

**Sentence of Scripture**

If you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above,  
where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God.

Colossians 3.1

**Prayer of the day**

Living God, Judge of us all,  
you have placed in our hands the wealth we call our own:  
through your Spirit give us wisdom,  
that our possessions may not be a curse,  
but a means of blessing in our lives.  
Grant this through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

**Readings****Hosea 11:1–11**

<sup>1</sup> When Israel was a child, I loved him, and out of Egypt I called my son. <sup>2</sup>The more I called them, the more they went from me; they kept sacrificing to the Baals, and offering incense to idols. <sup>3</sup>Yet it was I who taught Ephraim to walk, I took them up in my arms; but they did not know that I healed them. <sup>4</sup>I led them with cords of human kindness, with bands of love. I was to them like those who lift infants to their cheeks. I bent down to them and fed them. <sup>5</sup>They shall return to the land of Egypt, and Assyria shall be their king, because they have refused to return to me. <sup>6</sup>The sword rages in their cities, it consumes their oracle-priests, and devours because of their schemes. <sup>7</sup>My people are bent on turning away from me. To the Most High they call, but he does not raise them up at all.

<sup>8</sup>How can I give you up, Ephraim? How can I hand you over, O Israel? How can I make you like Admah? How can I treat you like Zeboiim? My heart recoils within me; my compassion grows warm and tender. <sup>9</sup>I will not execute my fierce anger; I will not again destroy Ephraim; for I am God and no mortal, the Holy One in your midst, and I will not come in wrath. <sup>10</sup>They shall go after the LORD, who roars like a lion; when he roars, his children shall come trembling from the west. <sup>11</sup>They shall come trembling like birds from Egypt, and like doves from the land of Assyria; and I will return them to their homes, says the LORD.

(NRSV)

Hear the word of the Lord, **thanks be to God.**

## Psalm 107:1–9, 43

<sup>1</sup> O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good:

**for his loving mercy is for ever.**

<sup>2</sup> Let the Lord's redeemed say so:

**whom he has redeemed from the hand of the enemy,**

<sup>3</sup> And gathered in from every land, from the east and from the west:

**from the north and from the south.**

<sup>4</sup> Some went astray in the wilderness and in the desert:

**and found no path to an inhabited city;**

<sup>5</sup> They were hungry and thirsty:

**and their heart fainted within them.**

<sup>6</sup> Then they cried to the Lord in their distress:

**and he took them out of their trouble.**

<sup>7</sup> He led them by the right path:

**till they came to an inhabited city.**

<sup>8</sup> Let them thank the Lord for his goodness:

**and for the wonders that he does for the children of Adam;**

<sup>9</sup> For he satisfies the thirsty:

**and fills the hungry with good things.**

<sup>43</sup> Whoever is wise, let them observe these things:

**and consider the loving-kindness of the Lord.**

## Colossians 3:1–11

<sup>1</sup> So if you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. <sup>2</sup> Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth, <sup>3</sup> for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. <sup>4</sup> When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory.

<sup>5</sup> Put to death, therefore, whatever in you is earthly: fornication, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed (which is idolatry). <sup>6</sup> On account of these the wrath of God is coming on those who are disobedient. <sup>7</sup> These are the ways you also once followed, when you were living that life. <sup>8</sup> But now you must get rid of all such things—anger, wrath, malice, slander, and abusive language from your mouth.

<sup>9</sup> Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have stripped off the old self with its practices <sup>10</sup> and have clothed yourselves with the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge according to the image of its creator. <sup>11</sup> In that renewal there is no longer Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave and free; but Christ is all and in all.

(NRSV)

Hear the word of the Lord, **thanks be to God.**

## **Luke 12:13–21**

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to . . .

**Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

<sup>13</sup> Someone in the crowd said to him, “Teacher, tell my brother to divide the family inheritance with me.” <sup>14</sup> But he said to him, “Friend, who set me to be a judge or arbitrator over you?” <sup>15</sup> And he said to them, “Take care! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; for one’s life does not consist in the abundance of possessions.” <sup>16</sup> Then he told them a parable: “The land of a rich man produced abundantly. <sup>17</sup> And he thought to himself, ‘What should I do, for I have no place to store my crops?’ <sup>18</sup> Then he said, ‘I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. <sup>19</sup> And I will say to my soul, Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.’ <sup>20</sup> But God said to him, ‘You fool! This very night your life is being demanded of you. And the things you have prepared, whose will they be?’ <sup>21</sup> So it is with those who store up treasures for themselves but are not rich toward God.”

This is the Gospel of our Lord, **praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

(NRSV)