

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 Those who do what is right
will dwell in the presence of the
Lord.

Lord, who may dwell in your
tabernacle?

Who may abide upon your holy hill?
Whoever leads a blameless life and
does what is right,
who speaks the truth from his heart. **R**

There is no guile upon his tongue;
he does no evil to his friend;
he does not heap contempt upon his
neighbour.
In his sight the wicked are rejected,
but he honours those who fear the
Lord. **R**

He has sworn to do no wrong
and does not take back his word.
He does not give his money in hope
of gain,
nor does he take a bribe against the
innocent.
Whoever does these things
shall never be overthrown. **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.