

What do we consider as treasures in life today? Money, fame, or the influence we have over others? Today's readings define treasure in a different way. The parable of today's Gospel uses material goods to reveal a deeper message about the kingdom of heaven. The millions that the man entrusts to his three servants when he goes away are multiplied by the first two servants in different ways, **b***ut the third servant hides his part* out of fear of losing it. Jesus reminds us that we have been endowed with many gifts that we must place at the service of others for the construction of his kingdom of peace and justice.

What good is it to hide those gifts and lead out lives with fear of an unknown punishment? Our journey of faith includes a dimension of risk that requires us to use our talents as living members of the body of Christ; these are our true treasures. How can the members of our community learn to discern the gifts that they have received from the Lord to place them at the service of God and the Church? The answer to this question may *motivate community leaders to find* those discernment practices that may serve as a starting point in the spiritual growth of the faithful.

OPENING HYMN

TABLE OF PLENTY 311

First Reading Proverbs 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31A worthy wife has value far beyond pearls. She deserves payment for her labor and praise for her work: "Let her works praise her at the city gates."

> Responsorial Psalm Psalm 128:1-2, 3, 4-5

> > Second Reading

1 Thessalonians 5:1-6According to Paul, Christians are children of light. They belong not to dark nor to night but, rather, today and light. They should be awake, sober, and alert.

> Gospel Acclamation John 15:4a, 5b

> > Gospel

Matthew 25:14-30Jesus told the parable about a man who went on a journey and gave his servants money. On his return, he said to the one who made the greatest profit, "Well done,...I will give you great responsibilities."
OR — Matthew 25:14-15, 19-21Jesus told the parable about a man who went on a journey and gave his servants money. On his return, he said to the one who made the greatest profit, "Well done,I will give you great

OFFERTORY HYMN

UNLESS A GRAIN OF WHEAT 505

HOLY

WE PROCLAM YOUR DEATH

AMEN

LORDS PRAYER

LAMB OF GOD

SPIRITUL COMMUNION PRAYER

COMMUNION HYMN

TASTE AND SEE 339

CLOSIING HYMN

AMAZING GRACE 432

OPENING HYMN

TABLE OF PLENTY

[Chorus] Come to the feast of heaven and earth Come to the table of plenty God will provide for all that we need Here at the table of plenty

[Verse 1] O come and sit at my table Where saints and sinners are friends I wait to welcome the lost and lonely To share the cup of my love

[Chorus] Come to the feast of heaven and earth Come to the table of plenty God will provide for all that we need Here at the table of plenty

OFFERTORY HYMN

UNLESS A GRAIN OF WHEAT

Refrain:

Unless a grain of wheat shall fall upon the ground and die,

it remains but a single grain with no life.

1 If we have died with him then we shall live with him;

if we hold firm, we shall reign with him. [Refrain]

2 If anyone serves me then they must follow me;

wherever I am my servants will be. [Refrain]

3 Make your home in me as I make mine in you; those who remain in me bear much fruit. [Refrain] SACRAMENTAL PRAYER

MY JESUS, I BELIEVE THAT YOU ARE PRESENT IN THE MOST HOLY SACRAMENT. I LOVE YOU ABOVE ALL THINGS, AND I DESIRE TO RECEIVE YOU INTO MY SOUL. SINCE I CANNOT AT THIS MOMENT RECEIVE YOU SACRAMENTALLY, COME AT LEAST SPIRITUALLY INTO MY HEART. I EMBRACE YOU AS IF YOU WERE ALREAT

I EMBRACE YOU AS IF YOU WERE ALREADY THERE

AND UNITEMYSELF WHOLLY TO YOU. NEVER PERMIT ME TO BE SEPARATED FROM YOU.

AMEN

COMMUNION HYMN

TASTE AND SEE

Refrain

Taste and see, O taste and see, taste and see the goodness of God.

Verse 1

Glory, glory to God most high, glory, blessing and praise. With one voice, O people, rejoice in our God, who hears the cry of all in need.

Refrain

Verse 2

Who has fashioned the earth and sky, who created the deep, who exalts the lowly and sets captives free, who opens the door to all those who seek.

Refrain

Verse 3

Oh, the love of God! Become flesh of our flesh, so that we might live in glory.

Refrain

CLOSING HYMN

AMAZING GRACE

Amazing grace How sweet the sound That saved a wretch like me I once was lost But now I'm found Was blind, but now I see

'Twas grace that taught My heart to fear And grace my Fears relieved How precious did That grace appear The hour I first believed

Through many dangers Toils and snares We have already come 'Twas grace hath brought Us safe thus far And grace will lead us home