Collect

Almighty God,

who called your Church to bear witness that you were in Christ reconciling the world to yourself: help us to proclaim the good news of your love, that all who hear it may be drawn to you; through him who was lifted up on the cross, and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Reading Romans 13.8-14

Owe no one anything, except to love one another; for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. The commandments, 'You shall not commit adultery; You shall not murder; You shall not steal; You shall not covet'; and any other commandment, are summed up in this word, 'Love your neighbour as yourself.' Love does no wrong to a neighbour; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law.

Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armour of light; let us live honourably as in the day, not in revelling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarrelling and jealousy. Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

Psalm 119.33-40

- 33 Teach me, O Lord, the way of your statutes ♦ and I shall keep it to the end.
- 34 Give me understanding and I shall keep your law; ◆

I shall keep it with my whole heart.

- 35 Lead me in the path of your commandments, ♦ for therein is my delight.
- 36 Incline my heart to your testimonies ◆ and not to unjust gain.
- 37 Turn away my eyes lest they gaze on vanities; ♦
 O give me life in your ways.
- 38 Confirm to your servant your promise, ♦ which stands for all who fear you.
- 39 Turn away the reproach which I dread, ♦ because your judgements are good.
- 40 Behold, I long for your commandments; ♦ in your righteousness give me life.

Gospel Matthew 18.15-20

Jesus said to his disciples, 'If another member of the church sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If the member listens to you, you have regained that one. But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. If the member refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a Gentile and a tax-collector. Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.'