Officiant Light and peace, in Jesus Christ our Lord.
People Thanks be to God.

The Officiant then says the Prayer for Light, first saying

Let us pray.
Grant us, Lord, the lamp of charity which never fails, that it may burn in us and shed its light on those around us, and that by its brightness we may have a vision of that holy City, where dwells the true and never-failing Light, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The candles are now lighted. During the candle-lighting, the following anthem is said.

With you, O Lord, is the well of life, and in your light we see light. 
With you, O Lord, is the well of life, and in your light we see light.
Your love, O Lord, reaches to the heavens, and your faithfulness to the clouds. 
And in your light we see light.
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit. 
With you, O Lord, is the well of life, and in your light we see light.

V. Let my prayer be set forth, O Lord: 
R. As incense in your sight.

A hymn is sung.

The cantor chants Psalm 63:1-8, then the Officiant concludes the Psalm with a prayer.

Heavenly Father, creator of unfailing light, enlighten those who call to you. May our lives proclaim your goodness, our work give you honor, and our voices praise you forever, for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

1 Samuel 3:1-10
Now the boy Samuel was ministering to the Lord under Eli. The word of the Lord was rare in those days; visions were not widespread. At that time Eli, whose eyesight had begun to grow dim so that he could not see, was lying down in his room; the lamp of God had not yet gone
out, and Samuel was lying down in the temple of the Lord, where the ark of God was. Then
the Lord called, ‘Samuel! Samuel!’ and he said, ‘Here I am!’ and ran to Eli, and said, ‘Here I
am, for you called me.’ But he said, ‘I did not call; lie down again.’ So he went and lay down.
The Lord called again, ‘Samuel!’ Samuel got up and went to Eli, and said, ‘Here I am, for you
called me.’ But he said, ‘I did not call, my son; lie down again.’ Now Samuel did not yet know
the Lord, and the word of the Lord had not yet been revealed to him. The Lord called Samuel
again, a third time. And he got up and went to Eli, and said, ‘Here I am, for you called me.’
Then Eli perceived that the Lord was calling the boy.

Therefore Eli said to Samuel, ‘Go, lie down; and if he calls you, you shall say, “Speak, Lord,
for your servant is listening.” ’ So Samuel went and lay down in his place. Now the Lord came
and stood there, calling as before, ‘Samuel! Samuel!’ And Samuel said, ‘Speak, for your
servant is listening.’

The Word of the Lord.

Answer Thanks be to God.

The Song of Mary
My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,
my spirit rejoices in you, O God my Savior, *
for you have looked with favor on your lowly servant.
From this day all generations will call me blessed: *
you, the Almighty, have done great things for me,
and holy is your name.
You have mercy on those who fear you *
from generation to generation.
You have shown strength with your arm *
and scattered the proud in their conceit,
Casting down the mighty from their thrones *
and lifting up the lowly.
You have filled the hungry with good things *
and sent the rich away empty.
You have come to the help of your servant Israel, *
for you have remembered your promise of mercy,
The promise made to our forebears,*
   to Abraham and his children for ever.
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:*
   as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

_Ephesians 4:11-16_
The gifts he gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ. We must no longer be children, tossed to and fro and blown about by every wind of doctrine, by people’s trickery, by their craftiness in deceitful scheming. But speaking the truth in love, we must grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, from whom the whole body, joined and knitted together by every ligament with which it is equipped, as each part is working properly, promotes the body’s growth in building itself up in love.
   The Word of the Lord.

*Answer*          Thanks be to God.

_The Song of Simeon_
Lord, you now have set your servant free*
   to go in peace as you have promised;
For these eyes of mine have seen the Savior,*
   whom you have prepared for all the world to see:
A Light to enlighten the nations,*
   and the glory of your people Israel.
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:*
   as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

_Matthew 9:35-38_
Then Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom, and curing every disease and every sickness. When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said to his disciples, ‘The harvest is
plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest.’

The Word of the Lord.

Answer  Thanks be to God.

A homily follows the Readings.

Officiant  The Lord be with you.
People  And also with you.
Officiant  Let us pray.

Our Father, who art in heaven,
   hallowed be thy Name,
   thy kingdom come,
   thy will be done,
   on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
   as we forgive those
   who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
   but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
   and the power, and the glory,
   for ever and ever. Amen.

Keep, O Lord, your household the Church in your steadfast faith and love, that through your grace we may proclaim your truth with boldness, and minister your justice with compassion; for the sake of our Savior Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Lord God, whose Son our Savior Jesus Christ triumphed over the powers of death and prepared for us our place in the new Jerusalem: Grant that we, who have this day given thanks for his resurrection, may praise you in that City of which he is the light, and where he lives and reigns for ever and ever. Amen.
Almighty and everlasting God, by whose Spirit the whole body of your faithful people is
governed and sanctified: Receive our supplications and prayers, which we offer before you
for all members of your holy Church, that in their vocation and ministry they may truly and
devoutly serve you; through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

The Officiant blesses the bread, saying

Blessed are you, O Lord our God. You bring forth bread from the earth, and you have fed us
on our way with the bread of life in the Body of your Son Jesus Christ. Let us be fed again
soon with that bread of life. And as grain scattered upon the earth is gathered into one loaf, so
gather your Church in every place into the kingdom of your Son. To you be glory and power
for ever and ever. Amen.

The Officiant blesses the drink, saying

Blessed are you, O Lord our God. You create the fruit of the vine, and you have refreshed us
with the cup of salvation in the Blood of your Son Jesus Christ. Sustain us until we can share
that cup again. Help us to abide in Christ, the true vine, and to know that you are present
with us now in our very thirst for you. To you be glory and power for ever and ever. Amen.

The Officiant blesses the rest of the food, saying

Blessed are you, O Lord our God. You have blessed the earth to bring forth food to satisfy our
hunger. Let this food strengthen us for the trials that are before us, that following our Savior
in the way of the cross, we may come to the joy of his resurrection. To you be glory and
power for ever and ever. Amen.

A hymn is sung.

Prayers of thanksgiving and petition are offered, silently or aloud.
The priest blesses the people.

Go out into the world in peace; have courage; hold fast to what is good; return no one evil for evil; support the weak; help the suffering; honor everyone; love and serve the Lord, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit. And the Blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you this day, and remain with you for ever. Amen.

Officiant Let us bless the Lord.
People Thanks be to God.

A sign of peace may be shared by all.