

COLLECT

Eternal Father,
 who at the baptism of Jesus
 revealed him to be your Son,
 anointing him with the Holy Spirit:
 grant to us, who are born again by
 water and the Spirit,
 that we may be faithful to our calling
 as your adopted children;
 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 Genesis 1:1-5

A reading from the book of Genesis.

In the beginning when God created
 the heavens and the earth, the earth
 was a formless void and darkness
 covered the face of the deep, while
 a wind from God swept over the face
 of the waters. Then God said, "Let
 there be light"; and there was light.
 And God saw that the light was good;
 and God separated the light from the
 darkness. God called the light Day,
 and the darkness he called Night.
 And there was evening and there was
 morning, the first day.

PSALM Psalm 29

R *The Lord shall give his people
 the blessing of peace.*

Ascribe to the Lord, you powers of
 heaven,
 ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.
 Ascribe to the Lord the honour due to
 his name;
 worship the Lord in the beauty of
 holiness.
 The voice of the Lord is upon the waters;
 the God of glory thunders;
 the Lord is upon the mighty waters. **R**

The voice of the Lord is mighty in
 operation;

the voice of the Lord is a glorious voice.
 The voice of the Lord breaks the
 cedar trees;
 the Lord breaks the cedars of
 Lebanon;
 He makes Lebanon skip like a calf
 and Sirion like a young wild ox. **R**

The voice of the Lord splits the flash
 of lightning;
 the voice of the Lord shakes the
 wilderness;
 the Lord shakes the wilderness of
 Kadesh.

The voice of the Lord makes the oak
 trees writhe
 and strips the forests bare;
 in his temple all cry, "Glory!" **R**

The Lord sits enthroned above the
 water flood;
 the Lord sits enthroned as king for
 evermore.

The Lord shall give strength to his
 people;
 the Lord shall give his people the
 blessing of peace. **R**

SECOND READING Acts 19:1-7

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

While Apollos was in Corinth, Paul
 passed through the inland regions
 and came to Ephesus, where he found
 some disciples. He said to them, "Did
 you receive the Holy Spirit when you
 became believers?" They replied, "No,
 we have not even heard that there
 is a Holy Spirit." Then he said, "Into
 what then were you baptized?" They
 answered, "Into John's baptism." Paul
 said, "John baptized with the baptism
 of repentance, telling the people to
 believe in the one who was to come
 after him, that is, in Jesus." On hearing
 this, they were baptized in the name of
 the Lord Jesus. When Paul had laid his

hands on them, the Holy Spirit came
 upon them, and they spoke in tongues
 and prophesied – altogether there
 were about twelve of them.

GOSPEL Mark 1:4-11

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

John the baptizer appeared in the
 wilderness, proclaiming a baptism
 of repentance for the forgiveness
 of sins. And people from the whole
 Judean countryside and all the people
 of Jerusalem were going out to him,
 and were baptized by him in the river
 Jordan, confessing their sins. Now
 John was clothed with camel's hair,
 with a leather belt around his waist,
 and he ate locusts and wild honey. He
 proclaimed, "The one who is more
 powerful than I is coming after me;
 I am not worthy to stoop down and
 untie the thong of his sandals. I have
 baptized you with water; but he will
 baptize you with the Holy Spirit." In
 those days Jesus came from Nazareth
 of Galilee and was baptized by John
 in the Jordan. And just as he was
 coming up out of the water, he saw
 the heavens torn apart and the Spirit
 descending like a dove on him. And a
 voice came from heaven, "You are my
 Son, the Beloved; with you I am well
 pleased."

POST COMMUNION

Lord of all time and eternity,
 you opened the heavens
 and revealed yourself as Father
 in the baptism of Jesus your beloved
 Son:
 by the power of your Spirit
 complete the heavenly work of our
 rebirth
 through the waters of the new creation;
 through Jesus Christ our Lord.

