OPENING ACCLAMATION

Celebrant Blessed be God, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.

People And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever. Amen.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

Lord of all power and might, the author and giver of all good things: Graft in our hearts the love of your Name, increase in us true religion, nourish us with all goodness, and bring forth in us the fruit of good works; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Job 38:1-11(12-15) 16-18

Then the LORD answered Job out of the whirlwind and said:

2 “Who is this that darkens counsel by words without knowledge? 3 Dress for action like a man; I will question you, and you make it known to me.

4 “Where were you when I laid the foundation of the earth? Tell me, if you have understanding. 5 Who determined its measurements—surely you know! Or who stretched the line upon it? 6 On what were its bases sunk, or who laid its cornerstone, 7 when the morning stars sang together and all the sons of God
shouted for joy?

8 “Or who shut in the sea with doors when it burst out from the womb, 9 when I made clouds its garment and thick darkness its swaddling band, 10 and prescribed limits for it and set bars and doors, 11 and said, ‘Thus far shall you come, and no farther, and here shall your proud waves be stayed’?

( 12 “Have you commanded the morning since your days began, and caused the dawn to know its place, 13 that it might take hold of the skirts of the earth, and the wicked be shaken out of it? 14 It is changed like clay under the seal, and its features stand out like a garment. 15 From the wicked their light is withheld, and their uplifted arm is broken. )

16 “Have you entered into the springs of the sea, or walked in the recesses of the deep? 17 Have the gates of death been revealed to you, or have you seen the gates of deep darkness? 18 Have you comprehended the expanse of the earth? Declare, if you know all this.

Reader: The word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Psalter Verses

(In said services, the psalm verses may be placed between the Epistle and the Gospel, with the congregation standing in preparation for the Gospel. At services where there is a hymn or canticle before the Gospel, the psalm might be said between the Old Testament and Epistle, the people seated.)

Psalm 107:1-3(4-22)23-32

1 O give thanks unto the LORD, for he is gracious, *
   and his mercy endures for ever.
Let those whom the LORD has redeemed give thanks, *
whom he has delivered from the hand of the enemy,
And gathered them out of the lands, from the east and from the west, *
from the north and from the south.
(They went astray in the wilderness, even in the desert, *
and found no city to dwell in;
They were hungry and thirsty, *
and their soul fainted within them.
Then they cried unto the LORD in their trouble, *
and he delivered them from their distress.
He led them forth by a straight path *
until they came to a city where they might dwell.
Oh, that they would therefore praise the LORD for his goodness *
and declare the wonders that he does for the children of men!
For he satisfies the empty soul *
and fills the hungry soul with goodness.
Some sat in darkness, and in the shadow of death, *
being bound fast in misery and iron,
Because they rebelled against the words of God *
and lightly regarded the counsel of the Most High.
He also brought down their heart with heaviness; *
they fell down, and there was none to help them.
Then they cried unto the LORD in their trouble, *
and he delivered them out of their distress.
For he brought them out of darkness, and out of the shadow
of death, *
and broke their bonds asunder.

15 Oh, that they would therefore praise the LORD for his goodness *
and declare the wonders that he does for the children of men!

16 For he has broken the gates of brass *
and shattered the bars of iron asunder.

17 The foolish were plagued for their offense *
and because of their wickedness.

18 Their soul abhorred all manner of food, *
and they were even close to death’s door.

19 So when they cried unto the LORD in their trouble, *
he delivered them out of their distress.

20 He sent his word and healed them, *
and they were saved from destruction.

21 Oh, that they would therefore praise the LORD for his goodness *
and declare the wonders that he does for the children of men!

22 That they would offer unto him the sacrifice of thanksgiving *
and tell of his works with gladness!

23 Those who go down to the sea in ships, *
who carry out their business in great waters,

24 They behold the works of the LORD *
and his wonders in the deep.

25 For at his word the stormy wind arises, *
which lifts up the waves.
26 They are carried up to heaven and down again to the deep; * 
their soul melts away because of the trouble.

27 They reel to and fro, and stagger like a drunken man, * 
and are at their wits’ end.

28 So when they cry unto the LORD in their trouble, * 
he delivers them out of their distress.

29 For he makes the storm to cease, * 
so that the waves are still.

30 Then they are glad, because they are at rest, * 
and so he brings them into the haven where they desire to 
be.

31 Oh, that they would therefore praise the LORD for his good- 
ness * 
and declare the wonders that he does for the children of 
men!

32 That they would exalt him also in the congregation of the 
people * 
and praise him in the seat of the elders!

New Testament Reading

2 Corinthians 5:14-21

For the love of Christ controls us, because we have concluded 
this: that one has died for all, therefore all have died; 15 and he 
died for all, that those who live might no longer live for them- 
selves but for him who for their sake died and was raised.

16 From now on, therefore, we regard no one according to the 
flesh. Even though we once regarded Christ according to the 
flesh, we regard him thus no longer. 17 Therefore, if anyone is in 
Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold,
the new has come. 18 All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation; 19 that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation. 20 Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. 21 For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

Reader: The word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

The Holy Gospel

Deacon: The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ, according to St. Mark.

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Mark 4:35-41(5:1-20)

On that day, when evening had come, he said to them, “Let us go across to the other side.” 36 And leaving the crowd, they took him with them in the boat, just as he was. And other boats were with him. 37 And a great windstorm arose, and the waves were breaking into the boat, so that the boat was already filling. 38 But he was in the stern, asleep on the cushion. And they woke him and said to him, “Teacher, do you not care that we are perishing?” 39 And he awoke and rebuked the wind and said to the sea, “Peace! Be still!” And the wind ceased, and there was a great calm. 40 He said to them, “Why are you so afraid? Have you still no faith?” 41 And they were filled with great fear and said to one another, “Who then is this, that even the wind and the sea obey him?”
(5) They came to the other side of the sea, to the country of the Gerasenes. 2 And when Jesus had stepped out of the boat, immediately there met him out of the tombs a man with an unclean spirit. 3 He lived among the tombs. And no one could bind him anymore, not even with a chain, 4 for he had often been bound with shackles and chains, but he wrenched the chains apart, and he broke the shackles in pieces. No one had the strength to subdue him. 5 Night and day among the tombs and on the mountains he was always crying out and cutting himself with stones. 6 And when he saw Jesus from afar, he ran and fell down before him. 7 And crying out with a loud voice, he said, “What have you to do with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I adjure you by God, do not torment me.” 8 For he was saying to him, “Come out of the man, you unclean spirit!” 9 And Jesus asked him, “What is your name?” He replied, “My name is Legion, for we are many.” 10 And he begged him earnestly not to send them out of the country. 11 Now a great herd of pigs was feeding there on the hillside, 12 and they begged him, saying, “Send us to the pigs; let us enter them.” 13 So he gave them permission. And the unclean spirits came out and entered the pigs; and the herd, numbering about two thousand, rushed down the steep bank into the sea and drowned in the sea.

14 The herdsmen fled and told it in the city and in the country. And people came to see what it was that had happened. 15 And they came to Jesus and saw the demon-possessed man, the one who had had the legion, sitting there, clothed and in his
right mind, and they were afraid. 16 And those who had seen it described to them what had happened to the demon-possessed man and to the pigs. 17 And they began to beg Jesus to depart from their region. 18 As he was getting into the boat, the man who had been possessed with demons begged him that he might be with him. 19 And he did not permit him but said to him, “Go home to your friends and tell them how much the Lord has done for you, and how he has had mercy on you.” 20 And he went away and began to proclaim in the Decapolis how much Jesus had done for him, and everyone marveled.


People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Offertory and Post-Communion Sentences

(Drawn from verses of Holy Scripture, these sentences are chosen by the celebrant or preacher to reinforce the lessons or teaching of the day.)

Proper Preface

The Lord’s Day

Through Jesus Christ our Lord, who on the first day of the week overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.