

Reading

Colossians 3: 12–17

*Over all these, to keep them together and complete them, put on love.*

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Colossians.

- <sup>12</sup> You are God's chosen race, his saints; he loves you,  
and you should be clothed in sincere compassion,  
in kindness and humility, gentleness and patience.
- <sup>13</sup> Bear with one another; forgive each other as soon as a quarrel begins.  
The Lord has forgiven you; now you must do the same.
- <sup>14</sup> Over all these clothes, to keep them together and complete them,  
put on love.
- <sup>15</sup> And may the peace of Christ reign in your hearts,  
because it is for this that you were called together as parts of one body.  
Always be thankful.
- <sup>16</sup> Let the message of Christ, in all its richness, find a home with you.  
Teach each other, and advise each other, in all wisdom.  
With gratitude in your hearts sing psalms and hymns  
and inspired songs to God
- <sup>17</sup> and never say or do anything except in the name of the Lord Jesus,  
giving thanks to God the Father through him.
- The word of the Lord.