# Sunday, November 8, 2026 – 24th Sunday after Pentecost

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

### Amos 5:18-24

18-19 - Alas for you who desire the day of the LORD! 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.

21 - I hate, I despise your festivals, and I take no delight in your solemn assemblies.
22 - Even though you offer me your burnt offerings and grain offerings, I will not accept them; the offerings of your fatted animals I will not look upon.
23 - Take away from me the noise of your songs; I will not listen to the melody of your harps.

24 - But let justice roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.

*Cf. Micah 6: 8 – What does the Lord require of you but to do justice, to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God.*
*Richard Wurmbrand to guest organist - "That's not music; that's just loud."*
*Cf. Grand Canyon – water always prevails.*

### Psalm 70 – Of David

1 - Be pleased, O God, to deliver me; O LORD, make haste to help me!
5 - You are my help and my deliverer; O LORD, do not delay!

### 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

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.

14 - For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died.

15 - We who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died.

16 - For the Lord himself will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first.

*"God will bring with him those who have died" – "The dead in Christ will rise first"*

*Comment made by speaker in Wheaton College chapel*

17 - 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.

18 - Therefore encourage one another with these words.

**Matthew 25:1-13**

1-2 - Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise.

*All ten bridesmaids had been invited. All ten bridesmaids took their lamps. And all ten bridesmaids went to meet the bridegroom. But there was one major difference between the five wise and the five foolish.*

3-4 - When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps.

*These were not small lamps but more like tiki torches that would consume a lot of oil.*

5 - As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept.

*If there had not been a delay, the five foolish might have been okay.*
*But we always need to anticipate and be prepared for a delay.*

6 - But at midnight there was a shout, "Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him."

*Jesus comes at midnight - in our hour of deepest need – at a time of greatest spiritual darkness.*

7 - Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps.
8 - The foolish said to the wise, "Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out."
9 - 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."

*A deep Christian experience – a deep relationship with Jesus – a deep in-filling of the Holy Spirit – we cannot give ours to someone else. We must all go to the source.*

10 - 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.

*If you wait until you really need it to get that saving and strengthening relationship with Jesus – if you wait until midnight - you may have waited too long.*

13 - Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.

*Before your lamp begins to go out – on a regular basis – stop and get a fresh supply.*
*Daily renew your relationship with Jesus.*
*Daily live the life He wants you to live.*
*And always remember – we all need to get our own oil.*