

## COLLECT

Lord, you have taught us  
that all our doings without love are  
nothing worth:  
send your Holy Spirit  
and pour into our hearts that most  
excellent gift of love,  
the true bond of peace and of all  
virtues,  
without which whoever lives is counted  
dead before you.  
Grant this for your only Son 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

Either **Genesis 3:8-15**

*A reading from the book of Genesis.*  
The man and the woman heard the  
sound of the LORD God walking in  
the garden at the time of the evening  
breeze, and the man and his wife hid  
themselves from the presence of the  
LORD God among the trees of the  
garden. But the LORD God called to  
the man, and said to him, "Where are  
you?" He said, "I heard the sound of  
you in the garden, and I was afraid,  
because I was naked; and I hid myself."  
He said, "Who told you that you were  
naked? Have you eaten from the tree  
of which I commanded you not to eat?"  
The man said, "The woman whom  
you gave to be with me, she gave me  
fruit from the tree, and I ate." Then  
the LORD God said to the woman,  
"What is this that you have done?" The  
woman said, "The serpent tricked me,  
and I ate." The LORD God said to the  
serpent, "Because you have done this,  
cursed are you among all animals and  
among all wild creatures; upon your  
belly you shall go, and dust you shall  
eat all the days of your life. I will put  
enmity between you and the woman,  
and between your offspring and hers;  
he will strike your head, and you will  
strike his heel."

Or **1 Samuel 8:4-11 [12-15]**

## PSALM Psalm 130

**R** My soul waits for the Lord.

Out of the depths have I cried to you,  
O Lord;



My soul waits for the Lord.

Lord, hear my voice;  
let your ears consider well the voice of  
my supplication.  
If you, Lord, were to mark what is done  
amiss,  
O Lord, who could stand?  
But there is forgiveness with you,  
so that you shall be feared. **R**

I wait for the Lord; my soul waits for him;  
in his word is my hope.  
My soul waits for the Lord,  
more than the night watch for the  
morning,  
more than the night watch for the  
morning. **R**

O Israel, wait for the Lord,  
for with the Lord there is mercy;  
With him is plenteous redemption  
and he shall redeem Israel from all their  
sins. **R**

## SECOND READING

**2 Corinthians 4:13 – 5:1**

*A reading from the second letter of  
Paul to the Corinthians.*

Just as we have the same spirit of faith  
that is in accordance with scripture –  
"I believed, and so I spoke" – we also  
believe, and so we speak, because we  
know that the one who raised the Lord  
Jesus will raise us also with Jesus, and  
will bring us with you into his presence.  
Yes, everything is for your sake, so that  
grace, as it extends to more and more  
people, may increase thanksgiving, to  
the glory of God. So we do not lose  
heart. Even though our outer nature is  
wasting away, our inner nature is being  
renewed day by day. For this slight  
momentary affliction is preparing us  
for an eternal weight of glory beyond  
all measure, because we look not at  
what can be seen but at what cannot  
be seen; for what can be seen is  
temporary, but what cannot be seen is  
eternal. For we know that if the earthly  
tent we live in is destroyed, we have a  
building from God, a house not made  
with hands, eternal in the heavens.

## GOSPEL Mark 3:20-end

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

The crowd came together again, so that  
Jesus and his companions could not

even eat. When his family heard it, they  
went out to restrain him, for people  
were saying, "He has gone out of his  
mind." And the scribes who came down  
from Jerusalem said, "He has Beelzebul,  
and by the ruler of the demons he casts  
out demons." And he called them to  
him, and spoke to them in parables,  
"How can Satan cast out Satan? If a  
kingdom is divided against itself, that  
kingdom cannot stand. And if a house  
is divided against itself, that house will  
not be able to stand. And if Satan has  
risen up against himself and is divided,  
he cannot stand, but his end has come.  
But no one can enter a strong man's  
house and plunder his property without  
first tying up the strong man; then  
indeed the house can be plundered.  
Truly I tell you, people will be forgiven  
for their sins and whatever blasphemies  
they utter; but whoever blasphemes  
against the Holy Spirit can never have  
forgiveness, but is guilty of an eternal  
sin" – for they had said, "He has an  
unclean spirit." Then his mother and his  
brothers came; and standing outside,  
they sent to him and called him. A  
crowd was sitting around him; and they  
said to him, "Your mother and your  
brothers and sisters are outside, asking  
for you." And he replied, "Who are my  
mother and my brothers?" And looking  
at those who sat around him, he said,  
"Here are my mother and my brothers!  
Whoever does the will of God is my  
brother and sister and mother."

## POST COMMUNION

Loving Father,  
we thank you for feeding us at the  
supper of your Son:  
sustain us with your Spirit,  
that we may serve you here on earth  
until our joy is complete in heaven,  
and we share in the eternal banquet  
with Jesus Christ our Lord.