Reading for Weekday in Ordinary Time

18th November 2026

First reading

Revelation 4:1-11

'Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord God Almighty, who was and is and is to come!'

I, John, looked, and behold, a door standing open in heaven! And the first voice, which I had heard
speaking to me like a trumpet, said, 'Come up here, and I will show you what must take place after this.'
At once I was in the Spirit, and behold, a throne stood in heaven, with one seated on the throne. And he
who sat there had the appearance of jasper and carnelian, and round the throne was a rainbow that had
the appearance of an emerald. Round the throne were twenty-four thrones, and seated on the thrones
were twenty-four elders, clothed in white garments, with golden crowns on their heads. From the throne
came flashes of lightning, and rumblings and peals of thunder, and before the throne were burning seven
torches of fire, which are the seven spirits of God, and before the throne there was as it were a sea of glass
like crystal.

And round the throne, on each side of the throne, are four living creatures, full of eyes in front and
behind: the first living creature like a lion, the second living creature like an ox, the third living creature
with the face of a man, and the fourth living creature like an eagle in flight. And the four living creatures,
each of them with six wings, are full of eyes all round and within, and day and night they never cease to
say,

'Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord God Almighty,
who was and is and is to come!'

And whenever the living creatures give glory and honour and thanks to him who is seated on the throne,
who lives for ever and ever, the twenty-four elders fall down before him who is seated on the throne and
worship him who lives for ever and ever. They cast their crowns before the throne, saying,

'Worthy are you, our Lord and God,
to receive glory and honour and power,
for you created all things,
and by your will they existed and were created.'

Responsorial Psalm

Ps 150:1-2. 3-4. 5-6. ℟6

Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord God Almighty.

Alleluia!
Praise God in his holy place; praise him in his mighty firmament.
Praise him for his powerful deeds; praise him for his boundless grandeur.
O praise him with sound of trumpet; praise him with lute and harp.
Praise him with timbrel and dance; praise him with strings and pipes.
O praise him with resounding cymbals; praise him with clashing of cymbals.
Let everything that breathes praise the Lord! Alleluia!

Gospel Acclamation **Cf. John 15:16**

Alleluia, alleluia.
I chose you out of the world, says the Lord,
that you should go and bear fruit, and that your fruit should abide.
Alleluia.

Gospel **Luke 19:11-28**

'Why then did you not put my money in the bank?'

At that time: Jesus proceeded to tell a parable, because he was near to Jerusalem, and because they supposed that the kingdom of God was to appear immediately. He said therefore, 'A nobleman went into a far country to receive for himself a kingdom and then return. Calling ten of his servants, he gave them ten minas, and said to them, "Engage in business until I come." But his citizens hated him and sent a delegation after him, saying, "We do not want this man to reign over us." When he returned, having received the kingdom, he ordered these servants to whom he had given the money to be called to him, that he might know what they had gained by doing business. The first came before him, saying, "Lord, your mina has made ten minas more." And he said to him, "Well done, good servant! Because you have been faithful in a very little, you shall have authority over ten cities." And the second came, saying, "Lord, your mina has made five minas." And he said to him, "And you are to be over five cities." Then another came, saying, "Lord, here is your mina, which I kept laid away in a handkerchief; for I was afraid of you, because you are a severe man. You take what you did not deposit, and reap what you did not sow." He said to him, "I will condemn you with your own words, you wicked servant! You knew that I was a severe man, taking what I did not deposit and reaping what I did not sow? Why then did you not put my money in the bank, and at my coming I might have collected it with interest?" And he said to those who stood by, "Take the mina from him, and give it to the one who has the ten minas." And they said to him, "Lord, he has ten minas!" "I tell you that to everyone who has, more will be given, but from the one who has not, even what he has will be taken away. But as for these enemies of mine, who did not want me to reign over them, bring them here and slaughter them before me." '

And when he had said these things, he went on ahead, going up to Jerusalem.

Short reflection on the reading for today

Just after this parable comes the story about Jesus entering Jerusalem riding on a donkey, while crowds hailed him: 'Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord.' His almost royal entry into the city led some of his followers to think that the kingdom was coming soon. The parable intends to counter any expectation that God's kingdom was imminent. Instead, there would be a long interval between Jesus' nomination as king (the resurrection) and his return at the end of time. This interval is an opportunity for loyal service, a time to profitably use the gifts and resources we have been given.

One of the servants who had received a large loan did nothing useful with it, out of fear of losing it. Fear left him indecisive, unable to take action. It is striking how often Jesus says 'Do not be afraid.' He knew how fear can stop people from giving of their best. The opposite of faith is not so much unbelief as fear. If we rise above our fears we make it easier for others to do the same. We help and encourage each other by showing courage ourselves.