Year A – Proper 26

Sunday, November 1, 2026

Collect for Proper 26

Almighty and merciful God, it is only by your gift that your faithful people offer you true and laudable service: Grant that we may run without stumbling to obtain your heavenly promises; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Old Testament

Micah 3:5-12

5 Thus says the LORD concerning the prophets Who make my people stray; Who chant 'Peace' While they chew with their teeth, But who prepare war against him Who puts nothing into their mouths: 6 Therefore you shall have night without vision, And you shall have darkness without divination; The sun shall go down on the prophets, And the day shall be dark for them. 7 So the seers shall be ashamed, And the diviners abashed; Indeed they shall all cover their lips; For there is no answer from God.' 8 But truly I am full of power by the Spirit of the LORD, And of justice and might, To declare to Jacob his transgression And to Israel his sin.

9 Now hear this, You heads of the house of Jacob And rulers of the house of Israel, Who abhor justice And pervert all equity, 10 Who build up Zion with bloodshed And Jerusalem with iniquity: 11 Her heads judge for a bribe, Her priests teach for pay, And her prophets divine for money. Yet they lean on the LORD, and say, 'Is not the LORD among us? No harm can come upon us.' 12 Therefore because of you Zion shall be plowed like a field, Jerusalem shall become heaps of ruins, And the mountain of the temple Like the bare hills of the forest.

Officiant: **The Word of the Lord.**

The People: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 43

1 Vindicate me, O God, And plead my cause against an ungodly nation; Oh, deliver me from the deceitful and unjust man! 2 For You are the God of my strength; Why do You cast me off? Why do I go mourning because of the oppression of the enemy? 3 Oh, send out Your light and Your truth! Let them lead me; Let them bring me to Your holy hill And to Your tabernacle.

4 Then I will go to the altar of God, To God my exceeding joy; And on the harp I will praise You, O God, my God. 5 Why are you cast down, O my soul? And why are you disquieted within me? Hope in God; For I shall yet praise Him, The help of my countenance and my God.

**At the end of the Psalms this is sung or said*

*Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: *
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

New Testament

1 Thessalonians 2:9-13

9 For you remember, brethren, our labor and toil; for laboring night and day, that we might not be a
burden to any of you, we preached to you the gospel of God. 10 You are witnesses, and God also, how
devoutly and justly and blamelessly we behaved ourselves among you who believe; 11 as you know
how we exhorted, and comforted, and charged every one of you, as a father does his own children,

12 that you would walk worthy of God who calls you into His own kingdom and glory. 13 For this
reason we also thank God without ceasing, because when you received the word of God which you
heard from us, you welcomed it not as the word of men, but as it is in truth, the word of God, which
also effectively works in you who believe.

Officiant: **The Word of the Lord.**
The People: Thanks be to God.

Gospel

Matthew 23:1-12

Deacon: *The Lord be with you.*
People: *And also with you. Or And with your spirit.*
Deacon: *May the Lord be on our minds, on our lips, and on our hearts as we hear His Holy Gospel. The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Saint Matthew.*
People: *Glory to You, Lord Christ.*
Deacon: *We are reading from Matthew's Gospel chapter 23, beginning at verse 1.*

1 Then Jesus spoke to the multitudes and to His disciples, 2 saying: 'The scribes and the Pharisees sit
in Moses' seat. 3 Therefore whatever they tell you to observe, that observe and do, but do not do
according to their works; for they say, and do not do. 4 For they bind heavy burdens, hard to bear, and
lay them on men's shoulders; but they themselves will not move them with one of their fingers.

5 But all their works they do to be seen by men. They make their phylacteries broad and enlarge the
borders of their garments. 6 They love the best places at feasts, the best seats in the synagogues, 7
greetings in the marketplaces, and to be called by men, 'Rabbi, Rabbi.' 8 But you, do not be called
'Rabbi'; for One is your Teacher, the Christ, and you are all brethren.

9 Do not call anyone on earth your father; for One is your Father, He who is in heaven. 10 And do not
be called teachers; for One is your Teacher, the Christ. 11 But he who is greatest among you shall be
your servant. 12 And whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be

exalted.

After the Gospel reading, the deacon can elevate the book and says:

Deacon: ***The Gospel of the Lord.***

People: *Praise to You, Lord Jesus Christ.*