

Readings + 16th Sunday after Pentecost, Lect. 26 C + September 28, 2025

Prayer of the Day

O God, rich in mercy, you look with compassion on this troubled world. Feed us with your grace, and grant us the treasure that comes only from you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen

First Reading Amos 6:1a, 4-7

^{1a} Woe to those who are at ease in Zion,
and for those who feel secure on Mount Samaria.
⁴ Woe to those who lie on beds of ivory
and lounge on their couches
and eat lambs from the flock
and calves from the stall,
⁵ who sing idle songs to the sound of the harp
and like David improvise on instruments of music,
⁶ who drink wine from bowls,
and anoint themselves with the finest oils
but are not grieved over the ruin of Joseph!
⁷ Therefore they shall now be the first to go into exile,
and the revelry of the loungers shall pass away.

Psalmody Psalm 146

Hallelujah! Praise the LORD, O my soul!
**I will praise the LORD as long as I live; I will
sing praises to my God while I have my
being.**
Put not your trust in rulers, in mortals in whom
there is no help.
**When they breathe their last, they return to
earth, and in that day their thoughts perish.**
Happy are they who have the God of Jacob for
their help, whose hope is in the LORD their
God;
**who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all
that is in them; who keeps promises forever;**
who gives justice to those who are oppressed, and
food to those who hunger. The LORD sets the
captive free.
**The LORD opens the eyes of the blind; the
LORD lifts up those who are bowed down;
the LORD loves the righteous.**
The LORD cares for the stranger; the LORD
sustains the orphan and widow, but frustrates
the way of the wicked.

**The LORD shall reign forever, your God, O
Zion, throughout all generations.
Hallelujah!**

Second Reading 1 Timothy 6:6-19

⁶ Of course, there is great gain in godliness combined with contentment; ⁷ for we brought nothing into the world, so that we can take nothing out of it; ⁸ but if we have food and clothing, we will be content with these. ⁹ But those who want to be rich fall into temptation and are trapped by many senseless and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. ¹⁰ For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil, and in their eagerness to be rich some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pains.
¹¹ But as for you, who are of God, shun all this; pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance, gentleness. ¹² Fight the good fight of the faith; take hold of the eternal life to which you were called and for which you made the good confession in the presence of many witnesses. ¹³ In the presence of God, who gives life to all things, and of Christ Jesus, who in his testimony before Pontius Pilate made the good confession, I charge you ¹⁴ to keep the commandment without spot or blame until the manifestation of our Lord Jesus Christ, ¹⁵ which God will bring about at the right time – God who is the blessed and only Sovereign, the Ruler of rulers and Lord of lords. ¹⁶ It is God alone who has immortality and dwells in unapproachable light, whom no one has ever seen or can see; to God be honor and eternal dominion. Amen.
¹⁷ As for those who in the present age are rich, command them not to be haughty or to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches but rather on God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. ¹⁸ They are to do good, to be rich in good works, generous, and ready to share, ¹⁹ thus storing up for themselves the treasure of a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of the life that really is life.

Holy Gospel Luke 16:19-31

Only Luke relates this parable of Jesus:

Jesus said, ¹⁹ “There was a rich man who was dressed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day. ²⁰ And at his gate lay a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores, ²¹ who longed to satisfy his hunger with what fell from the rich man’s table; even the dogs would come and lick his sores. ²² The poor man died and was carried away by the angels to be with Abraham. The rich man also died and was buried. ²³ In Hades, where the rich man was being tormented, he lifted up his eyes and saw Abraham far away with Lazarus by his side. ²⁴ He called out, ‘Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue; for I am in agony in these flames.’ ²⁵ But Abraham said, ‘Child, remember that during

your lifetime you received your good things and Lazarus in like manner evil things; but now he is comforted here, and you are in agony. ²⁶ Besides all this, between you and us a great chasm has been fixed, so that those who might want to pass from here to you cannot do so, and no one can cross from there to us.’ ²⁷ The rich man said, ‘Then I beg you, father, to send Lazarus to my father’s house – ²⁸ for I have five brothers – that he may warn them, so that they will not also come into this place of torment.’ ²⁹ Abraham replied, ‘They have Moses and the prophets; your brothers should listen to them.’ ³⁰ The rich man said, ‘No, father Abraham, but if someone from the dead goes to them, they will repent.’ ³¹ Abraham said to him, ‘If they do not listen to Moses and the prophets, neither will they be convinced even if someone rises from the dead.’ ”