First Reading (November 22, 2026)

2 Corinthians 8:1-9 (ESV)

If you are comfortable, please say: "Good morning, I'm [NAME], and our first reading today is from 2 Corinthians." If you prefer, say: "Our first reading today is from 2 Corinthians."

We want you to know, brothers, about the grace of God that has been given among the churches of Macedonia, for in a severe test of affliction, their abundance of joy and their extreme poverty have overflowed in a wealth of generosity on their part. For they gave according to their means, as I can testify, and beyond their means, of their own accord, begging us earnestly for the favor of taking part in the relief of the saints- and this, not as we expected, but they gave themselves first to the Lord and then by the will of God to us. Accordingly, we urged Titus that as he had started, so he should complete among you this act of grace. But as you excel in everything-in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in all earnestness, and in our love for you-see that you excel in this act of grace also.

I say this not as a command, but to prove by the earnestness of others that your love also is genuine. For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that you by his poverty might become rich.

READER: This is the Word of the Lord.

First Reading (November 22, 2026) continued

2 Corinthians 8:1-9 (ESV)

Congregation: Thanks be to God!

Gospel Reading (November 22, 2026)

Matthew 20:20-28 (ESV)

Please stand as you are able to honor Jesus and the Gospel.
The Gospel According to Matthew

Then the mother of the sons of Zebedee came up to him with her sons, and kneeling before him she asked him for something. And he said to her, "What do you want?" She said to him, "Say that these two sons of mine are to sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your kingdom." Jesus answered, "You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I am to drink?" They said to him, "We are able." He said to them, "You will drink my cup, but to sit at my right hand and at my left is not mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared by my Father." And when the ten heard it, they were indignant at the two brothers. But Jesus called them to him and said, "You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones exercise authority over them. It shall not be so among you. But whoever would be great among you must be your servant, and whoever would be first among you must be your slave, even as the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."

READER: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Congregation: Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated. We invite all kids to come up for the kids' message. Parents and caregivers, you are welcome to come up with your child as well.