

**COLLECT: (*Remain Standing*)**

God of all times and seasons: Give us grace that we, after the example of your servant Hildegard, may both know and make known the joy and jubilation of being part of your creation, and show forth your glory in the world; through Jesus Christ our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

**First Reading: Job 40:1,41:1-11 (*Please be seated*)**

Reader: A reading from the book of Job.

And the Lord said to Job:

‘Can you draw out Leviathan with a fish-hook,

or press down its tongue with a cord?

Can you put a rope in its nose,  
or pierce its jaw with a hook?

Will it make many supplications to you?

Will it speak soft words to you?

Will it make a covenant with you  
to be taken as your servant for ever?

Will you play with it as with a bird,  
or will you put it on a leash for your girls?

Will traders bargain over it?

Will they divide it up among the  
merchants?

Can you fill its skin with harpoons,  
or its head with fishing-spears?

Lay hands on it;

think of the battle; you will not do it again!

Any hope of capturing it will be  
disappointed;

were not even the gods overwhelmed at  
the sight of it?

No one is so fierce as to dare to stir it up.

Who can stand before it?

Who can confront it and be safe?

—under the whole heaven, who?

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God**

**Psalm**

Reader: Let us pray together the words of **Psalm 61**.

1 Hear my cry, O God, \*  
and listen to my prayer.

2 I call upon you from the ends of the earth  
with heaviness in my heart; \*  
set me upon the rock that is higher than I.

3 For you have been my refuge, \*  
a strong tower against the enemy.

4 I will dwell in your house for ever; \*  
I will take refuge under the cover of your wings.

5 For you, O God, have heard my vows; \*  
you have granted me the heritage of those  
who fear your Name.

6 Add length of days to the king's life; \*  
let his years extend over many generations.

7 Let him sit enthroned before God for ever; \*  
bid love and faithfulness watch over him.

8 So will I always sing the praise of your Name, \*  
and day by day I will fulfill my vows.

## **Acts 16:6-15** *(Please be seated)*

Reader: A reading from the book of Acts.

They went through the region of Phrygia and Galatia, having been forbidden by the Holy Spirit to speak the word in Asia. When they had come opposite Mysia, they attempted to go into Bithynia, but the Spirit of Jesus did not allow them; so, passing by Mysia, they went down to Troas. During the night Paul had a vision: there stood a man of Macedonia pleading with him and saying, 'Come over to Macedonia and help us.' When he had seen the vision, we immediately tried to cross over to Macedonia, being convinced that God had called us to proclaim the good news to them.

We set sail from Troas and took a straight course to Samothrace, the following day to Neapolis, and from there to Philippi, which is a leading city of the district of Macedonia and a Roman colony. We remained in this city for some days. On the sabbath day we went outside the gate by the river, where we supposed there was a place of prayer; and we sat down and spoke to the women who had gathered there. A certain woman named Lydia, a worshipper of God, was listening to us; she was from the city of Thyatira and a dealer in purple cloth. The Lord opened her heart to listen eagerly to what was said by Paul. When she and her household were baptized, she urged us, saying, 'If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come and stay at my home.' And she prevailed upon us.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

## **John 12:9-19** *(Please stand as you are able)*

Priest: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

**People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

When the great crowd of the Jews learned that he was there, they came not only because of Jesus but also to see Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. So the chief priests planned to put Lazarus to death as well, since it was on account of him that many of the Jews were deserting and were believing in Jesus.

The next day the great crowd that had come to the festival heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem. So they took branches of palm trees and went out to meet him, shouting, 'Hosanna!

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord—  
the King of Israel!

Jesus found a young donkey and sat on it; as it is written:

'Do not be afraid, daughter of Zion.

Look, your king is coming,  
sitting on a donkey's colt!

His disciples did not understand these things at first; but when Jesus was glorified, then they remembered that these things had been written of him and had been done to him. So the crowd that had been with him when he called Lazarus out of the tomb and raised him from the dead continued to testify. It was also because they heard that he had performed this sign that the crowd went to meet him. The Pharisees then said to one another, 'You see, you can do nothing. Look, the world has gone after him!'

Priest: The Gospel of the Lord.

**All: Praise to you, Lord Christ**