

COLLECT

Blessed Lord,
who caused all holy scriptures
to be written for our learning:
help us so to hear them,
to read, mark, learn and
inwardly digest them
that, through patience, and the
comfort of your holy word,
we may embrace and for ever
hold fast the hope of
everlasting life,
which you have given us in our
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

Isaiah 45:22-end

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

Thus says the LORD: Turn to me and be saved, all the ends of the earth! For I am God, and there is no other. By myself I have sworn, from my mouth has gone forth in righteousness a word that shall not return: "To me every knee shall bow, every tongue shall swear." Only in the LORD, it shall be said of me, are righteousness and strength; all who were incensed against him shall come to him and be ashamed. In the LORD all the offspring of Israel shall triumph and glory.

PSALM Psalm 119:129-136

R *When your word goes forth it gives light.*

Your decrees are wonderful;
therefore I obey them with all
my heart.
When your word goes forth it
gives light;
it gives understanding to the
simple. **R**

I open my mouth and pant;
I long for your commandments.
Turn to me in mercy,

as you always do to those who
love your name. **R**

Steady my footsteps in your
word;
let no iniquity have dominion
over me.
Rescue me from those who
oppress me,
and I will keep your
commandments. **R**

Let your countenance shine
upon your servant
and teach me your statutes.
My eyes shed streams of tears,
because people do not keep
your law. **R**

SECOND READING

Romans 15:1-6

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans.

We who are strong ought to put up with the failings of the weak, and not to please ourselves. Each of us must please our neighbour for the good purpose of building up the neighbour. For Christ did not please himself; but, as it is written, "The insults of those who insult you have fallen on me." For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

GOSPEL Luke 4:16-24

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

When Jesus came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his

custom. He stood up to read, and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written: "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favour." And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. Then he began to say to them, "Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing." All spoke well of him and were amazed at the gracious words that came from his mouth. They said, "Is not this Joseph's son?" He said to them, "Doubtless you will quote to me this proverb, 'Doctor, cure yourself!' And you will say, 'Do here also in your home town the things that we have heard you did at Capernaum.'" And he said, "Truly I tell you, no prophet is accepted in the prophet's home town."

POST COMMUNION

God of all grace,
your Son Jesus Christ fed the
hungry
with the bread of his life
and the word of his kingdom:
renew your people with your
heavenly grace,
and in all our weakness
sustain us by your true and
living bread;
who is alive and reigns, now
and for ever.