

August 9 - August 10, 2025
Ninth Sunday after Pentecost Readings

First Reading

A Reading from Genesis

After these things the word of the Lord came to Abram in a vision,
“Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield;
your reward shall be very great.”
But Abram said, “O Lord God, what will you give me,
for I continue childless,
and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?”
And Abram said, “You have given me no offspring,
so a slave born in my house is to be my heir.”
But the word of the Lord came to him,
“This man shall not be your heir;
no one but your very own issue shall be your heir.”
He brought him outside and said,
“Look toward heaven and count the stars,
if you are able to count them.”
Then he said to him, “So shall your descendants be.”
And he believed the Lord,
and the Lord reckoned it to him as righteousness.

(pause)

Reader:	Word of God, word of Life.
Congregation:	Praise to you, O Christ.

Second Reading

A Reading from Hebrews

Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for,
the conviction of things not seen.
Indeed, by faith our ancestors received approval.

By faith Abraham obeyed
when he was called to set out
for a place that he was to receive as an inheritance,
and he set out, not knowing where he was going.
By faith he stayed for a time in the land he had been promised,
as in a foreign land, living in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob,
who were heirs with him of the same promise.
For he looked forward to the city that has foundations,
whose architect and builder is God.
By faith, with Sarah's involvement, he received power of procreation,
even though he was too old,
because he considered him faithful who had promised.
Therefore from one person, and this one as good as dead,
descendants were born, "as many as the stars of heaven
and as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore."

All of these died in faith without having received the promises,
but from a distance they saw and greeted them.

Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God;
indeed, The Divine has prepared a city for them.

(pause)

Reader: **Word of God, word of Life.**

Congregation: Thanks be to God.

Gospel

A Proclamation of the Holy Gospel According to Luke

Jesus said:

“Do not be afraid, little flock,
for it is God’s good pleasure to give you the kingdom.
Sell your possessions and give alms.
Make purses for yourselves that do not wear out,
an unfailing treasure in heaven,
where no thief comes near and no moth destroys.
For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

“Be dressed for action and have your lamps lit;
be like those who are waiting
for their master to return from the wedding banquet,
so that they may open the door for him as soon as he comes and knocks.
Blessed are those servants whom the master finds alert when he comes;
truly I tell you, he will fasten his belt and have them sit down to eat,
and he will come and serve them.
If he comes during the middle of the night or near dawn
and finds them so, blessed are those slaves.

“But know this:
if the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming,
he would not have let his house be broken into.
You also must be ready,
for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.”

***Pastor:* The Gospel of the Lord.**

Congregation: Thanks be to God.