

## TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST – PROPER 27

November 12, 2023

Year A, Revised Common Lectionary

*[formatted version with line breaks and verse markers removed]*

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*Parable of the Wise and Foolish Virgins, William Blake, Yale Center for British Art, New Haven, CT, ca. 1825.*

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protected us along all the way that we went, and among all the peoples through whom we passed; and the LORD drove out before us all the peoples, the Amorites who lived in the land. Therefore we also will serve the LORD, for he is our God." But Joshua said to the people, "You cannot serve the LORD, for he is a holy God. He is a jealous God; he will not forgive your transgressions or your sins. If you forsake the LORD and serve foreign gods, then he will turn and do you harm, and consume you, after having done you good." And the people said to Joshua, "No, we will serve the LORD!" Then Joshua said to the people, "You are witnesses against yourselves that you have chosen the LORD, to serve him." And they said, "We are witnesses." He said, "Then put away the foreign gods that are among you, and incline your hearts to the LORD, the God of Israel." The people said to Joshua, "The LORD our God we will serve, and him we will obey." So Joshua made a covenant with the people that day, and made statutes and ordinances for them at Shechem.

**Psalm 78:1-7**

- ❖ Give ear, O my people, to my teaching; incline your ears to the words of my mouth.
- ❖ I will open my mouth in a parable; I will utter dark sayings from of old,
- ❖ things that we have heard and known, that our ancestors have told us.
- ❖ We will not hide them from their children; we will tell to the coming generation the glorious deeds of the LORD, and his might, and the wonders that he has done.
- ❖ He established a decree in Jacob, and appointed a law in Israel, which he commanded our ancestors to teach to their children;
- ❖ that the next generation might know them, the children yet unborn, and rise up and tell them to their children,
- ❖ so that they should set their hope in God, and not forget the works of God, but keep his commandments.

**Wisdom of Solomon 6:12-16** *Wisdom is radiant and unfading, and she is easily discerned by those who love her, and is found by those who seek her. She hastens to make herself known to those who desire her. One who rises early to seek her will have no difficulty, for she will be found sitting at the gate. To fix one's thought on her is perfect understanding, and one who is vigilant on her account will soon be free from care, because she goes about seeking those worthy of her, and she graciously appears to them in their paths, and meets them in every thought.*

**1 Thessalonians 4:13-18** But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who

have no hope. For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died. For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air; and so we will be with the Lord forever. Therefore encourage one another with these words.

**Matthew 25:1-13** "Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. But at midnight there was a shout, 'Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.' Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps. The foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' But the wise replied, 'No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.' And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut. Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us.' But he replied, 'Truly I tell you, I do not know you.' Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.

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**Wisdom of Solomon 6:17-20** *The beginning of wisdom is the most sincere desire for instruction, and concern for instruction is love of her, and love of her is the keeping of her laws, and giving heed to her laws is assurance of immortality, and immortality brings one near to God; so the desire for wisdom leads to a kingdom.*

**Psalm 70**

- ❖ Be pleased, O God, to deliver me. O LORD, make haste to help me!
- ❖ Let those be put to shame and confusion who seek my life. Let those be turned back and brought to dishonor who desire to hurt me.
- ❖ Let those who say, "Aha, Aha!" turn back because of their shame.
- ❖ Let all who seek you rejoice and be glad in you. Let those who love your salvation say evermore, "God is great!"
- ❖ But I am poor and needy; hasten to me, O God! You are my help and my deliverer; O LORD, do not delay!

**1 Thessalonians 4:13-18** But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died. For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air; and so we will be with the Lord forever. Therefore encourage one another with these words.

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Texts in gray Alternate first reading and Psalm

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## TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST – PROPER 27

November 12, 2023

Year A, Revised Common Lectionary

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## TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST – PROPER 27

November 12, 2023

Year A, Revised Common Lectionary

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Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air; and so we will be with the Lord forever. Therefore encourage one another with these words.

**Matthew 25:1-13** "Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. But at midnight there was a shout, 'Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.' Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps. The foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' But the wise replied, 'No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.' And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut. Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us.' But he replied, 'Truly I tell you, I do not know you.' Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.

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*Texts in italics complementary to standard reading, may be used with or in place of it.*

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