

## **First Reading:** A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

When Saul arrived in Jerusalem he tried to join the disciples, but they were all afraid of him, not believing that he was a disciple.

Then Barnabas took charge of him and brought him to the apostles, and he reported to them how he had seen the Lord, and that he had spoken to him, and how in Damascus he had spoken out boldly in the name of Jesus.

He moved about freely with them in Jerusalem, and spoke out boldly in the name of the Lord. He also spoke and debated with the Hellenists, but they tried to kill him.

And when the brothers learned of this, they took him down to Caesarea and sent him on his way to Tarsus.

The church throughout all Judea, Galilee, and Samaria was at peace.

It was being built up and walked in the fear of the Lord, and with the consolation of the Holy Spirit it grew in numbers.

The word of the Lord: **Thanks be to God.**

**R. I will praise you, Lord, in the assembly of your people.**

I will fulfill my vows before those who fear the LORD.

The lowly shall eat their fill;  
they who seek the LORD shall praise him:

“May your hearts live forever!”

**R. I will praise you, Lord, in the assembly of your people.**

•  
All the ends of the earth  
shall remember and turn to the LORD;  
all the families of the nations  
shall bow down before him.

**R. I will praise you, Lord, in the assembly of your people.**

To him alone shall bow down  
all who sleep in the earth;  
before him shall bend  
all who go down into the dust.

**R. I will praise you, Lord, in the assembly of your people.**

And to him my soul shall live;  
my descendants shall serve him.  
Let the coming generation be told of the LORD  
that they may proclaim to a people yet to be born  
the justice he has shown.

**R. I will praise you, Lord, in the assembly of your people.**

**Second Reading:** A reading from the first Letter of Saint John

Children, let us love not in word or speech  
but in deed and truth.

Now this is how we shall know that we belong to the truth  
and reassure our hearts before him  
in whatever our hearts condemn,  
for God is greater than our hearts and knows everything.  
Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us,  
we have confidence in God  
and receive from him whatever we ask,  
because we keep his commandments and do what pleases  
him.

And his commandment is this:  
we should believe in the name of his Son, Jesus Christ,  
and love one another just as he commanded us.  
Those who keep his commandments remain in him, and he  
in them,  
and the way we know that he remains in us  
is from the Spirit he gave us.

The word of the Lord: **Thanks be to God.**

**Gospel:** A reading from holy Gospel according to John

Jesus said to his disciples:

“I am the true vine, and my Father is the vine grower. He takes away every branch in me that does not bear fruit, and every one that does he prunes so that it bears more fruit. You are already pruned because of the word that I spoke to you.

Remain in me, as I remain in you.

Just as a branch cannot bear fruit on its own unless it remains on the vine, so neither can you unless you remain in me.

I am the vine, you are the branches.

Whoever remains in me and I in him will bear much fruit, because without me you can do nothing.

Anyone who does not remain in me will be thrown out like a branch and wither; people will gather them and throw them into a fire and they will be burned.

If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask for whatever you want and it will be done for you.

By this is my Father glorified, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples.”

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ**

I BELIEVE IN ONE GOD, THE FATHER ALMIGHTY,  
MAKER OF HEAVEN AND EARTH,  
OF ALL THINGS VISIBLE AND INVISIBLE.  
I BELIEVE IN ONE LORD JESUS CHRIST,  
THE ONLY BEGOTTEN SON OF GOD,  
BORN OF THE FATHER BEFORE ALL AGES.  
GOD FROM GOD, LIGHT FROM LIGHT,  
TRUE GOD FROM TRUE GOD,  
BEGOTTEN, NOT MADE, CONSUBSTANTIAL  
WITH THE FATHER;  
THROUGH HIM ALL THINGS WERE MADE.  
FOR US MEN AND FOR OUR SALVATION  
HE CAME DOWN FROM HEAVEN,  
AND BY THE HOLY SPIRIT WAS INCARNATE  
OF THE VIRGIN MARY,  
AND BECAME MAN.  
FOR OUR SAKE HE WAS CRUCIFIED  
UNDER PONTIUS PILATE,  
HE SUFFERED DEATH AND WAS BURIED,  
AND ROSE AGAIN ON THE THIRD DAY  
IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE SCRIPTURES.  
HE ASCENDED INTO HEAVEN  
AND IS SEATED AT THE RIGHT HAND OF THE FATHER.  
HE WILL COME AGAIN IN GLORY  
TO JUDGE THE LIVING AND THE DEAD  
AND HIS KINGDOM WILL HAVE NO END.  
I BELIEVE IN THE HOLY SPIRIT,  
THE LORD, THE GIVER OF LIFE,  
WHO PROCEEDS FROM THE FATHER AND THE SON,  
WHO WITH THE FATHER AND THE SON  
IS ADORED AND GLORIFIED,  
WHO HAS SPOKEN THROUGH THE PROPHETS.  
I BELIEVE IN ONE, HOLY, CATHOLIC,  
AND APOSTOLIC CHURCH.  
I CONFESS ONE BAPTISM FOR THE FORGIVENESS OF SINS  
AND I LOOK FORWARD TO THE RESURRECTION  
OF THE DEAD AND THE LIFE OF THE WORLD TO COME.  
AMEN.

## Spiritual Communion Prayer

My Jesus, I believe that You are present in the Most Holy Sacrament.

I love You above all things, and I desire to receive You into my soul.

Since I cannot at this moment receive You sacramentally,  
come at least spiritually into my heart.

I embrace You as if You were already there and unite myself wholly  
to You.

Never permit me to be separated from You.

*Amen.*