

**A reading from the book of 1 Chronicles, chapter 29,  
verses 10-16.**

Therefore David blessed the Lord in the presence of all the assembly. And David said: "Blessed are you, O Lord, the God of Israel our father, forever and ever. Yours, O Lord, is the greatness and the power and the glory and the victory and the majesty, for all that is in the heavens and in the earth is yours. Yours is the kingdom, O Lord, and you are exalted as head above all. Both riches and honor come from you, and you rule over all. In your hand are power and might, and in your hand it is to make great and to give strength to all. And now we thank you, our God, and praise your glorious name.

"But who am I, and what is my people, that we should be able thus to offer willingly? For all things come from you, and of your own have we given you. For we are strangers before you and sojourners, as all our fathers were. Our days on the earth are like a shadow, and there is no abiding. O Lord our God, all this abundance that we have provided for building you a house for your holy name comes from your hand and is all your own."

**The Word of the Lord.**  
***Thanks be to God.***

**Please join me in praying Psalm 49**

**Leader: Hear this, all peoples!  
Give ear, all inhabitants of the world,**

People: both low and high,  
rich and poor together!

**Leader: My mouth shall speak wisdom;  
the meditation of my heart shall be  
understanding.**

People: I will incline my ear to a proverb;  
I will solve my riddle to the music of the lyre.

**Leader: Why should I fear in times of trouble,  
when the iniquity of those who cheat me  
surrounds me,**

People: those who trust in their wealth  
and boast of the abundance of their riches?

**Leader: Truly no man can ransom another,  
or give to God the price of his life,**

People: for the ransom of their life is costly  
and can never suffice,

**Leader: that he should live on forever  
and never see the pit.**

People: For he sees that even the wise die;  
the fool and the stupid alike must perish  
and leave their wealth to others.

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**Leader: Their graves are their homes forever,  
their dwelling places to all generations,  
though they called lands by their own names.**

People: Man in his pomp will not remain;  
he is like the beasts that perish.

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

## **The Gospel: Luke 16:1-13**

He also said to the disciples, “There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was wasting his possessions. And he called him and said to him, ‘What is this that I hear about you? Turn in the account of your management, for you can no longer be manager.’ And the manager said to himself, ‘What shall I do, since my master is taking the management away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. I have decided what to do, so that when I am removed from management, people may receive me into their houses.’ So, summoning his master's debtors one by one, he said to the first, ‘How much do you owe my master?’ He said, ‘A hundred measures of oil.’ He said to him, ‘Take your bill, and sit down quickly and write fifty.’ Then he said to another, ‘And how much do you owe?’ He said, ‘A hundred measures of wheat.’ He said to him, ‘Take your bill, and write eighty.’ The master commended the dishonest manager for his shrewdness. For the sons of this world are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than the sons of light. And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of unrighteous wealth, so that when it fails they may receive you into the eternal dwellings.

“One who is faithful in a very little is also faithful in much, and one who is dishonest in a very little is also dishonest in much. If then you have not been faithful in the unrighteous wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? And if you have not been faithful in that which is another's, who will give you that which is your own? No servant can serve two masters, for either he will hate the one and love the other, or he will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and money.”