



THE SHEPHERD'S VOICE

*Daily Devotion at Zion + November 2022 AD + **End of Pentecost***

Devotion and Enjoyment

“There is nothing better than that a person should eat and drink and find enjoyment in his toil. This also, I saw, is from the hand of God” (Ecclesiastes 2:24). So say the Scriptures, and do the Scriptures lie? Never! “Within these pages is the wisdom of the ages.” So is this true, that there is nothing better than to eat, drink, and find enjoyment in our labor?

Of course it’s true. First, remember what *toil* and *labor* are in Scripture: not just your 9-to-5 job, but all the callings God has given you in His creation, from serving neighbors through honest work to loving family, spouse, friends, church, and countrymen. Why else did God create Adam and Eve but to eat, drink, and find enjoyment in their earthly callings? To do so is to find enjoyment in God where He greets us, through the gifts and callings He gives.

Such enjoyment leads us, above all, to the cross, where God pressed out the vintage of salvation in His own blood, and the altar, where He feeds us the bread of life. And all this *goodness*, this unified *feast* of God and His creation, moves into our hearts and unpacks its joy, like a beloved aunt coming for a permanent stay, when we receive it with *devotion*: thanksgiving, praise, blessing, song, and confession. Devotion is no hobby: it’s the clothes we wear to the feast of life.

About the Cover Art

“Harvest Scene,” a detail from a book published in Bologna, Italy, in 1340 A.D., depicts a variety of figures enjoying the harvest: apples, milk, grapes, and other goods are all collected, tasted, and carried away for consumption. Medieval, Christian Europe veritably glowed with such artistic depictions of human endeavor, almost reveling in the fruit of creation. Such artistic joy reflected the Church’s vibrant confession that God made the world for the world’s own good, that others may enjoy the goodness that He is.

Daily Readings for the Week of All Saints' (November 6)

S Hosea 11:1-11 1 Corinthians 4:9-16 Matthew 15:21-28	Th Hosea 13:4-8 Acts 27:27-44 Luke 9:18-27
M Hosea 11:12—12:1 Acts 26:1-23 Luke 8:26-39	F Hosea 13:9-16 Acts 28:1-16 Luke 9:28-36
T Hosea 12:2-14 Acts 26:24—27:8 Luke 8:40-56	Sa Hosea 14:1-9 Acts 28:17-31 Luke 9:37-50
W Hosea 13:1-3 Acts 27:9-26 Luke 9:1-17	

These readings correspond to pages 1044—1084 in Volume IV of For All the Saints.

Daily Readings for the Week of Pentecost 23 (November 13)

S Micah 1:1-9 1 Corinthians 10:1-13 Matthew 16:13-20	Th Micah 5:1-4, 10-15 Revelation 9:1-12 Luke 10:25-37
M Micah 2:1-13 Revelation 7:1-18 Luke 9:51-62	F Micah 6:1-8 Revelation 9:13-21 Luke 10: 38-42
T Micah 3:1-8 Revelation 7:9-17 Luke 10:1-16	Sa Micah 7:1-7 Revelation 10:1-11 Luke 11:1-13
W Micah 3:9—4:5 Revelation 8:1-13 Luke 10:17-24	

These readings correspond to pages 1084—1117 in Volume IV of For All the Saints.

Daily Readings for the Week of The Last Sunday of the Church Year (November 20)

S Jonah 1:1-17a 1 Corinthians 10:15-24 Matthew 18:15-20	Th Nahum 1:15—2:12 Revelation 12:7-17 Luke 11:53—12:12
M Jonah 1:17—2:10 Revelation 11:1-14 Luke 11:14-26	F Nahum 2:13—3:7 Revelation 13:1-10 Luke 12:13-31
T Jonah 3:1—4:11 Revelation 11:14-19 Luke 11:27-36	Sa Nahum 3:8-19 Revelation 13:11-18 Luke 12:32-48

W Nahum 1:1-14
Revelation 12:1-6
Luke 11:37-52

These readings correspond to pages 1117—1159 in Volume IV of For All the Saints.

Daily Readings for the Week of Advent 1 (November 27)

S Isaiah 1:1-9 2 Peter 3:1-10 Matthew 25:1-13	Th Isaiah 2:5-22 1 Thessalonians 3:1-13 Luke 20:27-40
M Isaiah 1:10-20 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10 Luke 20:1-8	F Isaiah 3:1—4:1 1 Thessalonians 4:1-12 Luke 20:41—21:4
T Isaiah 1:21-31 1 Thessalonians 2:1-12 Luke 20:9-18	Sa Isaiah 4:2-6 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 Luke 21:5-19

W Isaiah 2:1-4
1 Thessalonians 2:13-20
Luke 20:19-26

These readings correspond to pages 3—32 in Volume I of For All the Saints.