

OPENING PRAYER

Everlasting God,
 you have ordained and constituted the ministries of
 angels and mortals in a wonderful order:
 grant that as your holy angels always serve you in heaven,
 so, at your command,
 they may help and defend us on earth;
 through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
 who is alive and reigns with you,
 in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
 one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

FIRST READING - Genesis 28.10-17

A reading from the book of Genesis

Jacob left Beer-sheba and went towards Haran. He came to a certain place and stayed there for the night, because the sun had set. Taking one of the stones of the place, he put it under his head and lay down in that place. And he dreamed that there was a ladder set up on the earth, the top of it reaching to heaven; and the angels of God were ascending and descending on it. And the Lord stood beside him and said, 'I am the Lord, the God of Abraham your father and the God of Isaac; the land on which you lie I will give to you and to your offspring; and your offspring shall be like the dust of the earth, and you shall spread abroad to the west and to the east and to the north and to the south; and all the families of the earth shall be blessed in you and in your offspring. Know that I am with you and will keep you wherever you go, and will bring you back to this land; for I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you.' Then Jacob woke from his sleep and said, 'Surely the Lord is in this place-and I did not know it!' And he was afraid, and said, 'How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven.'

This is the word of the Lord. *Thanks be to God.*

PSALM - Psalm 103

Response: *The Lord has compassion on his children.*

FIRST READING - Revelation 12.7-12

A reading from the book of Revelation

And war broke out in heaven; Michael and his angels fought against the dragon. The dragon and his angels fought back, but they were defeated, and there was no longer any place for them in heaven. The great dragon was thrown down, that ancient serpent, who is called the Devil and Satan, the deceiver of the whole world-he was thrown down to the earth, and his angels were thrown down with him. Then I heard a loud voice in heaven, proclaiming, 'Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Messiah, for the accuser of our comrades has been thrown down, who accuses them day and night before our God. But they have conquered him by the blood of the

Lamb and by the word of their testimony, for they did not cling to life even in the face of death. Rejoice then, you heavens and those who dwell in them! But woe to the earth and the sea, for the devil has come down to you with great wrath, because he knows that his time is short!'

This is the word of the Lord. *Thanks be to God.*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia! alleluia!

Bless the Lord, all you his hosts,
 you ministers of his who do his will.
 Alleluia!

GOSPEL - John 1.47-end

*Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John
 Glory to you, O Lord.*

When Jesus saw Nathanael coming towards him, he said of him, 'Here is truly an Israelite in whom there is no deceit!' Nathanael asked him, 'Where did you come to know me?' Jesus answered, 'I saw you under the fig tree before Philip called you.' Nathanael replied, 'Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!' Jesus answered, 'Do you believe because I told you that I saw you under the fig tree? You will see greater things than these.' And he said to him, 'Very truly, I tell you, you will see heaven opened and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord. *Praise to you, O Christ.*

INTRODUCTION TO THE PEACE

Hear again the song of the angels:

'Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace.'

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

PRAYER AT THE PREPARATION OF THE TABLE

God of glory,
 as you appointed angels to minister in your presence,
 so may all our worship bring you worthy praise;
 through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Lord of heaven,
 in this eucharist you have brought us near to an
 innumerable company of angels
 and to the spirits of the saints made perfect:
 as in this food of our earthly pilgrimage we have shared
 their fellowship,
 so may we come to share their joy in heaven;
 through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*