

**Collect**

Almighty God, whose Son Jesus Christ  
is the resurrection and the life:  
raise us, who trust in him, from the death of sin to  
the life of righteousness,  
that we may seek those things which are above,  
where he reigns with you  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

**1<sup>st</sup> Reading - Acts 9.36-43**

In Joppa there was a disciple whose name was  
Tabitha, which in Greek is Dorcas. She was  
devoted to good works and acts of charity. At that  
time she became ill and died. When they had  
washed her, they laid her in a room upstairs. Since  
Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples, who heard that  
Peter was there, sent two men to him with the  
request, 'Please come to us without delay.' So Peter  
got up and went with them; and when he arrived,  
they took him to the room upstairs. All the widows  
stood beside him, weeping and showing tunics and  
other clothing that Dorcas had made while she was  
with them. Peter put all of them outside, and then  
he knelt down and prayed. He turned to the body  
and said, 'Tabitha, get up.' Then she opened her  
eyes, and seeing Peter, she sat up. He gave her his  
hand and helped her up. Then calling the saints and  
widows, he showed her to be alive. This became  
known throughout Joppa, and many believed in the  
Lord. Meanwhile he stayed in Joppa for some time  
with a certain Simon, a tanner.

**Psalm - Psalm 23**

The Lord is my shepherd;  
therefore can I lack nothing.  
He makes me lie down in green pastures  
and leads me beside still waters.  
He shall refresh my soul  
And guide me in the paths of righteousness  
for his name's sake. *℟*  
Though I walk through the valley  
of the shadow of death,  
I will fear no evil; for you are with me;  
Your rod and your staff, they comfort me. *℟*  
You spread a table before me  
in the presence of those who trouble me;  
You have anointed my head with oil  
and my cup shall be full. *℟*  
Surely goodness and loving mercy shall follow me  
all the days of my life,  
And I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever. *℟*



**2<sup>nd</sup> Reading - Revelation 7.9-17**

After this I looked, and there was a great  
multitude that no one could count, from every  
nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages,  
standing before the throne and before the Lamb,  
robed in white, with palm branches in their hands.  
They cried out in a loud voice, saying 'Salvation  
belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and  
to the Lamb!' And all the angels stood around the  
throne and around the elders and the four living  
creatures, and they fell on their faces before the  
throne and worshipped God, singing, 'Amen!  
Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving  
and honour and power and might be to our God for  
ever and ever! Amen.' Then one of the elders  
addressed me, saying, 'Who are these, robed in  
white, and where have they come from?' I said to  
him, 'Sir, you are the one that knows.' Then he said  
to me, 'These are they who have come out of the  
great ordeal; they have washed their robes and  
made them white in the blood of the Lamb. For this  
reason they are before the throne of God, and  
worship him day and night within his temple, and  
the one who is seated on the throne will shelter  
them. They will hunger no more, and thirst no  
more; the sun will not strike them, nor any  
scorching heat; for the Lamb at the centre of the  
throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide  
them to springs of the water of life, and God will  
wipe away every tear from their eyes.'

**Gospel Reading - John 10.22-30**

At that time the festival of the Dedication took  
place in Jerusalem. It was winter, and Jesus  
was walking in the temple, in the portico of  
Solomon. So the Jews gathered around him and  
said to him, 'How long will you keep us in suspense?  
If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly.' Jesus  
answered, 'I have told you, and you do not believe.  
The works that I do in my Father's name testify to  
me; but you do not believe, because you do not  
belong to my sheep. My sheep hear my voice.  
I know them, and they follow me. I give them  
eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will  
snatch them out of my hand. What my Father has  
given me is greater than all else, and no one can  
snatch it out of the Father's hand. The Father and I  
are one.'

**Post Communion Prayer**

Merciful Father, you gave your Son Jesus Christ  
to be the good shepherd, and in his love for us  
to lay down his life and rise again:  
keep us always under his protection,  
and give us grace to follow in his steps;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.