

COLLECT

God our saviour,
look on this wounded world
in pity and in power;
hold us fast to your promises of peace
won for us by your Son,
our Saviour Jesus Christ.

(or)

Almighty God,
you have broken the tyranny of sin
and have sent the Spirit of your Son
into our hearts
whereby we call you Father:
give us grace to dedicate our freedom
to your service,
that we and all creation may be brought
to the glorious liberty of the children of God;
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 *Jeremiah 20:10b-13**

All of my so-called friends are just waiting for me to make a mistake. They say, 'Perhaps Jeremiah can be tricked. Then we can overpower him and get even at last.' But you, Lord, are a mighty soldier, standing at my side.

Those troublemakers will fall down and fail —
terribly embarrassed, for ever ashamed.

Lord All-Powerful, you test those who do right,
and you know every heart and mind. I have told
you my complaints, so let me watch you take
revenge on my enemies. I sing praises to you,
Lord. You rescue the oppressed from the
wicked.

SECOND READING *Romans 6:3-4, 8-10**

Don't you know that all who share in Christ
Jesus by being baptized also share in his death?
When we were baptized, we died and were
buried with Christ. We were baptized, so that
we would live a new life, as Christ was raised to
life by the glory of God the Father.

As we died with Christ, we believe we will also
live with him. We know that death no longer has
any power over Christ. He died and was raised
to life, never again to die. When Christ died, he
died for sin once and for all. But now he is alive,
and he lives only for God.

GOSPEL *Matthew 6:26-27a, 32-33, 39**

*Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to
Matthew. Glory to you, O Lord.*

Jesus sent out the twelve disciples, saying:

Don't be afraid of anyone! Everything that is
hidden will be found out, and every secret will
be known. Whatever I say to you in the dark,
you must tell in the light. And you must
announce from the housetops whatever I have
whispered to you.

Don't be afraid of people. They can kill you, but
they cannot harm your soul. If you tell others
that you belong to me, I will tell my Father in
heaven that you are my followers. But if you
reject me, I will tell my Father in heaven that
you don't belong to me.

If you try to save your life, you will lose it. But if
you give it up for me, you will find it.

At the end we say: Praise be to you O Christ

CLOSING PRAYER

O God, whose beauty is beyond our imagining
and whose power we cannot comprehend:
show us your glory as far as we can grasp it,
and shield us from knowing
more than we can bear
until we may look upon you without fear;
through Jesus Christ our Saviour.

* Indicates that the appointed readings have been shortened today.

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