

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.

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**

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.

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.

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

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."

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.
Their delight is in the law of the Lord



The Lord knows the way of the right-eous.

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.