

## 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.