

Scriptures August 3, 2025

Frist Reading

Hosea 11:1-11 NRSV

God's Compassion Despite Israel's Ingratitude

11 When Israel was a child, I loved him,
and out of Egypt I called my son.

² The more I^[a] called them,
the more they went from me;^[b]
they kept sacrificing to the Baals,
and offering incense to idols.

³ Yet it was I who taught Ephraim to walk,
I took them up in my^[c] arms;
but they did not know that I healed them.

⁴ I led them with cords of human kindness,
with bands of love.

I was to them like those
who lift infants to their cheeks.^[d]
I bent down to them and fed them.

⁵ They shall return to the land of Egypt,
and Assyria shall be their king,
because they have refused to return to me.

⁶ The sword rages in their cities,
it consumes their oracle-priests,
and devours because of their schemes.

⁷ My people are bent on turning away from me.
To the Most High they call,
but he does not raise them up at all.^[e]

⁸ 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.

⁹ 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.^[1]

¹⁰ They shall go after the Lord,
who roars like a lion;
when he roars,
his children shall come trembling from the west.

¹¹ 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.

Second Reading

Luke 12:13-21 NRSV

The Parable of the Rich Fool

¹³ Someone in the crowd said to him, ‘Teacher, tell my brother to divide the family inheritance with me.’ ¹⁴ But he said to him, ‘Friend, who set me to be a judge or arbitrator over you?’ ¹⁵ 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.’ ¹⁶ Then he told them a parable: ‘The land of a rich man produced abundantly. ¹⁷ And he thought to himself, “What should I do, for I have no place to store my crops?” ¹⁸ 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. ¹⁹ And I will say to my soul, Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.” ²⁰ 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?” ²¹ So it is with those who store up treasures for themselves but are not rich towards God.’