November 14 - November 15, 2026

Twenty Fifth Sunday after Pentecost Readings

First Reading

A Reading from Zephaniah

Be silent before the Lord God, for the day of the Lord is at hand!
The Lord has prepared a sacrifice; he has consecrated his guests.

At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps,
and I will punish the people who settle like dregs in wine,
those who say in their hearts,“The Lord will not do good,nor will he do harm.”

Their wealth shall be plundered and their houses laid waste.
Though they build houses, they shall not inhabit them;
though they plant vineyards, they shall not drink wine from them.

The great day of the Lord is near, near and hastening fast;
the sound of the day of the Lord is bitter; the warrior cries aloud there.
That day will be a day of wrath, a day of distress and anguish,
a day of ruin and devastation, a day of darkness and gloom,
a day of clouds and thick darkness, a day of trumpet blast
and battle cry against the lofty battlements.

Neither their silver nor their gold will be able to save them
on the day of the Lord’s wrath;
in the fire of his passion the whole earth shall be consumed,
for a full, a terrible end he will make of all the inhabitants of the earth.

(pause)

Reader: **Word of God, word of Life.**
Congregation: Thanks be to God.

Second Reading

A Reading from First Thessalonians

Now concerning the times and the seasons, siblings,
you do not need to have anything written to you.
For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night.

When they say, “There is peace and security,”
then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape!

But you, siblings, are not in darkness,
for that day to surprise you like a thief;
for you are all children of light and children of the day;
we are not of the night or of darkness.

So, then, let us not fall asleep as others do,
but let us keep awake and be sober,
For God has destined us not for wrath
but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ,
who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him.
Therefore encourage one another and build up each other,
as indeed you are doing.

(pause)

Reader: **Word of God, word of Life.**
Congregation: Thanks be to God.

Gospel

A Proclamation of the Holy Gospel According to Matthew

Jesus said to the disciples:
“For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his servants;
to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one,
to each according to his ability. Then he went away.

At once the one who had received the five talents went off and traded with them and made five more talents.
In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents.
But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master’s money.

After a long time the master of those servants came and settled accounts with them.
Then the one who had received the five talents came forward,
bringing five more talents, saying, ‘Master, you handed over to me five talents;
see, I have made five more talents.’
His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and trustworthy servant;
you have been trustworthy in a few things;
I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.’

And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying,
‘Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.’
His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and trustworthy servant; you have been trustworthy in a few things; I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.’

Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying,
‘Master, I knew that you were a harsh man,
reaping where you did not sow and gathering where you did not scatter,
so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground.
Here you have what is yours.’
But his master replied, ‘You wicked and lazy servant! You knew, did you,
that I reap where I did not sow and gather where I did not scatter?
Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers,
and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest.
So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents.
For to all those who have used their gifts, more will be given,
and they will have an abundance,
but from those who have used nothing of what they have been given,
even what they have will be taken away.

Pastor: **The Gospel of the Lord.** *Congregation:* Praise to you, O Christ.