SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR SUNDAY August 7, 2022 Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

FIRST READING: Genesis 15:1-6

A reading from Genesis.

¹ After these things the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision, "Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great." ² But Abram said, "O Lord God, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?" ³ And Abram said, "You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir." ⁴ But the word of the LORD came to him, "This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir." ⁵ He brought him outside and said, "Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them." Then he said to him, "So shall your descendants be." ⁶ And he believed the LORD; and the LORD reckoned it to him as righteousness.

PSALM: Psalm 33:12-22

- ¹² Happy is the nation whose God is the LORD! Happy the people chosen to be God's heritage!
- ¹³ The LORD looks down from heaven, and sees all humankind.
- ¹⁴ God sits firmly enthroned and watches all who dwell on the earth.
- ¹⁵ God fashions all their hearts and observes all their deeds.
- ¹⁶ A king is not saved by the size of the army, nor are warriors rescued by their great strength.
- ¹⁷ The horse gives vain hope for victory; despite its great strength it cannot save.
- ¹⁸ Truly, your eye is upon those who fear you, O LORD, upon those who wait for your steadfast love,
- 19 to deliver their lives from death, and to keep them alive in time of famine.
- ²⁰ Our innermost being waits for you, O LORD,

our helper and our shield.

- ²¹ Surely, our heart rejoices in you, for in your holy name we put our trust.
- ²² Let your lovingkindness, O LORD, be upon us, even as we place our hope in you.

GOSPEL: Luke 12:32-40

[Jesus said:] ³² "Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom. ³³ Sell your possessions, and give alms. Make purses for yourselves that do not wear out, an unfailing treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. ³⁴ For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

³⁵" Be dressed for action and have your lamps lit; ³⁶ be like those who are waiting for their master to return from the wedding banquet, so that they may open the door for him as soon as he comes and knocks. ³⁷ Blessed are those slaves whom the master finds alert when he comes; truly I tell you, he will fasten his belt and have them sit down to eat, and he will come and serve them. ³⁸ If he comes during the middle of the night, or near dawn, and finds them so, blessed are those slaves.

³⁹ "But know this: if the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. ⁴⁰ You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour."