

SERIES A TEXTS

Lectionary 32

Amos 5:18-24

¹⁸ Alas for **you** who desire the day of the LORD! Why do **you** want the day of the LORD? It is darkness, not light; ¹⁹ 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. ²⁰ Is not the day of the LORD darkness, not light, and gloom with no brightness in it? 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; and the offerings of well-being 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.

Psalm 70

¹ Be pleased, O God, to deliver me. O LORD, make haste to help me! ² Let those be put to shame and confusion who seek my life. Let those be turned back and brought to dishonor who desire to hurt me. ³ Let those who say, "Aha, Aha!" turn back because of their shame. ⁴ Let all who seek you rejoice and be glad in you. Let those who love your salvation say evermore, "God is great!" ⁵ But I am poor and needy; hasten to me, O God! You are my help and my deliverer; O LORD, do not delay!

1st Thessalonians 4:13-18

¹³ 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. 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 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. ¹⁶ 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. 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 "Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. ² Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. ³ When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; ⁴ but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. ⁵ As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. ⁶ But at midnight there was a shout, 'Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.' 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**.' ¹⁰ And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and

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the door was shut. ¹¹ Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us.' ¹² But he replied, 'Truly I tell you, I do not know you.' ¹³ Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.