like a thief at night.
When people are saying, “Peace and security, “
then sudden disaster comes upon them,
like labor pains upon a pregnant woman,
and they will not escape.

But you, brothers and sisters, are not in darkness,
for that day to overtake you like a thief.
For all of you are children of the light
and children of the day.
We are not of the night or of darkness.
Therefore, let us not sleep as the rest do,
but let us stay alert and sober.

The word of the Lord.

**GOSPEL**
*A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew 25:14-15, 19-21*

Jesus told his disciples this parable:
“A man going on a journey
called in his servants and entrusted his possessions
to them.
To one he gave five talents; to another, two; to a third, one--
to each according to his ability.
Then he went away.

“After a long time
the master of those servants came back
and settled accounts with them.
The one who had received five talents came forward
bringing the additional five.
He said, ‘Master, you gave me five talents.

See, I have made five more.'
His master said to him, 'Well done, my good and
faithful servant.
Since you were faithful in small matters,
I will give you great responsibilities.
Come, share your master's joy.'"

The Gospel of the Lord.
[Longer Version: Matthew 25:14-30]

**Sunday, November 22**
**THE SOLEMNITY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, THE KING OF THE UNIVERSE – YEAR A**

**FIRST READING**
*A reading from the Book of the Prophet Ezekiel 34:11-12, 15-17*

Thus says the Lord GOD:
I myself will look after and tend my sheep.
As a shepherd tends his flock
when he finds himself among his scattered sheep,
so will I tend my sheep.
I will rescue them from every place where they were scattered
when it was cloudy and dark.
I myself will pasture my sheep;
I myself will give them rest, says the Lord GOD.
The lost I will seek out,
the strayed I will bring back,
the injured I will bind up,
the sick I will heal,
but the sleek and the strong I will destroy,
shepherding them rightly.