

## COLLECT

Almighty and everlasting God,  
you are always more ready to hear  
than we to pray  
and to give more than either we  
desire or deserve:  
pour down upon us the abundance of  
your mercy,  
forgiving us those things of which our  
conscience is afraid  
and giving us those good things  
which we are not worthy to ask  
but through the merits and mediation  
of 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 Isaiah 51:1-6

*A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.*

Listen to me, you that pursue  
righteousness, you that seek the  
LORD. Look to the rock from which  
you were hewn, and to the quarry  
from which you were dug. Look to  
Abraham your father and to Sarah  
who bore you; for he was but one  
when I called him, but I blessed him  
and made him many. For the LORD  
will comfort Zion; he will comfort  
all her waste places, and will make  
her wilderness like Eden, her desert  
like the garden of the LORD; joy  
and gladness will be found in her,  
thanksgiving and the voice of song.  
Listen to me, my people, and give  
heed to me, my nation; for a teaching  
will go out from me, and my justice for  
a light to the peoples. I will bring near  
my deliverance swiftly, my salvation  
has gone out and my arms will rule  
the peoples; the coastlands wait for  
me, and for my arm they hope. Lift up  
your eyes to the heavens, and look  
at the earth beneath; for the heavens  
will vanish like smoke, the earth will  
wear out like a garment, and those  
who live on it will die like gnats; but  
my salvation will be for ever, and my  
deliverance will never be ended.

Or **Exodus 1:8 – 2:10**

## PSALM Psalm 138

**R** O Lord, your love endures for ever;  
[do not abandon the works of your  
hands].

I will give thanks to you, O Lord, with  
my whole heart;  
before the gods I will sing your praise.  
I will bow down towards your holy  
temple  
and praise your name,  
because of your love and faithfulness;  
For you have glorified your name  
and your word above all things. **R**

When I called, you answered me;  
you increased my strength within me.  
All the kings of the earth will praise  
you, O Lord,  
when they have heard the words of  
your mouth.

They will sing of the ways of the Lord,  
that great is the glory of the Lord.  
Though the Lord be high, he cares for  
the lowly;  
he perceives the haughty from afar. **R**

Though I walk in the midst of trouble,  
you keep me safe;  
you stretch forth your hand  
against the fury of my enemies;  
your right hand shall save me.  
The Lord will make good his purpose  
for me;

O Lord, your love endures for ever;  
do not abandon the works of your  
hands. **R**

## SECOND READING Romans 12:1-8

*A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans.*

I appeal to you therefore, brothers  
and sisters, by the mercies of God,  
to present your bodies as a living  
sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God,  
which is your spiritual worship. Do not  
be conformed to this world, but be  
transformed by the renewing of your  
minds, so that you may discern what  
is the will of God – what is good and  
acceptable and perfect. For by the  
grace given to me I say to everyone  
among you not to think of yourself  
more highly than you ought to think,  
but to think with sober judgement,  
each according to the measure of

faith that God has assigned. For as in  
one body we have many members,  
and not all the members have the  
same function, so we, who are  
many, are one body in Christ, and  
individually we are members one of  
another. We have gifts that differ  
according to the grace given to us:  
prophecy, in proportion to faith;  
ministry, in ministering; the teacher, in  
teaching; the exhorter, in exhortation;  
the giver, in generosity; the leader,  
in diligence; the compassionate, in  
cheerfulness.

## GOSPEL Matthew 16:13-20

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

Now when Jesus came into the  
district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked  
his disciples, "Who do people say  
that the Son of Man is?" And they  
said, "Some say John the Baptist,  
but others Elijah, and still others  
Jeremiah or one of the prophets." He  
said to them, "But who do you say  
that I am?" Simon Peter answered,  
"You are the Messiah, the Son of the  
living God." And Jesus answered  
him, "Blessed are you, Simon son of  
Jonah! For flesh and blood has not  
revealed this to you, but my Father in  
heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter,  
and on this rock I will build my church,  
and the gates of Hades will not prevail  
against it. I will give you the keys of  
the kingdom of heaven, and whatever  
you bind on earth will be bound in  
heaven, and whatever you loose on  
earth will be loosed in heaven." Then  
he sternly ordered the disciples not to  
tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

## POST COMMUNION

God of all mercy,  
in this eucharist you have set aside  
our sins  
and given us your healing;  
grant that we who are made whole in  
Christ  
may bring that healing to this broken  
world,  
in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.