

**April 23rd 2023**

**Collect**

O God,  
your Son made himself known to his disciples  
in the breaking of bread:  
open the eyes of our faith,  
that we may see him in his redeeming work;  
who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

**1st Reading**

**Acts 2.14a, 2.36-41**

<sup>14</sup> But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them: 'Men of Judea and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say. <sup>36</sup> Therefore let the entire house of Israel know with certainty that God has made him both Lord and Messiah, this Jesus whom you crucified.' <sup>37</sup> Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and to the other apostles, 'Brothers, what should we do?' <sup>38</sup> Peter said to them, 'Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. <sup>39</sup> For the promise is for you, for your children, and for all who are far away, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to him.' <sup>40</sup> And he testified with many other arguments and exhorted them, saying, 'Save yourselves from this corrupt generation.' <sup>41</sup> So those who welcomed his message were baptized, and that day about three thousand persons were added.

**End of the reading**

**Psalm**

**Psalm 116.1–4; 116.11–18**

<sup>1</sup> I love the Lord, because he heard my voice:  
the voice of my supplication;

- 2 Because he inclined his ear to me:  
in the day that I called to him.
- 3 The cords of death encompassed me,  
the snares of the grave took hold on me:  
I was in anguish and sorrow.
- 4 Then I called upon the name of the Lord:  
'O Lord, I beseech you, deliver me !'
- 11 How shall I repay the Lord:  
for all his benefits to me?
- 12 I will take up the cup of salvation:  
and call upon the name of the Lord.
- 13 I will pay my vows to the Lord:  
in the presence of all his people.
- 14 Grievous in the sight of the Lord:  
is the death of his faithful ones.
- 15 O Lord, I am your servant,  
your servant and the child of your handmaid:  
you have unloosed my bonds.
- 16 I will offer you a sacrifice of thanksgiving:  
and call upon the name of the Lord.
- 17 I will pay my vows to the Lord:  
in the presence of all his people,
- 18 In the courts of the house of the Lord:  
even in your midst, O Jerusalem. Praise the Lord.

## 2nd Reading

### 1 Peter 1.13–25

- 13 Therefore prepare your minds for action; discipline yourselves; set all your hope on the grace that Jesus Christ will bring you when he is revealed.
- 14 Like obedient children, do not be conformed to the desires that you formerly had in ignorance.
- 15 Instead, as he who called you is holy, be holy yourselves in all your conduct;
- 16 for it is written, 'You shall be holy, for I am holy.'

<sup>17</sup> If you invoke as Father the one who judges all people impartially according to their deeds, live in reverent fear during the time of your exile.

<sup>18</sup> You know that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your ancestors, not with perishable things like silver or gold,  
<sup>19</sup> but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without defect or blemish.

<sup>20</sup> He was destined before the foundation of the world, but was revealed at the end of the ages for your sake.

<sup>21</sup> Through him you have come to trust in God, who raised him from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are set on God.

<sup>22</sup> Now that you have purified your souls by your obedience to the truth so that you have genuine mutual love, love one another deeply from the heart.

<sup>23</sup> You have been born anew, not of perishable but of imperishable seed, through the living and enduring word of God.

<sup>24</sup> For

'All flesh is like grass

and all its glory like the flower of grass.

The grass withers,

and the flower falls,

<sup>25</sup> but the word of the Lord endures for ever.' That word is the good news that was announced to you.

## **Gospel**

### **Mark 16:1-8**

**1** When the Sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices so that they might go to anoint Jesus' body.

**2** Very early on the first day of the week, just after sunrise, they were on their way to the tomb

**3** and they asked each other, "Who will roll the stone away from the entrance of the tomb?"

**4** But when they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had been rolled away.

**5** As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man dressed in a white robe sitting on the right side, and they were alarmed.

**6** “Don’t be alarmed,” he said. “You are looking for Jesus the Nazarene, who was crucified. He has risen! He is not here. See the place where they laid him.

**7** But go, tell his disciples and Peter, ‘He is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see him, just as he told you.’”

**8** Trembling and bewildered, the women went out and fled from the tomb. They said nothing to anyone, because they were afraid.