

Week of the First Sunday of Advent 2025

Date:	November 30, 2025 (Sunday) [Year 2]	
Theme:	Hope	
Collect:	Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.	
Psalm:	146, 147	Evening: 111, 112, 113
1st Lesson:	Amos 1:1-5,13-2:8	
2nd Lesson:	1 Thess. 5:1-11	
3rd Lesson:	Luke 21:5-19	

Reflection:

If you've noticed, the Psalms appointed for today is part of a seven-week cycle of the 150 Psalms divided between morning and evening prayers. The two morning Psalms are full of hope that the Lord is a just God and that he is there to be with the oppressed – that he will rebuild what was broken. He is mighty and full of wisdom, so let us worship the Lord God. The three evening Psalms are equally uplifting with praises to our wonderful God. What songs to begin the Advent Season!

In the Second lesson, Paul encourages the Thessalonians to be prepared for the day of the Lord and “put on the armor of breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation,” and to encourage one another and build up.

The Gospel reading is the same as that of two Sundays ago. It's interesting that Sunday Lectionary which is in three year cycle (Years A, B and C), and the Daily Office Lectionary which is in two year cycle (Years 1 and 2) sometimes collide. Well, almost, anyway. Jesus talks about the need to not be led astray in the last days.

Ever since back in my teens, we've always heard that the “end is near” in our bible study group. The wars and earthquakes, famines and plagues are all signs of the end times that Jesus mentions. Yet, with the same breath, he specifically says to not be led astray when anyone claims that he is the messiah, because he's not. I think the point of all the Gospel passage as well as Paul's letter is to always be ready. That means love one another and be kind to strangers...always.