



# Revised Common Lectionary

Proper 27, Year A

Track 2

## The Collect:

O God, whose blessed Son came into the world that he might destroy the works of the devil and make us children of God and heirs of eternal life: Grant that, having this hope, we may purify ourselves as he is pure; that, when he comes again with power and great glory, we may be made like him in his eternal and glorious kingdom; where he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

## Old Testament: Wisdom of Solomon 6:12-16 or Amos 5:18-24

<sup>12</sup> Wisdom is radiant and unfading,  
and she is easily discerned by those who love her,  
and is found by those who seek her.

<sup>13</sup> She hastens to make herself known to those who desire her.

<sup>14</sup> One who rises early to seek her will have no difficulty,  
for she will be found sitting at the gate.

<sup>15</sup> To fix one's thought on her is perfect understanding,  
and one who is vigilant on her account will soon be free from care,

<sup>16</sup> because she goes about seeking those worthy of her,  
and she graciously appears to them in their paths,  
and meets them in every thought.

**or**

<sup>18</sup> Alas for you who desire the day of the Lord! Why do you want the day of the Lord? It is darkness, not light; <sup>19</sup>as if someone fled from a lion, and was met by a bear; or went into the house and rested a hand against the wall, and was bitten by a snake. <sup>20</sup>Is not the day of the Lord darkness, not light, and gloom with no brightness in it?

<sup>21</sup> I hate, I despise your festivals, and I take no delight in your solemn assemblies. <sup>22</sup>Even though you offer me your burnt offerings and grain offerings, I will not accept them; and the offerings of well-being of your fatted animals I will not look upon. <sup>23</sup>Take away from me the noise of your songs; I will not listen to the melody of your harps. <sup>24</sup>But let justice roll down like waters, and righteousness like an everflowing stream.

## **Psalm:** Wisdom of Solomon 6:17-20 or Psalm 70

<sup>17</sup> The beginning of wisdom is the most sincere desire for instruction,  
and concern for instruction is love of her,

<sup>18</sup> and love of her is the keeping of her laws,  
and giving heed to her laws is assurance of immortality,

<sup>19</sup> and immortality brings one near to God;

<sup>20</sup> so the desire for wisdom leads to a kingdom.

**or**

<sup>1</sup> Be pleased, O God, to deliver me; \*  
O Lord, make haste to help me.

<sup>2</sup> Let those who seek my life be ashamed  
and altogether dismayed; \*  
let those who take pleasure in my misfortune  
draw back and be disgraced.

<sup>3</sup> Let those who say to me "Aha!" and gloat over me turn back, \*  
because they are ashamed.

<sup>4</sup> Let all who seek you rejoice and be glad in you; \*  
let those who love your salvation say for ever,  
"Great is the Lord!"

<sup>5</sup> But as for me, I am poor and needy; \*  
come to me speedily, O God.

<sup>6</sup> You are my helper and my deliverer; \*  
O Lord, do not tarry.

## **Epistle:** 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

<sup>13</sup> 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. <sup>14</sup>For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. <sup>15</sup>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. <sup>16</sup>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. <sup>17</sup>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. <sup>18</sup>Therefore encourage one another with these words.

## Gospel: Matthew 25:1-13

<sup>1</sup> "Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. <sup>2</sup>Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. <sup>3</sup>When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; <sup>4</sup>but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. <sup>5</sup>As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. <sup>6</sup>But at midnight there was a shout, 'Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.' <sup>7</sup>Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps. <sup>8</sup>The foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' <sup>9</sup>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.' <sup>10</sup>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. <sup>11</sup>Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us.' <sup>12</sup>But he replied, 'Truly I tell you, I do not know you.' <sup>13</sup>Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.

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