

FIRST READING: Amos 8:1-12 The basket of fruit; Israel's doom (NIRV)

¹ The LORD and King gave me a vision. He showed me a basket of ripe fruit.
² “What do you see, Amos?” He asked. “A basket of ripe fruit,” I replied. Then the LORD said to me, “The time is ripe for My people Israel. I will no longer spare them.”
³ “The time is coming when the songs in the temple will turn to weeping,” announces the LORD and King. “Many, many bodies will be thrown everywhere! So be quiet!”
⁴ Listen to Me, you who walk all over needy people. You crush those who are poor in the land.
⁵ You say, “When will the New Moon feast be over? Then we can sell our grain. When will the Sabbath day come to an end? Then people can buy our wheat.” But you measure out less than the right amount. You raise your prices. You cheat others by using dishonest scales.
⁶ You buy poor people to make slaves out of them. You buy those who are in need for a mere pair of sandals. You even sell the worthless parts of your wheat.
⁷ People of Jacob, you are proud that the LORD is your God. But He has made a promise in His own name. He says, “I will never forget anything Israel has done.”
⁸ “The land will tremble because of what will happen. Everyone who lives in it will mourn. So the whole land will rise like the Nile River. It will be stirred up. Then it will settle back down again like that river in Egypt.”
⁹ The LORD and King announces, “At that time I will make the sun go down at noon. The earth will become dark in the middle of the day.
¹⁰ I will turn your holy feasts into times for mourning. I will turn all your songs into weeping. You will have to wear the clothing of sadness. You will shave your heads. I will make you mourn as if your only son had died. The end of that time will be like a bitter day.”
¹¹ The LORD and King announces, “The days are coming when I will send hunger through the land. But people will not be hungry for food. They will not be thirsty for water. Instead, they will be hungry to hear a message from Me.
¹² People will wander from the Dead Sea to the Mediterranean. They will travel from north to east. They will look for a message from Me. But they will not find it.

PSALM: Psalm 15 (NCV)

¹ LORD, who may enter your Holy Tent? Who may live on your holy mountain?
² Only those who are innocent and who do what is right. Such people speak the truth from their hearts
³ and do not tell lies about others. They do no wrong to their neighbours and do not gossip.
⁴ They do not respect hateful people but honour those who honour the LORD. They keep their promises to their neighbours, even when it hurts.
⁵ They do not charge interest on money they

lend and do not take money to hurt innocent people. Whoever does all these things will never be destroyed.

SECOND READING: Colossians 1:15-28 The supremacy of Christ; Paul a servant (ESV)

¹⁵ He [Christ] is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. ¹⁶ For by Him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through Him and for Him. ¹⁷ And He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together. ¹⁸ And He is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything He might be pre-eminent. ¹⁹ For in Him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, ²⁰ and through Him to reconcile to Himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of His cross. ²¹ And you, who once were alienated and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds, ²² He has now reconciled in His body of flesh by His death, in order to present you holy and blameless and above reproach before Him, ²³ if indeed you continue in the faith, stable and steadfast, not shifting from the hope of the gospel that you heard, which has been proclaimed in all creation under heaven, and of which I, Paul, became a minister. ²⁴ Now I rejoice in my sufferings for your sake, and in my flesh I am filling up what is lacking in Christ's afflictions for the sake of His body, that is, the church, ²⁵ of which I became a minister according to the stewardship from God that was given to me for you, to make the word of God fully known, ²⁶ the mystery hidden for ages and generations but now revealed to His saints. ²⁷ 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. ²⁸ Him we proclaim, warning everyone and teaching everyone with all wisdom, that we may present everyone mature in Christ.

GOSPEL: Luke 10:38-42 Jesus visits Mary and Martha (ESV)

³⁸ Now as they went on their way, Jesus entered a village. And a woman named Martha welcomed Him into her house. ³⁹ And she had a sister called Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet and listened to His teaching. ⁴⁰ But Martha was distracted with much serving. And she went up to Him and said, "Lord, do You not care that my sister has left me to serve alone? Tell her then to help me." ⁴¹ But the Lord answered her, "Martha, Martha, you are anxious and troubled about many things, ⁴² but one thing is necessary. Mary has chosen the good portion, which will not be taken away from her."