

## 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.

## FIRST READING

*The reading from Acts must be used  
as either the first or second reading.*

**Either Acts 9:36-end**

*A reading from the Acts of the  
Apostles.*

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.

**Or Genesis 7:1-5. 11-18; 8:6-18;  
9:8-13**

## PSALM Psalm 23

**R** *The Lord is my shepherd;  
I shall not be in want.*

The Lord is my shepherd;  
I shall not be in want.

He makes me lie down in green  
pastures  
and leads me beside still waters. **R**

He revives my soul  
and guides me along right pathways  
for his name's sake.  
Though I walk through the valley of  
the shadow of death,  
I shall fear no evil;  
for you are with me;  
your rod and your staff, they comfort  
me. **R**

You spread a table before me  
in the presence of those who trouble  
me;  
you have anointed my head with oil,  
and my cup is running over.  
Surely your goodness and mercy  
shall follow me  
all the days of my life,  
and I will dwell in the house of the  
Lord for ever. **R**

## SECOND READING

**Revelation 7:9-end**

*A reading from the book of  
Revelation.*

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."

**Or Acts 9:36-end**

## GOSPEL John 10:22-30

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

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

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.