

The Collect

O ALMIGHTY God, who alone canst order the unruly wills and affections of sinful men; Grant unto thy people, that they may love the thing which thou commandest, and desire that which thou dost promise; that so, among the sundry and manifold changes of the world, our hearts may surely there be fixed, where true joys are to be found; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

First Lesson

Acts 16:22-34

The crowd joined in attacking them; and the magistrates tore the garments off them and gave orders to beat them with rods. And when they had inflicted many blows upon them, they threw them into prison, charging the jailer to keep them safely. Having received this charge, he put them into the inner prison and fastened their feet in the stocks. But about midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them, and suddenly there was a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken; and immediately all the doors were opened and every one's fetters were unfastened. When the jailer woke and saw that the prison doors were open, he drew his sword and was about to kill himself, supposing that the prisoners had escaped. But Paul cried with a loud voice, "Do not harm yourself, for we are all here." And he called for lights and rushed in, and trembling with fear he fell down before Paul and Silas, and brought them out and said, "Men, what must I do to be saved?" And they said, "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household." And they spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all that were in his house. And he took them the same hour of the night, and washed their wounds, and he was baptized at once, with all his family. Then he brought them up into his house, and set food before them; and he rejoiced with all his household that he had believed in God.

The Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

1: Praise the LORD! Praise the LORD from the heavens, praise him in the heights!

2: Praise him, all his angels, praise him, all his host!

3: Praise him, sun and moon, praise him, all you shining stars!

4: Praise him, you highest heavens, and you waters above the heavens!

5: Let them praise the name of the LORD! For he commanded and they were created.

6: And he established them for ever and ever; he fixed their bounds which cannot be passed.

7: Praise the LORD from the earth, you sea monsters and all deeps,

8: fire and hail, snow and frost, stormy wind fulfilling his command!

9: Mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars!

10: Beasts and all cattle, creeping things and flying birds!

11: Kings of the earth and all peoples, princes and all rulers of the earth!

12: Young men and maidens together, old men and children!

13: Let them praise the name of the LORD, for his name alone is exalted; his glory is above earth and heaven.

14: He has raised up a horn for his people, praise for all his saints, for the people of Israel who are near to him. Praise the LORD!

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Ghost

*As it was in the beginning, is now,
and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.*

Second Lesson

James 1:17-21

Every good endowment and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. Of his own will he brought us forth by the word of truth that we should be a kind of first fruits of his creatures. Know this, my beloved brethren. Let every man be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger, for the anger of man does not work the righteousness of God. Therefore put away all filthiness and rank growth of wickedness and receive with meekness the implanted word, which is able to save your souls.

The Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

The Holy Gospel *Glory be to thee, O Lord*

John 16:5-15

Jesus said: "But now I am going to him who sent me; yet none of you asks me, 'Where are you going?' But because I have said these things to you, sorrow has filled your hearts. Nevertheless I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Counselor will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you. And when he comes, he will convince the world concerning sin and righteousness and judgment: concerning sin, because they do not believe in me; concerning righteousness, because I go to the Father, and you will see me no more; concerning judgment, because the ruler of this world is judged. "I have yet many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth; for he will not speak on his own authority, but whatever he hears he will speak, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. He will glorify me, for he will take what is mine and declare it to you. All that the Father has is mine; therefore I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you.

The Gospel of the Lord
Praise be to thee, O Christ