Sunday, November 15, 2026 - 25th Sunday after Pentecost

Psalm 90 God's Eternity and Human Frailty - A Prayer of Moses, the man of God

1 - Lord, you have been our dwelling place in all generations.
2 - Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever you had formed the earth and the world,
from everlasting to everlasting you are God.

10 - The days of our life are seventy years, or perhaps eighty, if we are strong;
even then their span is only toil and trouble; they are soon gone, and we fly away.

12 - So teach us to count our days that we may gain a wise heart.

The Day of the Lord – a Threat or a Source of Hope?

In last Sunday's First Reading – from Amos 5 – the Day of the Lord was a Day of Warning.
18-19 - It is darkness, not light; 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.

In last Sunday's Second Reading – from 1 Thessalonians 4 - the Day of the Lord was a Day of Encouragement.
13 - But we do not want you to be uninformed about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope.
16 - For the Lord himself will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first.

The same thing is true with the First and Second Readings for this coming Sunday.

Zephaniah 1:7, 12- 18 – The Day of the Lord as a Threat
(1: 1 – in the days of King Josiah of Judah – 640-609 BC – before the reforms of 621 BC)

13 - Though they build houses, they shall not inhabit them;
though they plant vineyards, they shall not drink wine from them.

14-16 - The great day of the LORD is near, near and hastening fast;
the sound of the day of the LORD is bitter, the warrior cries aloud there.
That day will be a day of wrath, a day of distress and anguish,
a day of ruin and devastation, a day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and thick darkness,
a day of trumpet blast and battle cry against the fortified cities and against the lofty battlements.

17 - I will bring such distress upon people because they have sinned against the LORD.

18 - Neither their silver nor their gold will be able to save them on the day of the LORD's wrath.

1 Thessalonians 5:1-11 – The Day of the Lord as a Promise

1 - Now concerning the times and the seasons, you do not need to have anything written to you.

2 - You know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night.
Cf. Matthew 24: 43

4 - But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief.
6 - So then let us not fall asleep as others do but let us keep awake and be sober.

8 - Put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation.
Cf. Ephesians 6

9-10 - For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him.

11 - Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

Last Sunday's first reading from 1 Thessalonians 4 also ended with, "Therefore encourage one another with these words."

Matthew 25:14-30 - The Parable of the Talents

In last Sunday's Gospel, whether the arrival of the bridegroom was a disaster or a source of rejoicing depended upon whether you are like the five wise or like the five foolish bridesmaids.

In this Sunday's Gospel, whether the return of the master is a threat or a source of blessing depends upon whether you are like the five and two talent servants or like the one talent servant.

In this parable Jesus is giving us four principles on how we should invest our lives.

We are given opportunities according to our abilities.

Instead of fretting over what we do not have, we need to take inventory of all that we do have – all that has been given to us – and then ask ourselves, Am I investing it, or am I burying it?

Faithfulness is always rewarded.

The master said the exact same words to the man who had been given two talents as he said to the man who had been given five talents, because both of them had been faithful with what they had been given.

God is looking for people whom He can trust to be faithful in little things so that He can entrust them with bigger things.

The only real failure in life is doing nothing.

Our greatest regrets at the end of our lives will be all the missed opportunities. We will grieve far more over what we did not do than over what we did do.

Unbury what you have buried and put it to use. Do what you can with what you have left. For accomplishing a little is far, far better than accomplishing nothing at all.

Use it or lose it.

You have been given certain skills – certain abilities. The more you use them, the better you will get at them. But if you do not use them, you will eventually lose even what you have.

"He went off at once."

Those are five words that Jesus used to describe only the one who had been given five talents.

Whatever it is that you want to accomplish in your life, do something about it today.