is written, that the Messiah
 is to suffer and to rise from the dead
 on the third day, and that repentance
 and forgiveness of sins is to be
 proclaimed in his name to all nations,
 beginning from Jerusalem. You are
 witnesses of these things."

POST COMMUNION

Living God,
 your Son made himself known to his
 disciples
 in the breaking of bread:
 open the eyes of our faith,
 that we may see him in all his
 redeeming work;
 who is alive and reigns, now and for
 ever.