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

O Lord God, grant your people grace to withstand the temptations of the world, the flesh, and the devil, and with pure hearts and minds to follow you, the only God; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 35:4-7a

Say to those who have an anxious heart, "Be strong; fear not! Behold, your God will come with vengeance, with the recompense of God. He will come and save you."

5 Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the
deaf unstopped; 6 then shall the lame man leap like a deer, and
the tongue of the mute sing for joy. For waters break forth in
the wilderness, and streams in the desert; 7 the burning sand
shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water;

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 146

1 Praise the LORD, O my soul; *
  while I live I will praise the LORD.

2 Indeed, as long as I have my being, *
  I will sing praises unto my God.

3 Put not your trust in princes, nor in any child of man, *
  for there is no help in them.

4 For when one breathes his last, he shall return again to the earth, *
  and in that day all his thoughts perish.

5 Blessed is the one who has the God of Jacob for his help *
  and whose hope is in the LORD his God,

6 Who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is therein; *
  who keeps his promise for ever;

7 Who does right to those who suffer wrong; *
  and who feeds the hungry.

8 The LORD sets prisoners free; *
  the LORD gives sight to the blind.

9 The LORD helps those who have fallen; *
  the LORD loves the righteous.

10 The LORD cares for the strangers in the land; he defends the fatherless and widow; *
  but the way of the ungodly he makes crooked.

11 The LORD shall be King for evermore, *
  even your God, O Zion, throughout all generations. Praise the LORD.

New Testament Reading

James 1:17-27

Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. 18 Of his own will he brought us forth by the word of truth, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures.

19 Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger; 20 for the anger of man does not produce the righteousness of God. 21 Therefore put away all filthiness and rampant wickedness and receive with meekness the implanted word, which is able to save your souls.

22 But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. 23 For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man who looks intently at his natural face in a mirror. 24 For he looks at himself and goes away and at once forgets what he was like. 25 But the one who looks into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and perseveres, being no hearer who forgets but a doer who acts, he will be blessed in his doing.

26 If anyone thinks he is religious and does not bridle his tongue but deceives his heart, this person's religion is worthless. 27 Religion that is pure and undefiled before God the Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their affliction, and to keep oneself unstained from the world.

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 7:31-37

Then he returned from the region of Tyre and went through Sidon to the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis.
32 And they brought to him a man who was deaf and had a speech impediment, and they begged him to lay his hand on him. **33** And taking him aside from the crowd privately, he put his fingers into his ears, and after spitting touched his tongue. **34** And looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, "Ephphatha," that is, "Be opened." **35** And his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly. **36** And Jesus charged them to tell no one. But the more he charged them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. **37** And they were astonished beyond measure, saying, "He has done all things well. He even makes the deaf hear and the mute speak."

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord.
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.

Sources: The Collect of the Day is taken from the Book of Common Prayer 2019. The Psalm verses are taken from the New Coverdale Psalter of the BCP 2019. Scripture quotations are taken from The ESV® Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®), copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.