

COLLECT

Almighty God,
you have broken the tyranny of sin
and have sent the Spirit of your Son into
our hearts whereby we call you
Father:
give us grace to dedicate our freedom to
your service,
that we and all creation may be brought
to the glorious liberty of the children
of God;
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.

FIRST READING Isaiah 66:10-14

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

Rejoice with Jerusalem, and be glad for her, all you who love her; rejoice with her in joy, all you who mourn over her – that you may nurse and be satisfied from her consoling breast; that you may drink deeply with delight from her glorious bosom. For thus says the LORD: I will extend prosperity to her like a river, and the wealth of the nations like an overflowing stream; and you shall nurse and be carried on her arm, and dandled on her knees. As a mother comforts her child, so I will comfort you; you shall be comforted in Jerusalem. You shall see, and your heart shall rejoice; your bodies shall flourish like the grass; and it shall be known that the hand of the LORD is with his servants, and his indignation is against his enemies.

Or 2 Kings 5:1-14

PSALM Psalm 66:1-8

R All the earth shall worship you,
O Lord.

Be joyful in God, all the earth;
sing the glory of his name;
sing the glory of his praise.
Say to God, "How awesome are your
deeds!
Because of your great strength
your enemies shall bow before you. **R**

"All the earth shall worship you,
sing to you, sing praise to your name."
Come now and behold the works of God,
how wonderful he is in his dealings with
humankind. **R**

He turned the sea into dry land;
the river they passed through on foot;
there we rejoiced in him.
In his might he rules for ever;
his eyes keep watch over the nations;
let no rebel rise up against him. **R**

Bless our God, O you peoples;
make the voice of his praise to be heard,
Who holds our souls in life
and suffers not our feet to slip. **R**

SECOND READING

(Short or long reading)

Galatians 6:[1-6] 7-16

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Galatians.

[My friends, if anyone is detected in a transgression, you who have received the Spirit should restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness. Take care that you yourselves are not tempted. Bear one another's burdens, and in this way you will fulfil the law of Christ. For if those who are nothing think they are something, they deceive themselves. All must test their own work; then that work, rather than their neighbour's work, will become a cause for pride. For all must carry their own loads. Those who are taught the word must share in all good things with their teacher.] Do not be deceived; God is not mocked, for you reap whatever you sow. If you sow to your own flesh, you will reap corruption from the flesh; but if you sow to the Spirit, you will reap eternal life from the Spirit. So let us not grow weary in doing what is right, for we will reap at harvest time, if we do not give up. So then, whenever we have an opportunity, let us work for the good of all, and especially for those of the family of faith. See what large letters I make when I am writing in my own hand! It is those who want to make a good showing in the flesh that try to compel you to be circumcised – only that they may not be persecuted for the cross of Christ. Even the circumcised do not themselves obey the law, but they want you to be circumcised so that they may boast about your flesh. May I never boast of anything except the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. For neither circumcision nor uncircumcision is anything; but a new creation is everything! As for those who will follow this rule – peace be upon them, and mercy, and upon the Israel of God.

GOSPEL Luke 10:1-11. 16-20

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

The Lord appointed seventy others and sent them on ahead of him in pairs to every town and place where he himself intended to go. He said to them, "The harvest is plentiful, but the labourers are few; therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out labourers into his harvest. Go on your way. See, I am sending you out like lambs into the midst of wolves. Carry no purse, no bag, no sandals; and greet no one on the road. Whatever house you enter, first say, 'Peace to this house!' And if anyone is there who shares in peace, your peace will rest on that person; but if not, it will return to you. Remain in the same house, eating and drinking whatever they provide, for the labourer deserves to be paid. Do not move about from house to house. Whenever you enter a town and its people welcome you, eat what is set before you; cure the sick who are there, and say to them, 'The kingdom of God has come near to you.' But whenever you enter a town and they do not welcome you, go out into its streets and say, 'Even the dust of your town that clings to our feet, we wipe off in protest against you. Yet know this: the kingdom of God has come near.' Whoever listens to you listens to me, and whoever rejects you rejects me, and whoever rejects me rejects the one who sent me." The seventy returned with joy, saying, "Lord, in your name even the demons submit to us!" He said to them, "I watched Satan fall from heaven like a flash of lightning. See, I have given you authority to tread on snakes and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy; and nothing will hurt you. Nevertheless, do not rejoice at this, that the spirits submit to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven."

POST COMMUNION

O God, whose beauty is beyond our
imagining
and whose power we cannot comprehend:
show us your glory as far as we can grasp
it,
and shield us from knowing more than we
can bear
until we may look upon you without fear;
through Jesus Christ our Saviour.



COLLECT

O God, the protector of all who trust in you,
without whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy:
increase and multiply upon us your mercy;
that with you as our ruler and guide
we may so pass through things temporal
that we lose not our hold on things eternal;
grant this, heavenly Father,
for our Lord Jesus Christ's sake,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

FIRST READING

Deuteronomy 30:9-14

A reading from the book of Deuteronomy.

Moses spoke to the people, saying, The LORD your God will make you abundantly prosperous in all your undertakings, in the fruit of your body, in the fruit of your livestock, and in the fruit of your soil. For the LORD will again take delight in prospering you, just as he delighted in prospering your ancestors, when you obey the LORD your God by observing his commandments and decrees that are written in this book of the law, because you turn to the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul. Surely, this commandment that I am commanding you today is not too hard for you, nor is it too far away. It is not in heaven, that you should say, "Who will go up to heaven for us, and get it for us so that we may hear it and observe it?" Neither is it beyond the sea, that you should say, "Who will cross to the other side of the sea for us, and get it for us so that we may hear it and observe it?" No, the word is very near to you; it is in your mouth and in your heart for you to observe.

Or **Amos 7:7-end**

PSALM Psalm 25:1-10

R Remember, Lord, your compassion and love.

To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul;
O my God, in you I trust;
let me not be put to shame;
let not my enemies triumph over me.
Let none who look to you be put to shame,
but let the treacherous be shamed and frustrated. **R**

Make me to know your ways, O Lord,
and teach me your paths.

Lead me in your truth and teach me,
for you are the God of my salvation;
for you have I hoped all the day long. **R**

Remember, Lord, your compassion and love,
for they are from everlasting.
Remember not the sins of my youth
or my transgressions,
but think on me in your goodness,
O Lord, according to your steadfast love. **R**

Gracious and upright is the Lord;
therefore shall he teach sinners in the way.
He will guide the humble in doing right
and teach his way to the lowly. **R**

All the paths of the Lord are mercy and truth
to those who keep his covenant and his testimonies.

For your name's sake, O Lord,
be merciful to my sin, for it is great. **R**

SECOND READING Colossians 1:1-14

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Colossians.

Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and Timothy our brother, To the saints and faithful brothers and sisters in Christ in Colossae: Grace to you and peace from God our Father. In our prayers for you we always thank God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, for we have heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of the love that you have for all the saints, because of the hope laid up for you in heaven. You have heard of this hope before in the word of the truth, the gospel that has come to you. Just as it is bearing fruit and growing in the whole world, so it has been bearing fruit among yourselves from the day you heard it and truly comprehended the grace of God. This you learned from Epaphras, our beloved fellow-servant. He is a faithful minister of Christ on your behalf, and he has made known to us your love in the Spirit. For this reason, since the day we heard it, we have not ceased praying for you and asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of God's will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, so that you may lead lives worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him, as you bear fruit in every good work and as you grow in the knowledge of God. May you be made strong with all the strength that comes from his glorious power, and may you be prepared to endure everything with patience, while joyfully giving thanks to the

Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light. He has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

GOSPEL Luke 10:25-37

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

A lawyer stood up to test Jesus. "Teacher," he said, "what must I do to inherit eternal life?" He said to him, "What is written in the law? What do you read there?" He answered, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbour as yourself." And he said to him, "You have given the right answer; do this, and you will live." But wanting to justify himself, he asked Jesus, "And who is my neighbour?" Jesus replied, "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell into the hands of robbers, who stripped him, beat him, and went away, leaving him half dead. Now by chance a priest was going down that road; and when he saw him, he passed by on the other side. So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. But a Samaritan while travelling came near him; and when he saw him, he was moved with pity. He went to him and bandaged his wounds, having poured oil and wine on them. Then he put him on his own animal, brought him to an inn, and took care of him. The next day he took out two denarii, gave them to the innkeeper, and said, 'Take care of him; and when I come back, I will repay you whatever more you spend.' Which of these three, do you think, was a neighbour to the man who fell into the hands of the robbers?" He said, "The one who showed him mercy." Jesus said to him, "Go and do likewise."

POST COMMUNION

Eternal God,
comfort of the afflicted and healer of the broken,
you have fed us at the table of life and hope:
teach us the ways of gentleness and peace,
that all the world may acknowledge the kingdom of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.



COLLECT

Almighty and everlasting God,
by whose Spirit the whole body of the
Church is governed and sanctified:
hear our prayer which we offer for all
your faithful people,
that in their vocation and ministry
they may serve you in holiness and
truth
to the glory of your name;
through our Lord and Saviour Jesus
Christ,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

FIRST READING

Genesis 18:1-10a

A reading from the book of Genesis.

The LORD appeared to Abraham by the oaks of Mamre, as he sat at the entrance of his tent in the heat of the day. He looked up and saw three men standing near him. When he saw them, he ran from the tent entrance to meet them, and bowed down to the ground. He said, "My lord, if I find favour with you, do not pass by your servant. Let a little water be brought, and wash your feet, and rest yourselves under the tree. Let me bring a little bread, that you may refresh yourselves, and after that you may pass on – since you have come to your servant." So they said, "Do as you have said." And Abraham hastened into the tent to Sarah, and said, "Make ready quickly three measures of choice flour, knead it, and make cakes." Abraham ran to the herd, and took a calf, tender and good, and gave it to the servant, who hastened to prepare it. Then he took curds and milk and the calf that he had prepared, and set it before them; and he stood by them under the tree while they ate. They said to him, "Where is your wife Sarah?" And he said, "There, in the tent." Then one said, "I will surely return to you in due season, and your wife Sarah shall have a son."

Or **Amos 8:1-12**

PSALM Psalm 15

R *Through the greatness of your mercy, I will come into your house.*

Lord, who may dwell in your
tabernacle?
Who may rest upon your holy hill?
Whoever leads an uncorrupt life
and does the thing that is right;
Who speaks the truth from the heart
and bears no deceit on the tongue;
Who does no evil to a friend
and pours no scorn on a neighbour; **R**

In whose sight the wicked are not
esteemed,
but who honours those who fear the
Lord.

Whoever has sworn to a neighbour
and never goes back on that word;
Who does not lend money in hope of
gain,
nor takes a bribe against the innocent;
Whoever does these things
shall never fall. **R**

SECOND READING Colossians 1:15-28

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Colossians.

Christ is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers – all things have been created through him and for him. He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross. And you who were once estranged and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds, he has now reconciled in his fleshly body through death, so as to present you holy and blameless and irreproachable before him – provided that you continue securely established and steadfast in the faith, without

shifting from the hope promised by the gospel that you heard, which has been proclaimed to every creature under heaven. I, Paul, became a servant of this gospel. I am now rejoicing in my sufferings for your sake, and in my flesh I am completing what is lacking in Christ's afflictions for the sake of his body, that is, the church. I became its servant according to God's commission that was given to me for you, to make the word of God fully known, the mystery that has been hidden throughout the ages and generations but has now been revealed to his saints. To them God chose to make known how great among the Gentiles are the riches of the glory of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory. It is he whom we proclaim, warning everyone and teaching everyone in all wisdom, so that we may present everyone mature in Christ.

GOSPEL Luke 10:38-end

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

Now as Jesus and his disciples went on their way, he entered a certain village, where a woman named Martha welcomed him into her home. She had a sister named Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet and listened to what he was saying. But Martha was distracted by her many tasks; so she came to Jesus and asked, "Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to do all the work by myself? Tell her then to help me." But the Lord answered her, "Martha, Martha, you are worried and distracted by many things; there is need of only one thing. Mary has chosen the better part, which will not be taken away from her."

POST COMMUNION

Grant, O Lord, we beseech you,
that the course of this world may be
so peaceably ordered by your
governance,
that your Church may joyfully serve
you in all godly quietness;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.



Through the great-ness of your mer-cy, I will come in-to your house.

COLLECT

Merciful God,
you have prepared for those who love you
such good things as pass our understanding:
pour into our hearts such love toward you
that we, loving you in all things and above all
things,
may obtain your promises,
which exceed all that we can desire;
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.

FIRST READING Genesis 18:20-32

A reading from the book of Genesis.

The LORD appeared to Abraham by the oaks of Mamre and said, "How great is the outcry against Sodom and Gomorrah and how very grave their sin! I must go down and see whether they have done altogether according to the outcry that has come to me; and if not, I will know." So the men turned from there, and went towards Sodom, while Abraham remained standing before the LORD. Then Abraham came near and said, "Will you indeed sweep away the righteous with the wicked? Suppose there are fifty righteous within the city; will you then sweep away the place and not forgive it for the fifty righteous who are in it? Far be it from you to do such a thing, to slay the righteous with the wicked, so that the righteous fare as the wicked! Far be that from you! Shall not the Judge of all the earth do what is just?" And the LORD said, "If I find at Sodom fifty righteous in the city, I will forgive the whole place for their sake." Abraham answered, "Let me take it upon myself to speak to the Lord, I who am but dust and ashes. Suppose five of the fifty righteous are lacking? Will you destroy the whole city for lack of five?" And he said, "I will not destroy it if I find forty five there." Again Abraham spoke to the LORD, "Suppose forty are found there." He answered, "For the sake of forty I will not do it." Then Abraham said, "Oh do not let the Lord be angry if I speak. Suppose thirty are found there." The LORD answered, "I will not do it, if I find thirty there." Abraham said, "Let me take it upon myself to speak to the Lord. Suppose twenty are found there." The LORD answered, "For the sake of twenty I will not destroy it." Then he said, "Oh do not let the Lord be angry if I speak just once more. Suppose ten are found there." The LORD answered, "For the sake of ten I will not destroy it."

Or **Hosea 1:2-10**

PSALM Psalm 138

R Your loving-kindness, O Lord, endures for ever.

I will give thanks to you, O Lord, with my whole heart;

before the gods will I sing praise to you.
I will bow down towards your holy temple
and praise your name, because of your
love and faithfulness;
for you have glorified your name
and your word above all things. **R**

In the day that I called to you, you answered me;
you put new strength in my soul.
All the kings of the earth shall praise you,
O Lord,
for they have heard the words of
your mouth. **R**

They shall sing of the ways of the Lord,
that great is the glory of the Lord.
Though the Lord be high, he watches over
the lowly;
as for the proud, he regards them
from afar. **R**

Though I walk in the midst of trouble,
you will preserve me;
you will stretch forth your hand against the
fury of my enemies; your right hand will
save me.
The Lord shall make good his purpose for
me;
your loving-kindness, O Lord, endures for
ever; forsake not the work of your hands. **R**

SECOND READING

(Short or long reading)

Colossians 2:6-15 [16-19]

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Colossians.

Brothers and sisters, as you have received Christ Jesus the Lord, continue to live your lives in him, rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving. See to it that no one takes you captive through philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition, according to the elemental spirits of the universe, and not according to Christ. For in him the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily, and you have come to fullness in him, who is the head of every ruler and authority. In him also you were circumcised with a spiritual circumcision, by putting off the body of the flesh in the circumcision of Christ; when you were buried with him in baptism, you were also raised with him through faith in the power of God, who raised him from the dead. And when you were dead in trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made you alive together with him, when he forgave us all our trespasses, erasing the record that stood against us with its legal demands. He set this aside, nailing it to the cross. He disarmed the rulers and authorities and made a public example of them, triumphing over them in it. [Therefore do not let anyone condemn you in matters of food and drink or of observing festivals, new moons, or sabbaths. These are only a shadow of what is

to come, but the substance belongs to Christ. Do not let anyone disqualify you, insisting on self-abasement and worship of angels, dwelling on visions, puffed up without cause by a human way of thinking, and not holding fast to the head, from whom the whole body, nourished and held together by its ligaments and sinews, grows with a growth that is from God.]

GOSPEL Luke 11:1-13

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

Jesus was praying in a certain place, and after he had finished, one of his disciples said to him, "Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples." He said to them, "When you pray, say: Father, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come. Give us each day our daily bread. And forgive us our sins, for we ourselves forgive everyone indebted to us. And do not bring us to the time of trial." And he said to them, "Suppose one of you has a friend, and you go to him at midnight and say to him, 'Friend, lend me three loaves of bread; for a friend of mine has arrived, and I have nothing to set before him.' And he answers from within, 'Do not bother me; the door has already been locked, and my children are with me in bed; I cannot get up and give you anything.' I tell you, even though he will not get up and give him anything because he is his friend, at least because of his persistence he will get up and give him whatever he needs. So I say to you, Ask, and it will be given to you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you. For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened. Is there anyone among you who, if your child asks for a fish, will give a snake instead of a fish? Or if the child asks for an egg, will give a scorpion? If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!"

POST COMMUNION

God of our pilgrimage,
you have led us to the living water:
refresh and sustain us
as we go forward on our journey,
in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.



COLLECT

Lord of all power and might,
the author and giver of all good things:
graft in our hearts the love of your
name,
increase in us true religion,
nourish us with all goodness,
and of your great mercy keep us in the
same;
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.

FIRST READING

Ecclesiastes 1:2. 12-14; 2:18-23

A reading from the book of Ecclesiastes.

Vanity of vanities, says the Teacher, vanity of vanities! All is vanity. I, the Teacher, when king over Israel in Jerusalem, applied my mind to seek and to search out by wisdom all that is done under heaven; it is an unhappy business that God has given to human beings to be busy with. I saw all the deeds that are done under the sun; and see, all is vanity and a chasing after wind. I hated all my toil in which I had toiled under the sun, seeing that I must leave it to those who come after me – and who knows whether they will be wise or foolish? Yet they will be master of all for which I toiled and used my wisdom under the sun. This also is vanity. So I turned and gave my heart up to despair concerning all the toil of my labours under the sun, because sometimes one who has toiled with wisdom and knowledge and skill must leave all to be enjoyed by another who did not toil for it. This also is vanity and a great evil. What do mortals get from all the toil and strain with which they toil under the sun? For all their days are full of pain, and their work is a vexation; even at night their minds do not rest. This also is vanity.

Or **Hosea 11:1-11**

PSALM Psalm 49:1-12 [or 49:1-9]

R *Blessed is the one who trusts in the Lord.*

Hear this, all you peoples;
listen, all you that dwell in the world,
You of low or high degree,
both rich and poor together. **R**



My mouth shall speak of wisdom
and my heart shall meditate on
understanding.
I will incline my ear to a parable;
I will unfold my riddle with the lyre. **R**

Why should I fear in evil days,
when the malice of my foes surrounds
me,
Such as trust in their goods
and glory in the abundance of their
riches?
For no one can indeed ransom another
or pay to God the price of deliverance. **R**

To ransom a soul is too costly;
there is no price one could pay for it,
So that they might live for ever,
and never see the grave.
For we see that the wise die also;
with the foolish and ignorant they
perish
and leave their riches to others. **R**

Their tomb is their home for ever,
their dwelling through all generations,
though they call their lands after their
own names.
Those who have honour, but lack
understanding,
are like the beasts that perish. **R**

SECOND READING Colossians 3:1-11
A reading from the letter of Paul to the Colossians.

If you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth, for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory. Put to death, therefore, whatever in you is earthly: fornication, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed (which is idolatry). On account of these the wrath of God is coming on those who are disobedient. These are the ways you also once followed, when you were living that life. But now you must get rid of all such things – anger, wrath, malice, slander, and abusive language from your mouth. Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have stripped off the old self with its practices and have

clothed yourselves with the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge according to the image of its creator. In that renewal there is no longer Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave and free; but Christ is all and in all!

GOSPEL Luke 12:13-21

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

Someone in the crowd said to Jesus, "Teacher, tell my brother to divide the family inheritance with me." But he said to him, "Friend, who set me to be a judge or arbitrator over you?" And he said to the crowd, "Take care! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; for one's life does not consist in the abundance of possessions." Then he told them a parable: "The land of a rich man produced abundantly. And he thought to himself, 'What should I do, for I have no place to store my crops?' Then he said, 'I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. And I will say to my soul, 'Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.'" But God said to him, 'You fool! This very night your life is being demanded of you. And the things you have prepared, whose will they be?' So it is with those who store up treasures for themselves but are not rich towards God."

POST COMMUNION

Lord God, whose Son is the true vine
and the source of life,
ever giving himself that the world may
live:
may we so receive within ourselves the
power of his death and passion
that, in his saving cup, we may share his
glory and be made perfect in his
love;
for he is alive and reigns, now and for
ever.

COLLECT

Almighty Lord and everlasting God,
we beseech you to direct, sanctify and
govern both our hearts and
bodies
in the ways of your laws and the works of
your commandments;
that through your most mighty
protection, both here and ever,
we may be preserved in body and soul;
through our Lord and Saviour Jesus
Christ,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.

FIRST READING Genesis 15:1-6

A reading from the book of Genesis.

The word of the LORD came to Abram
in a vision, "Do not be afraid, Abram, I
am your shield; your reward shall be very
great." But Abram said, "O Lord GOD,
what will you give me, for I continue
childless, and the heir of my house is
Eliezer of Damascus?" And Abram said,
"You have given me no offspring, and
so a slave born in my house is to be my
heir." But the word of the LORD came
to him, "This man shall not be your heir;
no one but your very own issue shall be
your heir." The Lord brought Abraham
outside and said, "Look toward heaven
and count the stars, if you are able
to count them." Then he said to him,
"So shall your descendants be." And
he believed the LORD; and the LORD
reckoned it to him as righteousness.

Or **Isaiah 1:1. 10-20**

PSALM Psalm 33:12-end [or 33:12-21]

R *The earth is full of the loving-kindness
of the Lord.*

Happy the nation whose God is the Lord
and the people he has chosen for his
own.

The Lord looks down from heaven
and beholds all the children of earth. **R**

From where he sits enthroned he turns
his gaze
on all who dwell on the earth.
He fashions all the hearts of them
and understands all their works. **R**

No king is saved by the might of his
host;

no warrior delivered by his great
strength.
A horse is a vain hope for deliverance;
for all its strength it cannot save. **R**

Behold, the eye of the Lord
is upon those who fear him,
on those who wait in hope for his
steadfast love,
To deliver their soul from death
and to feed them in time of famine. **R**

Our soul waits longingly for the Lord;
he is our help and our shield.
Indeed, our heart rejoices in him;
in his holy name have we put our trust.
Let your loving-kindness, O Lord, be
upon us,
as we have set our hope on you. **R**

SECOND READING

Hebrews 11:1-3. 8-16

*A reading from the letter to the
Hebrews.*

Faith is the assurance of things hoped
for, the conviction of things not seen.
Indeed, by faith our ancestors received
approval. By faith we understand that
the worlds were prepared by the word
of God, so that what is seen was made
from things that are not visible. By faith
Abraham obeyed when he was called to
set out for a place that he was to receive
as an inheritance; and he set out, not
knowing where he was going. By faith he
stayed for a time in the land he had been
promised, as in a foreign land, living in
tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were
heirs with him of the same promise. For
he looked forward to the city that has
foundations, whose architect and builder
is God. By faith he received power of
procreation, even though he was too
old – and Sarah herself was barren –
because he considered him faithful
who had promised. Therefore from one
person, and this one as good as dead,
descendants were born, "as many as the
stars of heaven and as the innumerable
grains of sand by the seashore." All
of these died in faith without having
received the promises, but from a
distance they saw and greeted them.
They confessed that they were strangers
and foreigners on the earth, for people
who speak in this way make it clear
that they are seeking a homeland. If
they had been thinking of the land that

they had left behind, they would have
had opportunity to return. But as it is,
they desire a better country, that is,
a heavenly one. Therefore God is not
ashamed to be called their God; indeed,
he has prepared a city for them.

GOSPEL Luke 12:32-40

*Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
according to Luke.*

Jesus said to his disciples, "Do not be
afraid, little flock, for it is your Father's
good pleasure to give you the kingdom.
Sell your possessions, and give alms.
Make purses for yourselves that do not
wear out, an unfailing treasure in heaven,
where no thief comes near and no moth
destroys. For where your treasure is,
there your heart will be also. Be dressed
for action and have your lamps lit; be like
those who are waiting for their master
to return from the wedding banquet, so
that they may open the door for him as
soon as he comes and knocks. Blessed
are those slaves whom the master finds
alert when he comes; truly I tell you, he
will fasten his belt and have them sit
down to eat, and he will come and serve
them. If he comes during the middle of
the night, or near dawn, and finds them
so, blessed are those slaves. But know
this: if the owner of the house had known
at what hour the thief was coming, he
would not have let his house be broken
into. You also must be ready, for the
Son of Man is coming at an unexpected
hour."

POST COMMUNION

Strengthen for service, Lord,
the hands that have taken holy things;
may the ears which have heard your
word be deaf to clamour and
dispute;
may the tongues which have sung your
praise be free from deceit;
may the eyes which have seen the tokens
of your love shine with the
light of hope;
and may the bodies which have been fed
with your body be refreshed
with the fullness of your life;
glory to you for ever.



Sunday

17 August 2025

Ninth Sunday after Trinity

COLLECT

Almighty God,
who sent your Holy Spirit
to be the life and light of your Church:
open our hearts to the riches of your
grace,
that we may bring forth the fruit of the
Spirit
in love and joy and peace;
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.

FIRST READING

Jeremiah 23:23-29

A reading from the book of the prophet Jeremiah.

Am I a God near by, says the LORD,
and not a God far off? Who can hide
in secret places so that I cannot see
them? says the LORD. Do I not fill
heaven and earth? says the LORD. I
have heard what the prophets have
said who prophesy lies in my name,
saying, "I have dreamed, I have
dreamed!" How long? Will the hearts
of the prophets ever turn back – those
who prophesy lies, and who prophesy
the deceit of their own heart? They
plan to make my people forget my
name by their dreams that they tell one
another, just as their ancestors forgot
my name for Baal. Let the prophet who
has a dream tell the dream, but let the
one who has my word speak my word
faithfully. What has straw in common
with wheat? says the LORD. Is not my
word like fire, says the LORD, and like
a hammer that breaks a rock in pieces?

Or **Isaiah 5:1-7**

PSALM Psalm 82

R *Arise, O God, and judge the earth.*

God has taken his stand in the council of
heaven;
in the midst of the gods he gives
judgement:

"How long will you judge unjustly
and show such favour to the wicked? **R**

"You were to judge the weak and the
orphan;
defend the right of the humble and
needy;

"Rescue the weak and the poor;
deliver them from the hand of the
wicked. **R**



A - rise, O God, and judge the earth.

"They have no knowledge or wisdom;
they walk on still in darkness:
all the foundations of the earth are
shaken.

"Therefore I say that though you are
gods
and all of you children of the Most
High, **R**

"Nevertheless, you shall die like mortals
and fall like one of their princes."
Arise, O God and judge the earth,
for it is you that shall take all nations for
your possession. **R**

SECOND READING

Hebrews 11:29 – 12:2

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews.

By faith the people of Israel passed
through the Red Sea as if it were
dry land, but when the Egyptians
attempted to do so they were
drowned. By faith the walls of Jericho
fell after they had been encircled
for seven days. By faith Rahab the
prostitute did not perish with those
who were disobedient, because she
had received the spies in peace.
And what more should I say? For
time would fail me to tell of Gideon,
Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David
and Samuel and the prophets – who
through faith conquered kingdoms,
administered justice, obtained
promises, shut the mouths of lions,
quenched raging fire, escaped the
edge of the sword, won strength out
of weakness, became mighty in war,
put foreign armies to flight. Women
received their dead by resurrection.
Others were tortured, refusing to
accept release, in order to obtain a
better resurrection. Others suffered
mocking and flogging, and even
chains and imprisonment. They were
stoned to death, they were sawn in
two, they were killed by the sword;
they went about in skins of sheep
and goats, destitute, persecuted,
tormented – of whom the world was
not worthy. They wandered in deserts
and mountains, and in caves and holes
in the ground. Yet all these, though
they were commended for their faith,
did not receive what was promised,
since God had provided something
better so that they would not, apart
from us, be made perfect. Therefore,

since we are surrounded by so great
a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay
aside every weight and the sin that
clings so closely, and let us run with
perseverance the race that is set before
us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and
perfecter of our faith, who for the sake
of the joy that was set before him
endured the cross, disregarding its
shame, and has taken his seat at the
right hand of the throne of God.

GOSPEL Luke 12:49-56

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

Jesus said to his disciples: "I came to
bring fire to the earth, and how I wish it
were already kindled! I have a baptism
with which to be baptised, and what
stress I am under until it is completed!
Do you think that I have come to bring
peace to the earth? No, I tell you, but
rather division! From now on five in
one household will be divided, three
against two and two against three;
they will be divided: father against son
and son against father, mother against
daughter and daughter against mother,
mother-in-law against her daughter-
in-law and daughter-in-law against
mother-in-law." He also said to the
crowds, "When you see a cloud rising
in the west, you immediately say, 'It is
going to rain'; and so it happens. And
when you see the south wind blowing,
you say, 'There will be scorching heat';
and it happens. You hypocrites! You
know how to interpret the appearance
of earth and sky, but why do you not
know how to interpret the present
time?"

POST COMMUNION

Holy Father,
who gathered us here around the table
of your Son
to share this meal with the whole
household of God:
in that new world where you reveal the
fullness of your peace,
gather people of every race and
language to share in the eternal
banquet of Jesus Christ our Lord.

COLLECT

Let your merciful ears, O Lord,
be open to the prayers of your humble
servants;
and that they may obtain their petitions
make them to ask such things as shall
please you;
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.

FIRST READING Isaiah 58:9b-end

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

You shall call, and the LORD will answer; you shall cry for help, and he will say, Here I am. If you remove the yoke from among you, the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil, if you offer your food to the hungry and satisfy the needs of the afflicted, then your light shall rise in the darkness and your gloom be like the noonday. The LORD will guide you continually, and satisfy your needs in parched places, and make your bones strong; and you shall be like a watered garden, like a spring of water, whose waters never fail. Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt; you shall raise up the foundations of many generations; you shall be called the repairer of the breach, the restorer of streets to live in. If you refrain from trampling the sabbath, from pursuing your own interests on my holy day; if you call the sabbath a delight and the holy day of the LORD honourable; if you honour it, not going your own ways, serving your own interests, or pursuing your own affairs; then you shall take delight in the LORD, and I will make you ride upon the heights of the earth; I will feed you with the heritage of your ancestor Jacob, for the mouth of the LORD has spoken.

Or **Jeremiah 1:4-10**

PSALM Psalm 103:1-8

R *The Lord is full of compassion and mercy.*

Bless the Lord, O my soul,
and all that is within me bless his holy name.

Bless the Lord, O my soul,
and forget not all his benefits;
Who forgives all your sins
and heals all your infirmities;
Who redeems your life from the Pit
and crowns you with faithful love and compassion; **R**

Who satisfies you with good things,
so that your youth is renewed like an eagle's.

The Lord executes righteousness
and judgement for all who are
oppressed.

He made his ways known to Moses
and his works to the children of Israel.
The Lord is full of compassion and
mercy,
slow to anger and of great kindness. **R**

SECOND READING

Hebrews 12:18-end

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews.

You have not come to something that can be touched, a blazing fire, and darkness, and gloom, and a tempest, and the sound of a trumpet, and a voice whose words made the hearers beg that not another word be spoken to them. (For they could not endure the order that was given, "If even an animal touches the mountain, it shall be stoned to death." Indeed, so terrifying was the sight that Moses said, "I tremble with fear.") But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to innumerable angels in festal gathering, and to the assembly of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven, and to God the judge of all, and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect, and to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel. See that you do not refuse the one who is speaking; for if they did not escape when they refused the one who warned them on earth, how much less will we escape if we reject the one who warns from heaven! At that time his voice shook the earth; but now he has promised, "Yet once more I will shake not only the earth but also the heaven." This phrase, "Yet

once more," indicates the removal of what is shaken – that is, created things – so that what cannot be shaken may remain. Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us give thanks, by which we offer to God an acceptable worship with reverence and awe; for indeed our God is a consuming fire.

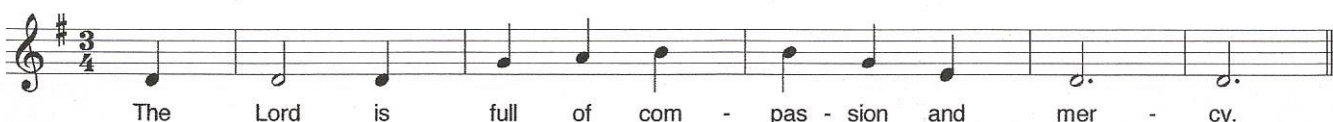
GOSPEL Luke 13:10-17

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

Now he was teaching in one of the synagogues on the sabbath. And just then there appeared a woman with a spirit that had crippled her for eighteen years. She was bent over and was quite unable to stand up straight. When Jesus saw her, he called her over and said, "Woman, you are set free from your ailment." When he laid his hands on her, immediately she stood up straight and began praising God. But the leader of the synagogue, indignant because Jesus had cured on the sabbath, kept saying to the crowd, "There are six days on which work ought to be done; come on those days and be cured, and not on the sabbath day." But the Lord answered him and said, "You hypocrites! Does not each of you on the sabbath untie his ox or his donkey from the manger, and lead it away to give it water? And ought not this woman, a daughter of Abraham whom Satan bound for eighteen long years, be set free from this bondage on the sabbath day?" When he said this, all his opponents were put to shame; and the entire crowd was rejoicing at all the wonderful things that he was doing.

POST COMMUNION

God of our pilgrimage,
you have willed that the gate of mercy
should stand open for those who trust
in you:
look upon us with your favour
that we who follow the path of your will
may never wander from the way of life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.



Sunday

31 August 2025 Eleventh Sunday after Trinity

COLLECT

O God, you declare your almighty power most chiefly in showing mercy and pity: mercifully grant to us such a measure of your grace, that we, running the way of your commandments, may receive your gracious promises, and be made partakers of your heavenly treasure; 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.

FIRST READING

Either **Ecclesiasticus 10:12-18**

A reading from the book of Ecclesiasticus.

The beginning of human pride is to forsake the Lord; the heart has withdrawn from its Maker. For the beginning of pride is sin, and the one who clings to it pours out abominations. Therefore the Lord brings upon them unheard-of calamities, and destroys them completely. The Lord overthrows the thrones of rulers, and enthrones the lowly in their place. The Lord plucks up the roots of the nations, and plants the humble in their place. The Lord lays waste the lands of the nations, and destroys them to the foundations of the earth. He removes some of them and destroys them, and erases the memory of them from the earth. Pride was not created for human beings, or violent anger for those born of women.

Or **Proverbs 25:6-7**

A reading from the book of Proverbs.

Do not put yourself forward in the king's presence or stand in the place of the great; for it is better to be told, "Come up here," than to be put lower in the presence of a noble.

Or **Jeremiah 2:4-13**

PSALM Psalm 112

R *The righteous will be held in everlasting remembrance.*

Alleluia.

Blessed are those who fear the Lord and have great delight in his commandments.

Their descendants will be mighty in the land, a generation of the faithful that will be blest. **R**

Wealth and riches will be in their house, and their righteousness endures for ever. Light shines in the darkness for the upright; gracious and full of compassion are the righteous. **R**

It goes well with those who are generous in lending and order their affairs with justice, For they will never be shaken; the righteous will be held in everlasting remembrance.

They will not be afraid of any evil tidings; their heart is steadfast, trusting in the Lord. **R**

Their heart is sustained and will not fear, until they see the downfall of their foes. They have given freely to the poor; their righteousness stands fast for ever; their head will be exalted with honour. The wicked shall see it and be angry; they shall gnash their teeth in despair; the desire of the wicked shall perish. **R**

SECOND READING

Hebrews 13:1-8. 15-16

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews.

Let mutual love continue. Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it. Remember those who are in prison, as though you were in prison with them; those who are being tortured, as though you yourselves were being tortured. Let marriage be held in honour by all, and let the marriage bed be kept undefiled; for God will judge fornicators and adulterers. Keep your lives free from the love of money, and be content with what you have; for he has said, "I will never leave you or forsake you." So we can say with confidence, "The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid. What can anyone do to me?" Remember your leaders, those who spoke the word of God to you; consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith. Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and for ever. Through him, then, let us continually

offer a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that confess his name. Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

GOSPEL Luke 14:1. 7-14

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

On one occasion when Jesus was going to the house of a leader of the Pharisees to eat a meal on the sabbath, they were watching him closely. When he noticed how the guests chose the places of honour, he told them a parable. "When you are invited by someone to a wedding banquet, do not sit down at the place of honour, in case someone more distinguished than you has been invited by your host; and the host who invited both of you may come and say to you, 'Give this person your place,' and then in disgrace you would start to take the lowest place. But when you are invited, go and sit down at the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he may say to you, 'Friend, move up higher'; then you will be honoured in the presence of all who sit at the table with you. For all who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted." He said also to the one who had invited him, "When you give a luncheon or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or rich neighbours, in case they may invite you in return, and you would be repaid. But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. And you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you, for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous."

POST COMMUNION

Lord of all mercy,
we your faithful people have celebrated
that one true sacrifice
which takes away our sins and brings
pardon and peace:
by our communion
keep us firm on the foundation of the
gospel
and preserve us from all sin;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.



COLLECT

Almighty and everlasting God,
you are always more ready to hear than
we to pray
and to give more than either we desire or
deserve:
pour down upon us the abundance of
your mercy,
forgiving us those things of which our
conscience is afraid
and giving us those good things which we
are not worthy to ask
but through the merits and mediation
of 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.

FIRST READING**Deuteronomy 30:15-end**

A reading from the book of Deuteronomy.

See, I have set before you today life and prosperity, death and adversity. If you obey the commandments of the LORD your God that I am commanding you today, by loving the LORD your God, walking in his ways, and observing his commandments, decrees, and ordinances, then you shall live and become numerous, and the LORD your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to possess. But if your heart turns away and you do not hear, but are led astray to bow down to other gods and serve them, I declare to you today that you shall perish; you shall not live long in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to enter and possess. I call heaven and earth to witness against you today that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Choose life so that you and your descendants may live, loving the LORD your God, obeying him, and holding fast to him; for that means life to you and length of days, so that you may live in the land that the LORD swore to give to your ancestors, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob.

Or **Jeremiah 18:1-11**

PSALM Psalm 1

R *The Lord knows the way of the righteous.*

Blessed are they who have not walked
in the counsel of the wicked,
nor lingered in the way of sinners,
nor sat in the assembly of the scornful.



The Lord knows the way of the right-eous.

Their delight is in the law of the Lord
and they meditate on his law day and
night. **R**

Like a tree planted by streams of water
bearing fruit in due season, with leaves
that do not wither,
whatever they do, it shall prosper.
As for the wicked, it is not so with them;
they are like chaff which the wind blows
away. **R**

Therefore the wicked shall not be able to
stand in the judgement,
nor the sinner in the congregation of the
righteous.
For the Lord knows the way of the
righteous,
but the way of the wicked shall perish. **R**

SECOND READING Philemon 1-21

A reading from the letter of Paul to Philemon.

Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother, To Philemon our dear friend and co-worker, to Apphia our sister, to Archippus our fellow-soldier, and to the church in your house: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. When I remember you in my prayers, I always thank my God because I hear of your love for all the saints and your faith towards the Lord Jesus. I pray that the sharing of your faith may become effective when you perceive all the good that we may do for Christ. I have indeed received much joy and encouragement from your love, because the hearts of the saints have been refreshed through you, my brother. For this reason, though I am bold enough in Christ to command you to do your duty, yet I would rather appeal to you on the basis of love – and I, Paul, do this as an old man, and now also as a prisoner of Christ Jesus. I am appealing to you for my child, Onesimus, whose father I have become during my imprisonment. Formerly he was useless to you, but now he is indeed useful both to you and to me. I am sending him, that is, my own heart, back to you. I wanted to keep him with me, so that he might be of service to me in your place during my imprisonment for the gospel; but I preferred to do nothing without your consent, in order that your good deed might be voluntary

and not something forced. Perhaps this is the reason he was separated from you for a while, so that you might have him back for ever, no longer as a slave but more than a slave, a beloved brother – especially to me but how much more to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord. So if you consider me your partner, welcome him as you would welcome me. If he has wronged you in any way, or owes you anything, charge that to my account. I, Paul, am writing this with my own hand: I will repay it. I say nothing about your owing me even your own self. Yes, brother, let me have this benefit from you in the Lord! Refresh my heart in Christ. Confident of your obedience, I am writing to you, knowing that you will do even more than I say.

GOSPEL Luke 14:25-33

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

Large crowds were travelling with Jesus; and he turned and said to them, "Whoever comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and even life itself, cannot be my disciple. Whoever does not carry the cross and follow me cannot be my disciple. For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not first sit down and estimate the cost, to see whether he has enough to complete it? Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it will begin to ridicule him, saying, 'This fellow began to build and was not able to finish.' Or what king, going out to wage war against another king, will not sit down first and consider whether he is able with ten thousand to oppose the one who comes against him with twenty thousand? If he cannot, then, while the other is still far away, he sends a delegation and asks for the terms of peace. So therefore, none of you can become my disciple if you do not give up all your possessions."

POST COMMUNION

God of all mercy,
in this eucharist you have set aside our sins
and given us your healing:
grant that we who are made whole in Christ
may bring that healing to this broken
world,
in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Sunday

14 September 2025 Thirteenth Sunday after Trinity

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.

FIRST READING Exodus 32:7-14

A reading from the book of Exodus.

At the top of Mount Sinai, the LORD said to Moses, "Go down at once! Your people, whom you brought up out of the land of Egypt, have acted perversely; they have been quick to turn aside from the way that I commanded them; they have cast for themselves an image of a calf, and have worshipped it and sacrificed to it, and said, 'These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!'" The LORD said to Moses, "I have seen this people, how stiff-necked they are. Now let me alone, so that my wrath may burn hot against them and I may consume them; and of you I will make a great nation." But Moses implored the LORD his God, and said, "O LORD, why does your wrath burn hot against your people, whom you brought out of the land of Egypt with great power and with a mighty hand? Why should the Egyptians say, 'It was with evil intent that he brought them out to kill them in the mountains, and to consume them from the face of the earth'? Turn from your fierce wrath; change your mind and do not bring disaster on your people. Remember Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, your servants, how you swore to them by your own self, saying to them, 'I will multiply your descendants like the stars of heaven, and all this land that I have promised I will give to your descendants, and they shall inherit it for ever.'" And the LORD changed his mind about the disaster that he planned to bring on his people.

Or Jeremiah 4:11-12. 22-28

PSALM Psalm 51:1-11

R *The sacrifice of God is a broken spirit.*

Have mercy on me, O God, in your great goodness;
according to the abundance of your compassion blot out my offences.
Wash me thoroughly from my wickedness
and cleanse me from my sin.
For I acknowledge my faults
and my sin is ever before me. **R**

Against you only have I sinned
and done what is evil in your sight,
So that you are justified in your sentence
and righteous in your judgement.
I have been wicked even from my birth,
a sinner when my mother conceived me.
Behold, you desire truth deep within me
and shall make me understand wisdom
in the depths of my heart. **R**

Purge me with hyssop and I shall be clean;
wash me and I shall be whiter than snow.
Make me hear of joy and gladness,
that the bones you have broken may rejoice.
Turn your face from my sins
and blot out all my misdeeds.
Make me a clean heart, O God,
and renew a right spirit within me. **R**

SECOND READING 1 Timothy 1:12-17

A reading from the first letter of Paul to Timothy.

I am grateful to Christ Jesus our Lord, who has strengthened me, because he judged me faithful and appointed me to his service, even though I was formerly a blasphemer, a persecutor, and a man of violence. But I received mercy because I had acted ignorantly in unbelief, and the grace of our Lord overflowed for me with the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners – of whom I am the foremost. But for that very reason I received mercy, so that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display the

utmost patience, making me an example to those who would come to believe in him for eternal life. To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honour and glory for ever and ever. Amen.

GOSPEL Luke 15:1-10

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

All the tax-collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to Jesus. And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, "This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them." So he told them this parable: "Which one of you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the one that is lost until he finds it? When he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders and rejoices. And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbours, saying to them, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost.' Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance. Or what woman having ten silver coins, if she loses one of them, does not light a lamp, sweep the house, and search carefully until she finds it? When she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbours, saying, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost.' Just so, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents."

POST COMMUNION

God our creator,
you feed your children with the true
manna,
the living bread from heaven:
let this holy food sustain us through our
earthly pilgrimage
until we come to that place where
hunger and thirst are no more;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.



COLLECT

Almighty God,
whose only Son has opened for us
a new and living way into your
presence:
give us pure hearts and steadfast wills
to worship you in spirit and in truth;
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.

FIRST READING Amos 8:4-7

A reading from the book of the prophet Amos.

Hear this, you that trample on the needy, and bring to ruin the poor of the land, saying, "When will the new moon be over so that we may sell grain; and the sabbath, so that we may offer wheat for sale? We will make the ephah small and the shekel great, and practise deceit with false balances, buying the poor for silver and the needy for a pair of sandals, and selling the sweepings of the wheat." The LORD has sworn by the pride of Jacob: Surely I will never forget any of their deeds.

Or **Jeremiah 8:18 – 9:1**

PSALM Psalm 113

R *From the rising of the sun to its setting*

let the name of the Lord be praised.

Alleluia.

Give praise, you servants of the Lord,
O praise the name of the Lord.
Blessed be the name of the Lord,
from this time forth and for
evermore. **R**

From the rising of the sun to its
setting
let the name of the Lord be praised.
The Lord is high above all nations
and his glory above the heavens.
Who is like the Lord our God,
that has his throne so high,

yet humbles himself to behold
the things of heaven and earth? **R**
He raises the poor from the dust
and lifts the needy from the ashes,
To set them with princes,
with the princes of his people.
He gives the barren woman a place in
the house
and makes her a joyful mother of
children.
Alleluia. **R**

SECOND READING 1 Timothy 2:1-7

A reading from the first letter of Paul to Timothy.

My dearly beloved, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for everyone, for kings and all who are in high positions, so that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and dignity. This is right and is acceptable in the sight of God our Saviour, who desires everyone to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. For there is one God; there is also one mediator between God and humankind, Christ Jesus, himself human, who gave himself a ransom for all – this was attested at the right time. For this I was appointed a herald and an apostle (I am telling the truth, I am not lying), a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and truth.

GOSPEL Luke 16:1-13

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

Jesus said to the disciples, "There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was squandering his property. So he summoned him and said to him, 'What is this that I hear about you? Give me an account of your management, because you cannot be my manager any longer.' Then the manager said to himself, 'What will I do, now that my master is taking the position away from

me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. I have decided what to do so that, when I am dismissed as manager, people may welcome me into their homes.' So, summoning his master's debtors one by one, he asked the first, 'How much do you owe my master?' He answered, 'A hundred jugs of olive oil.' He said to him, 'Take your bill, sit down quickly, and make it fifty.' Then he asked another, 'And how much do you owe?' He replied, 'A hundred containers of wheat.' He said to him, 'Take your bill and make it eighty.' And his master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly; for the children of this age are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than are the children of light. And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of dishonest wealth so that when it is gone, they may welcome you into the eternal homes. Whoever is faithful in a very little is faithful also in much; and whoever is dishonest in a very little is dishonest also in much. If then you have not been faithful with the dishonest wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? And if you have not been faithful with what belongs to another, who will give you what is your own? No slave can serve two masters; for a slave will either hate the one and love the other, or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth."

POST COMMUNION

Lord God, the source of truth and love,
keep us faithful to the apostles'
teaching and fellowship,
united in prayer and the breaking of bread,
and one in joy and simplicity of heart,
in Jesus Christ our Lord.



COLLECT

God, who in generous mercy sent the Holy Spirit upon your Church in the burning fire of your love: grant that your people may be fervent in the fellowship of the gospel that, always abiding in you, they may be found steadfast in faith and active in service; 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.

FIRST READING Amos 6:1a. 4-7

A reading from the book of the prophet Amos.

Thus says the LORD, the God of hosts: Alas for those who are at ease in Zion, and for those who feel secure on Mount Samaria! Alas for those who lie on beds of ivory, and lounge on their couches, and eat lambs from the flock, and calves from the stall; who sing idle songs to the sound of the harp, and like David improvise on instruments of music; who drink wine from bowls, and anoint themselves with the finest oils, but are not grieved over the ruin of Joseph! Therefore they shall now be the first to go into exile, and the revelry of the loungers shall pass away.

Or **Jeremiah 32:1-3a. 6-15**

PSALM Psalm 146

R *The Lord shall reign for ever.*

Alleluia.
Praise the Lord, O my soul:
while I live will I praise the Lord;
as long as I have any being,
I will sing praises to my God.
Put not your trust in princes,
nor in any human power,
for there is no help in them.
When their breath goes forth, they return to the earth;
on that day all their thoughts perish. **R**

Happy are those who have the God of Jacob for their help,
whose hope is in the Lord their God;
Who made heaven and earth,
the sea and all that is in them;
who keeps his promise for ever;
Who gives justice to those that suffer wrong
and bread to those who hunger. **R**

The Lord looses those that are bound;
the Lord opens the eyes of the blind;

The Lord lifts up those who are bowed down;
the Lord loves the righteous; **R**
The Lord watches over the stranger in the land; he upholds the orphan and widow; but the way of the wicked he turns upside down.
The Lord shall reign for ever,
your God, O Zion, throughout all generations.
Alleluia. **R**

SECOND READING 1 Timothy 6:6-19

A reading from the first letter of Paul to Timothy.

There is great gain in godliness combined with contentment; for we brought nothing into the world, so that we can take nothing out of it; but if we have food and clothing, we will be content with these. But those who want to be rich fall into temptation and are trapped by many senseless and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil, and in their eagerness to be rich some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pains. But as for you, man of God, shun all this; pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance, gentleness. Fight the good fight of the faith; take hold of the eternal life, to which you were called and for which you made the good confession in the presence of many witnesses. In the presence of God, who gives life to all things, and of Christ Jesus, who in his testimony before Pontius Pilate made the good confession, I charge you to keep the commandment without spot or blame until the manifestation of our Lord Jesus Christ, which he will bring about at the right time – he who is the blessed and only Sovereign, the King of kings and Lord of lords. It is he alone who has immortality and dwells in unapproachable light, whom no one has ever seen or can see; to him be honour and eternal dominion. Amen. As for those who in the present age are rich, command them not to be haughty, or to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches, but rather on God who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. They are to do good, to be rich in good works, generous, and ready to share, thus storing up for themselves the treasure of a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of the life that really is life.

GOSPEL Luke 16:19-end

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

Jesus told this parable to those among the Pharisees who loved money: "There was a rich man who was dressed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day. And at his gate lay a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores, who longed to satisfy his hunger with what fell from the rich man's table; even the dogs would come and lick his sores. The poor man died and was carried away by the angels to be with Abraham. The rich man also died and was buried. In Hades, where he was being tormented, he looked up and saw Abraham far away with Lazarus by his side. He called out, 'Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue; for I am in agony in these flames.' But Abraham said, 'Child, remember that during your lifetime you received your good things, and Lazarus in like manner evil things; but now he is comforted here, and you are in agony. Besides all this, between you and us a great chasm has been fixed, so that those who might want to pass from here to you cannot do so, and no one can cross from there to us.' The man who had been rich said, 'Then, father, I beg you to send him to my father's house – for I have five brothers – that he may warn them, so that they will not also come into this place of torment.' Abraham replied, 'They have Moses and the prophets; they should listen to them.' He said, 'No, father Abraham; but if someone goes to them from the dead, they will repent.' Abraham said to him, 'If they do not listen to Moses and the prophets, neither will they be convinced even if someone rises from the dead.'"

POST COMMUNION

Keep, O Lord, your Church, with your perpetual mercy;
and, because without you our human frailty cannot but fall,
keep us ever by your help from all things hurtful,
and lead us to all things profitable to our salvation;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.



The Lord shall reign for ev - er.