

Collect of the Day

O King and Judge of the nations: We remember before you with grateful hearts the men and women of our armed forces, who in the day of decision ventured much for the liberties we now enjoy; grant that we may not rest until all the people of this land share the benefits of true freedom and gladly accept its disciplines; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, now and for ever. Amen.

Reader: The first lesson is taken from Acts 16:16–34

¹⁶ As we were going to the place of prayer, we were met by a slave girl who had a spirit of divination and brought her owners much gain by fortune-telling. ¹⁷ She followed Paul and us, crying out, “These men are servants of the Most High God, who proclaim to you the way of salvation.” ¹⁸ And this she kept doing for many days. Paul, having become greatly annoyed, turned and said to the spirit, “I command you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her.” And it came out that very hour. ¹⁹ But when her owners saw that their hope of gain was gone, they seized Paul and Silas and dragged them into the marketplace before the rulers. ²⁰ They were shouting, “These men are disturbing our city. ²¹ They advocate customs that are not lawful for us as Romans to accept or practice.” ²² The crowd joined in attacking them, and the magistrates tore the garments off them and gave orders to beat them with rods. ²³ And when they had inflicted many blows upon them, they threw them into prison, ordering the jailer to keep them safely. ²⁴ Having received this order, he put them into the inner prison and fastened their feet in the stocks. ²⁵ About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them, ²⁶ and suddenly there was a great earthquake, so that the foundations of the prison were shaken. And immediately all the doors were opened, and everyone's bonds were unfastened. ²⁷ 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. ²⁸ But Paul cried with a loud voice, “Do not harm yourself, for we are all here.” ²⁹ And the jailer called for lights and rushed in, and trembling with fear he fell down before Paul and Silas. ³⁰ Then he brought them out and said, “Sirs, what must I do to be saved?” ³¹ And they said, “Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household.” ³² And they spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all who were in his house. ³³ And he took them the same hour of the night and washed their wounds; and he was baptized at once, he and all his family. ³⁴ Then he brought them up into his house and set food before them. And he rejoiced along with his entire household that he had believed in God.

Reader: The Word of the Lord

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Reader: This morning's psalm is Psalm 66 read responsively by full verse.

66 Shout for joy to God, all the earth;

² **sing the glory of his name; give to him glorious praise!**

³ Say to God, “How awesome are your deeds! So great is your power that your enemies come cringing to you.

⁴ **All the earth worships you and sings praises to you; they sing praises to your name.” *Selah***

⁵ Come and see what God has done: he is awesome in his deeds toward the children of man.

⁶ **He turned the sea into dry land; they passed through the river on foot. There did we rejoice in him,**

⁷ who rules by his might forever, whose eyes keep watch on the nations—let not the rebellious exalt themselves. *Selah*

⁸ **Bless our God, O peoples; let the sound of his praise be heard,**

⁹ who has kept our soul among the living and has not let our feet slip.

¹⁰ **For you, O God, have tested us; you have tried us as silver is tried.**

¹¹ You brought us into the net; you laid a crushing burden on our backs;

¹² **you let men ride over our heads; we went through fire and through water; yet you have brought us out to a place of abundance.**

(over)

- ¹³ I will come into your house with burnt offerings; I will perform my vows to you,
¹⁴ **that which my lips uttered and my mouth promised when I was in trouble.**
¹⁵ I will offer to you burnt offerings of fattened animals, with the smoke of the sacrifice of rams; I will make an offering of bulls and goats. *Selah*
¹⁶ **Come and hear, all you who fear God, and I will tell what he has done for my soul.**
¹⁷ I cried to him with my mouth, and high praise was on[a] my tongue.
¹⁸ **If I had cherished iniquity in my heart, the Lord would not have listened.**
¹⁹ But truly God has listened; he has attended to the voice of my prayer.
²⁰ **Blessed be God, because he has not rejected my prayer or removed his steadfast love from me!**

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Reader: The Epistle is taken from Revelation 22:10–21

¹⁰ And he said to me, “Do not seal up the words of the prophecy of this book, for the time is near. ¹¹ Let the evildoer still do evil, and the filthy still be filthy, and the righteous still do right, and the holy still be holy.”
¹² “Behold, I am coming soon, bringing my recompense with me, to repay each one for what he has done.
¹³ I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end.” ¹⁴ Blessed are those who wash their robes, so that they may have the right to the tree of life and that they may enter the city by the gates.
¹⁵ Outside are the dogs and sorcerers and the sexually immoral and murderers and idolaters, and everyone who loves and practices falsehood. ¹⁶ “I, Jesus, have sent my angel to testify to you about these things for the churches. I am the root and the descendant of David, the bright morning star.” ¹⁷ The Spirit and the Bride say, “Come.” And let the one who hears say, “Come.” And let the one who is thirsty come; let the one who desires take the water of life without price. ¹⁸ I warn everyone who hears the words of the prophecy of this book: if anyone adds to them, God will add to him the plagues described in this book, ¹⁹ and if anyone takes away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God will take away his share in the tree of life and in the holy city, which are described in this book. ²⁰ He who testifies to these things says, “Surely I am coming soon.” Amen. Come, Lord Jesus! ²¹ The grace of the Lord Jesus be with all. Amen

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Celebrant: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St John 17:20–26

People: **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

²⁰ “I do not ask for these only, but also for those who will believe in me through their word, ²¹ that they may all be one, just as you, Father, are in me, and I in you, that they also may be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me. ²² The glory that you have given me I have given to them, that they may be one even as we are one, ²³ I in them and you in me, that they may become perfectly one, so that the world may know that you sent me and loved them even as you loved me. ²⁴ Father, I desire that they also, whom you have given me, may be with me where I am, to see my glory that you have given me because you loved me before the foundation of the world. ²⁵ O righteous Father, even though the world does not know you, I know you, and these know that you have sent me. ²⁶ I made known to them your name, and I will continue to make it known, that the love with which you have loved me may be in them, and I in them.”

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**