

COLLECT

Eternal Father,
 whose Son Jesus Christ ascended
 to the throne of heaven that
 he might rule over all things
 as Lord and King:
 keep the Church in the unity of
 the Spirit
 and in the bond of peace,
 and bring the whole created
 order to worship at his feet;
 who is alive and reigns with you,
 in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
 one God, now and for ever.

FIRST READING

Daniel 7:9-10. 13-14

A reading from the book of Daniel.

As I watched, thrones were set in place, and an Ancient One took his throne, his clothing was white as snow, and the hair of his head like pure wool; his throne was fiery flames, and its wheels were burning fire. A stream of fire issued and flowed out from his presence. A thousand thousand served him, and ten thousand times ten thousand stood attending him. The court sat in judgement, and the books were opened. As I watched in the night visions, I saw one like a human being coming with the clouds of heaven. And he came to the Ancient One and was presented before him. To him was given dominion and glory and kingship, that all peoples, nations, and languages should serve him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion that shall not pass away, and his kingship is one that shall never be destroyed.

PSALM Psalm 93

R *The Lord shall reign for ever and ever.*

The Lord is king and has put on glorious apparel;
 the Lord has put on his glory and girded himself with strength.
 He has made the whole world so sure that it cannot be moved. **R**

Your throne has been established from of old;
 you are from everlasting.
 The floods have lifted up, O Lord, the floods have lifted up their voice;
 the floods lift up their pounding waves. **R**

Mightier than the thunder of many waters, mightier than the breakers of the sea,
 the Lord on high is mightier.
 Your testimonies are very sure; holiness adorns your house, O Lord, for ever. **R**

SECOND READING

Revelation 1:4b-8

A reading from the book of Revelation.

Grace to you and peace from God who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth. To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood, and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion for ever and ever.

Amen. Look! He is coming with the clouds; every eye will see him, even those who pierced him; and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail. So it is to be. Amen. "I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.

GOSPEL John 18:33-37

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.
 Pilate asked Jesus, "Are you the King of the Jews?" Jesus answered, "Do you ask this on your own, or did others tell you about me?" Pilate replied, "I am not a Jew, am I? Your own nation and the chief priests have handed you over to me. What have you done?" Jesus answered, "My kingdom is not from this world. If my kingdom were from this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here." Pilate asked him, "So you are a king?" Jesus answered, "You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice."

POST COMMUNION

Stir up, O Lord,
 the wills of your faithful people;
 that they, plenteously bringing
 forth the fruit of good works,
 may by you be plenteously
 rewarded;
 through Jesus Christ our Lord.

