

**A reading from the book of Ephesians, chapter 1, verses
15-23**

For this reason, because I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, I do not cease to give thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers, that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of him, having the eyes of your hearts enlightened, that you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power toward us who believe, according to the working of his great might that he worked in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the one to come. And he put all things under his feet and gave him as head over all things to the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Please join me in praying Psalm 33

Leader: Blessed is the nation whose God is the Lord,

People: the people whom he has chosen as his heritage!

**Leader: The Lord looks down from heaven;
he sees all the children of man;**

People: from where he sits enthroned he looks out
on all the inhabitants of the earth,

**Leader: he who fashions the hearts of them all
and observes all their deeds.**

People: The king is not saved by his great army;
a warrior is not delivered by his great strength.

**Leader: The war horse is a false hope for salvation,
and by its great might it cannot rescue.**

People: Behold, the eye of the Lord is on those who fear him,
on those who hope in his steadfast love,

**Leader: that he may deliver their soul from death
and keep them alive in famine.**

People: Our soul waits for the Lord;
he is our help and our shield.

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**Leader: For our heart is glad in him,
because we trust in his holy name.**

People: Let your steadfast love, O Lord, be upon us,
even as we hope in you.

**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 17:20-37

Being asked by the Pharisees when the kingdom of God would come, he answered them, “The kingdom of God is not coming in ways that can be observed, nor will they say, ‘Look, here it is!’ or ‘There!’ for behold, the kingdom of God is in the midst of you.”

And he said to the disciples, “The days are coming when you will desire to see one of the days of the Son of Man, and you will not see it. And they will say to you, ‘Look, there!’ or ‘Look, here!’ Do not go out or follow them. For as the lightning flashes and lights up the sky from one side to the other, so will the Son of Man be in his day. But first he must suffer many things and be rejected by this generation. Just as it was in the days of Noah, so will it be in the days of the Son of Man. They were eating and drinking and marrying and being given in marriage, until the day when Noah entered the ark, and the flood came and destroyed them all. Likewise, just as it was in the days of Lot—they were eating and drinking, buying and selling, planting and building, but on the day when Lot went out from Sodom, fire and sulfur rained from heaven and destroyed them all—so will it be on the day when the Son of Man is revealed. On that day, let the one who is on the housetop, with his goods in the house, not come down to take them away, and likewise let the one who is in the field not turn back. Remember Lot's wife. Whoever seeks to preserve his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life will keep it. I tell you, in that night there will be two in one bed. One will be taken and the other left. There will be two women grinding together. One will be taken and the other left.” And they said to him, “Where, Lord?” He said to them, “Where the corpse is, there the vultures will gather.”