

Readings for October 27, 2019

First reading

Isaiah 55:10-11

For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven,
and do not return there until they have watered the earth,
making it bring forth and sprout,
giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater,
so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth;
it shall not return to me empty,
but it shall accomplish that which I purpose,
and succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

Second reading

from *The Four Elements* by John O'Donohue

While rivers, streams, wells and oceans may remain distant from the human, rain does not. Rain is a water shape that falls on us from above. Rainfall is the way that water reaches the earth. In many countries, survival depends on the kindness of the rains. Without the magnificent mind of the rain, the nourishment and growth of fruit, vegetation and cereal would not be possible. The patience of the earth is striking in the manner in which it expects and waits for the rains. Then, with the moisturizing of the rains, it grows everything in its own time and rhythm.