The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke,

Chapter 12 beginning at verse 32

Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.

Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father'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 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. 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 unexpected hour.'

[NRSV Luke 12.32-40]

This is the Gospel of the Lord,

praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

Sentence

Watch and be ready, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming.

Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

Year C

7th August 2022

Green

Prayer of the Day

Kindle in our hearts, Father, the same faith that impelled Abraham to set out from his home and to live as a pilgrim in a foreign city that none but you can design and build, keep us ever watchful for your Son's coming, that we may be found faithful stewards of all that you have entrusted to us. We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

A reading from the book of Isaiah,

Chapter 1 beginning at Verse 1

The vision of Isaiah son of Amoz, which he saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem in the days of Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah, kings of Judah.

Hear the word of the Lord, you rulers of Sodom! Listen to the teaching of our God, you people of Gomorrah! What to me is the multitude of your sacrifices? says the Lord; I have had enough of burnt-offerings of rams and the fat of fed beasts; I do not delight in the blood of bulls, or of lambs, or of goats.

When you come to appear before me, who asked this from your hand? Trample my courts no more; bringing offerings is futile; incense is an abomination to me. New moon and sabbath and calling of

convocation— I cannot endure solemn assemblies with iniquity.

- Your new moons and your appointed festivals my soul hates;
- they have become a burden to me, I am weary of bearing them.
- When you stretch out your hands, I will hide my eyes from you;
- even though you make many prayers, I will not listen; your hands are full of blood.

Wash yourselves; make yourselves clean; remove the evil of your doings from before my eyes; cease to do evil, learn to do good;

seek justice, rescue the oppressed, defend the orphan, plead for the widow.

Come now, let us argue it out, says the Lord: though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be like snow; though they are red like crimson, they shall become like wool. If you are willing and obedient, you shall eat the good of the land; but if you refuse and rebel, you shall be devoured by the sword; for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.

[NRSV Isaiah 1.1.10-20]

Hear the word of the Lord,

thanks be to God

Psalm 50: 1-8, 23-24

The Lord, the most mighty God, has spoken: and called the world from the rising of the sun to its setting.

Out of Zion, perfect in beauty, God shines forth: our God comes and will not keep silence.

Consuming fire goes out before him: and a mighty tempest stirs about him.

He calls the heaven above : and the earth, that he may judge his people.

'Gather to me my faithful : who have sealed my covenant with sacrifice.'

Let the heavens declare his righteousness : for God himself is judge.

Hear, O my people, and I will speak : 'I will testify against you, O Israel; for I am God, your God.

'I will not reprove you for your sacrifices : for your burnt offerings are always before me.

'You that forget God, consider this well : lest I tear you apart and there is none to deliver you.

'Whoever offers me the sacrifice of thanksgiving honours me : and to those who keep my way will I show the salvation of God.

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews Chapter 11 beginning at Verse 1

Chapter 11 beginning at verse 1

Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. Indeed, by faith our ancestors received approval. ³By 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.

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 he received power of procreation, even though he was too old—and Sarah herself was barren— 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. They confessed that they were strangers and foreigners on the earth, for people who speak in this way make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. If they had been thinking of the land that they had left behind, they would have had opportunity to return. But as it is, they desire a better country, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God; indeed, he has prepared a city for them.

[NRSV Hebrews 11.1-3,8-16]

Hear the word of the Lord,

thanks be to God.