

## FIRST READING: Amos 6:1a, 4-7

A reading from Amos.

- <sup>3</sup>Alas for those who are at ease in Zion,  
and for those who feel secure on Mount Samaria, <sup>4</sup>Alas for those who lie on beds of  
ivory,  
and lounge on their couches,  
and eat lambs from the flock,  
and calves from the stall;  
<sup>5</sup>who sing idle songs to the sound of the harp,  
and like David improvise on instruments of music;  
<sup>6</sup>who drink wine from bowls,  
and anoint themselves with the finest oils,  
but are not grieved over the ruin of Joseph!  
<sup>7</sup>Therefore they shall now be the first to go into exile,  
and the revelry of the loungers shall pass away.

## PSALM: Psalm 146

*Cantor sings refrain. Assembly repeats refrain. Cantor sings verses. Assembly sings refrain at R.*



The LORD gives jus-tice, the LORD gives jus-tice to those who are op - pressed.

- <sup>1</sup>Hal- | lelujah!  
Praise the LORD, | O my soul!  
<sup>2</sup>I will praise the LORD as long | as I live;  
I will sing praises to my God while I | have my being.  
<sup>3</sup>Put not your | trust in rulers,  
in mortals in whom there | is no help.  
<sup>4</sup>When they breathe their last, they re- | turn to earth,  
and in that day | their thoughts perish. **R**  
<sup>5</sup>Happy are they who have the God of Jacob | for their help,  
whose hope is in the | LORD their God;  
<sup>6</sup>who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that | is in them;  
who keeps promis- | es forever;  
<sup>7</sup>who gives justice to those who are oppressed, and food to | those who hunger.  
The LORD sets the | captive free.  
<sup>8</sup>The LORD opens the eyes of the blind; the LORD lifts up those who | are bowed down;  
the LORD | loves the righteous.  
<sup>9</sup>The LORD cares | for the stranger;  
the LORD sustains the orphan and widow, but frustrates the way | of the wicked.  
<sup>10</sup>The LORD shall | reign forever,  
your God, O Zion, throughout all generations. | Hallelujah! **R**

## SECOND READING: 1 Timothy 6:6–19

A reading from first Timothy.

<sup>6</sup>Of course, there is great gain in godliness combined with contentment; <sup>7</sup>for we brought nothing into the world, so that we can take nothing out of it; <sup>8</sup>but if we have food and clothing, we will be content with these. <sup>9</sup>But those who want to be rich fall into temptation and are trapped by many senseless and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. <sup>10</sup>For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil, and in their eagerness to be rich some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pains.

<sup>11</sup>But as for you, man of God, shun all this; pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance, gentleness. <sup>12</sup>Fight the good fight of the faith; take hold of the eternal life, to which you were called and for which you made the good confession in the presence of many witnesses. <sup>13</sup>In the presence of God, who gives life to all things, and of Christ Jesus, who in his testimony before Pontius Pilate made the good confession, I charge you <sup>14</sup>to keep the commandment without spot or blame until the manifestation of our Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>15</sup>which he will bring about at the right time — he who is the blessed and only Sovereign, the King of kings and Lord of lords. <sup>16</sup>It is he alone who has immortality and dwells in unapproachable light, whom no one has ever seen or can see; to him be honor and eternal dominion. Amen.

<sup>17</sup>As for those who in the present age are rich, command them not to be haughty, or to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches, but rather on God who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. <sup>18</sup>They are to do good, to be rich in good works, generous, and ready to share, <sup>19</sup>thus storing up for themselves the treasure of a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of the life that really is life.

## GOSPEL: Luke 16:19–31

<sup>19</sup>There was a rich man who was dressed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day. <sup>20</sup>And at his gate lay a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores, <sup>21</sup>who longed to satisfy his hunger with what fell from the rich man's table; even the dogs would come and lick his sores. <sup>22</sup>The poor man died and was carried away by the angels to be with Abraham. The rich man also died and was buried. <sup>23</sup>In Hades, where he was being tormented, he looked up and saw Abraham far away with Lazarus by his side. <sup>24</sup>He called out, 'Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue; for I am in agony in these flames.' <sup>25</sup>But Abraham said, 'Child, remember that during your lifetime you received your good things, and Lazarus in like manner evil things; but now he is comforted here, and you are in agony. <sup>26</sup>Besides all this, between you and us a great chasm has been fixed, so that those who might want to pass from here to you cannot do so, and no one can cross from there to us.' <sup>27</sup>He said, 'Then, father, I beg you to send him to my father's house — <sup>28</sup>for I have five brothers — that he may warn them, so that they will not also come into this place of torment.' <sup>29</sup>Abraham replied, 'They have Moses and the prophets; they should listen to them.' <sup>30</sup>He said, 'No, father Abraham; but if someone goes to them from the dead, they will repent.' <sup>31</sup>He said to him, 'If they do not listen to Moses and the prophets, neither will they be convinced even if someone rises from the dead.'"

## Daily Bible Readings:

These readings are related to the Lectionary readings for this Sunday. Try to take time each day to read the assigned Bible passage.

Sunday	Luke 16:19-31	Poor Lazarus and the rich man
Monday	Revelation 3:14-22	Being rich or poor in God
Tuesday	Proverbs 22:1-9,16	The rich versus the poor
Wednesday	Proverbs 28:11-28	Helpers of the poor lack nothing
Thursday	Ephesians 2:1-10	God is rich in mercy
Friday	Philippians 4:10-13	The secret of being content
Saturday	Psalms 62	I wait on God
Sunday	Luke 17:5-10	Faith the size of a mustard seed

### Scripture Verses for the Week:

Yet true godliness with contentment is itself great wealth. After all, we brought nothing with us when we came into the world, and we can't take anything with us when we leave it.

So if we have enough food and clothing, let us be content.

– 1 Timothy 6:6-8 (NLT)

- Cut out & carry with you.
- Say at each mealtime.
- Read at bedtime.
- Commit to memory.

### Prayer for this Week:

Lord Jesus, I am truly rich because of you. Help me to be generous to others. Amen. (1 Timothy 6:17-18)

### For Throughout the Day:

Lord God, keep me from becoming greedy. Make me content with what I have in Jesus. Amen.

### A Blessing to Share:

*May God keep you from wandering away from him. May he make you faithful, loving, dependable and gentle. Amen.*

(1 Timothy 6:10-11)

### Mealtime Refrain:

God is the King of kings and the Lord of lords:

**All honor and power to him!** (1 Timothy 6:15-16)

### Mealtime Prayer:

*God, we're so blessed with what you've sent.*

*May we be thankful and content. Amen.*



**Faith Talk:**

Discuss in your household or small group:

- Share about a time when you were in need and someone helped you.
- Jesus told a story about a rich man who didn't help a poor man called Lazarus who lived at his gate. What happened to each of them?
- What are the needs of people in your local community? What help is available to them? In what ways could you be more involved?

**Devotional Practices:**

Collect current news stories about people who are suffering from poverty or sickness. Talk about these situations in your home devotion times this week. Pray for the people affected.

**Service:**

The prophet Amos tells us that we should care not only about ourselves but also about others. Take a household shopping expedition to buy canned goods and non-perishable food items to give away to a food pantry or a home in need.

**Rituals and Traditions:**

The change of seasons is a good time to go through our wardrobes and identify clothes that we rarely wear or no longer require. Make time as a household this week to sort through your clothes and set aside items to give away to a local charity or to a home that would appreciate them.

**Parent Toolbox: Encouraging a Giving Spirit**

St. Paul urges Christians to "do good, be rich in good deeds and be generous and willing to share" (1 Timothy 6:18). Consider these ideas for encouraging a spirit of giving in your children:

- **Help neighbors.** Look for opportunities to serve those around you e.g. raking leaves for an elderly couple, baking for a serviceman or servicewoman, making a meal for a sick person.
- **Give blood.** Take your children with you so they see you as a model for giving. Talk to them about why you choose to donate blood and what it will accomplish.
- **Make birthdays charitable.** Promote birthdays as a time for giving to others. Encourage your children to give away used toys or books that are still in good condition as they receive new gifts.
- **Care for animals.** At regular intervals buy cat or dog food to donate to an organization caring for lost or abandoned animals.
- **Pitch in.** Commit as a household to be part of "working bees" at your church and to participate in church volunteer rosters.

