

COLLECT

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 Job 38:1-11

A reading from the book of Job.

The LORD answered Job out of the whirlwind: "Who is this that darkens counsel by words without knowledge? Gird up your loins like a man, I will question you, and you shall declare to me. Where were you when I laid the foundation of the earth? Tell me, if you have understanding. Who determined its measurements – surely you know! Or who stretched the line upon it? On what were its bases sunk, or who laid its cornerstone when the morning stars sang together and all the heavenly beings shouted for joy? Or who shut in the sea with doors when it burst out from the womb? – when I made the clouds its garment, and thick darkness its swaddling band, and prescribed bounds for it, and set bars and doors, and said, 'Thus far shall you come, and no farther, and here shall your proud waves be stopped?'"

PSALM Psalm 107:1-3. 23-32
 (or 107:23-32)

R O give thanks to the Lord, for he is gracious,
 for his steadfast love endures for ever.

O give thanks to the Lord, for he is gracious,
 for his steadfast love endures for ever.
 Let the redeemed of the Lord say this,
 those he redeemed from the hand of the enemy,
 And gathered out of the lands

from the east and from the west,
 from the north and from the south. **R**

Those who go down to the sea in ships
 and ply their trade in great waters,
 These have seen the works of the Lord
 and his wonders in the deep.
 For at his word the stormy wind arose
 and lifted up the waves of the sea. **R**

They were carried up to the heavens
 and down again to the deep;
 their soul melted away in their peril.
 They reeled and staggered like a drunkard
 and were at their wits' end.
 Then they cried to the Lord in their trouble,
 and he brought them out of their distress. **R**

He made the storm be still
 and the waves of the sea were calmed.
 Then were they glad because they were at rest,
 and he brought them to the haven they desired.
 Let them give thanks to the Lord for his goodness
 and the wonders he does for his children.
 Let them exalt him in the congregation of the people
 and praise him in the council of the elders. **R**

SECOND READING 2 Corinthians 6:1-13

A reading from the second letter of Paul to the Corinthians.

As we work together with Christ, we urge you also not to accept the grace of God in vain. For he says, "At an acceptable time I have listened to you, and on a day of salvation I have helped you." See, now is the acceptable time; see, now is the day of salvation! We are putting no obstacle in anyone's way, so that no fault may be found with our ministry, but as servants of God we have commended ourselves in every way: through great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, beatings, imprisonments, riots, labours, sleepless nights, hunger; by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness,

holiness of spirit, genuine love, truthful speech, and the power of God; with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; in honour and dishonour, in ill repute and good repute. We are treated as impostors, and yet are true; as unknown, and yet are well known; as dying, and see – we are alive; as punished, and yet not killed; as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing everything. We have spoken frankly to you Corinthians; our heart is wide open to you. There is no restriction in our affections, but only in yours. In return – I speak as to children – open wide your hearts also.

GOSPEL Mark 4:35-end

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

When evening had come, Jesus said to his disciples, "Let us go across to the other side." And leaving the crowd behind, they took him with them in the boat, just as he was. Other boats were with him. A great gale arose, and the waves beat into the boat, so that the boat was already being swamped. But he was in the stern, asleep on the cushion; and they woke him up and said to him, "Teacher, do you not care that we are perishing?" He woke up and rebuked the wind, and said to the sea, "Peace! Be still!" Then the wind ceased, and there was a dead calm. He said to them, "Why are you afraid? Have you still no faith?" And they were filled with great awe and said to one another, "Who then is this, that even the wind and the sea obey him?"

POST COMMUNION

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.

