

COLLECT

Eternal God,
you crown the year with your
goodness and you give us the fruits of
the earth in their season: grant that we
may use them to your glory, for the
relief of those in need and for our own
well-being; 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

Joel 2:21-27

A reading from the book of Joel

Do not fear, O soil; be glad and rejoice,
for the LORD has done great things! Do
not fear, you animals of the field, for
the pastures of the wilderness are
green; the tree bears its fruit,
the fig tree and vine give their full
yield. O children of Zion, be glad and
rejoice in the LORD your God; for he
has given the early rain* for your
vindication, he has poured down for
you abundant rain, the early and the
later rain, as before. The threshing-
floors shall be full of grain, the vats
shall overflow with wine and oil.
I will repay you for the years that the
swarming locust has eaten,
the hopper, the destroyer, and the
cutter, my great army, which I sent
against you. You shall eat in plenty and
be satisfied, and praise the name of
the LORD your God, who has dealt
wondrously with you. And my people
shall never again be put to shame.
You shall know that I am in the midst
of Israel, and that I, the LORD, am your
God and there is no other.
And my people shall never again be
put to shame.

SECOND READING

1 Timothy 6. 6 – 10

*A reading from the book of
Timothy*

Of course, 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.

GOSPEL Matthew 6. 25 - 33

*Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus
Christ according to Matthew*

‘Therefore I tell you, do not
worry about your life, what you
will eat or what you will drink, or
about your body, what you will
wear. Is not life more than food,
and the body more than
clothing? Look at the birds of the
air; they neither sow nor reap
nor gather into barns, and yet
your heavenly Father feeds
them. Are you not of more value
than they? And can any of you by
worrying add a single hour to
your span of life? * And why do
you worry about clothing?
Consider the lilies of the field,

how they grow; they neither toil
nor spin, yet I tell you, even
Solomon in all his glory was not
clothed like one of these. But if
God so clothes the grass of the
field, which is alive today and
tomorrow is thrown into the
oven, will he not much more
clothe you - you of little
faith? Therefore do not worry,
saying, “What will we eat?” or
“What will we drink?” or “What
will we wear?” For it is the
Gentiles who strive for all these
things; and indeed your heavenly
Father knows that you need all
these things. But strive first for
the kingdom of God and
his righteousness, and all these
things will be given to you as
well.

POST COMMUNION

Lord of the harvest,
with joy we have offered
thanksgiving for your love in
creation and have shared in the
bread and the wine of the
kingdom: by your grace plant
within us a reverence for all that
you give us and make us
generous and wise stewards of
the good things we enjoy;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.