

Ninth Sunday after Pentecost
August 7, 2022

First Lesson*

(Introduce the lesson by saying):

Our first lesson is from the book of Genesis, the 15th chapter.

1After 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.” 2But Abram said, “O Lord God, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?”

3And Abram said, “You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir.” 4But 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.” 5He 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.” 6And he believed the Lord; and the Lord reckoned it to him as righteousness.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Genesis 15:1-6

Gospel*

A Reading from The Holy Gospel
according to St. Luke, the 12th
chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus said:] 32“Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father’s good pleasure to give you the kingdom. 33Sell 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. 34For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

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35“Be dressed for action and have your lamps lit; 36be 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.

37Blessed are those slaves 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. 38If he comes during the middle of the night, or near dawn, and finds them so, blessed are those slaves.

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39“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. 40You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Luke 12:32-40

Psalmody

(Introduce the Psalm by saying):

‘We will read from Psalm 33. We will read it responsively’.

12 Happy is the nation whose God is the Lord! Happy the people chosen to be God’s heritage!

13 The Lord looks down from heaven, and sees all humankind.

14 God sits firmly enthroned and watches all who dwell on the earth.

15 God fashions all their hearts and observes all their deeds.

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16A king is not saved by the size of the army, nor are warriors rescued by their great strength.

17The horse gives vain hope for victory; despite its great strength it cannot save.

18Truly, your eye is upon those who fear you, O Lord, upon those who wait for your steadfast love,

19to deliver their lives from death, and to keep them alive in time of famine.

20Our innermost being waits for you, O Lord, our helper and our shield.

21Surely, our heart rejoices in you, for in your holy name we put our trust.

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22 Let your lovingkindness, O Lord, be upon us, even as we place our hope in you.

Psalm 33:12-22

Second Lesson

(Introduce the lesson by saying)

Our second lesson is from book of Hebrews, the 11th chapter.

1 Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. 2 Indeed, by faith our ancestors received approval. 3 By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was made from things that are not visible. 8 By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to set out for a place that he was to receive as an inheritance;

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and he set out, not knowing where he was going. 9By 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. 10For he looked forward to the city that has foundations, whose architect and builder is God. 11By faith he received power of procreation, even though he was too old—and Sarah herself was barren—because he considered him faithful who had promised. 12Therefore from one person, and this one as good as dead, descendants were born,

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“as many as the stars of heaven and as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore.” 13All of these died in faith without having received the promises, but from a distance they saw and greeted them. They confessed that they were strangers and foreigners on the earth, 14for people who speak in this way make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. 15 If they had been thinking of the land that they had left behind, they would have had opportunity to return. 16But as it is, they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God;

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indeed, he has prepared a city for them.

L: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16