

14 And when she knew Peter's voice, she opened not the gate for gladness, but ran in, and told how Peter stood before the gate.

15 And they said unto her, Thou art mad. But she constantly affirmed that it was even so. Then said they, It is his angel.

16 But Peter continued knocking: and when they had opened the door, and saw him, they were astonished.

17 But he, beckoning unto them with the hand to hold their peace, declared unto them how the Lord had brought him out of the prison. And he said, Go shew these things unto James, and to the brethren. And he departed, and went into another place.

Here endeth the Second Lesson.

Homily to be written

Addresses for Morning and Evening Prayer

**according to the
1943 Lectionary
of the
USA 1928 Book of Common Prayer**

**Intended for use
by Layreaders
in the absence of a priest**

**by Ed Pacht
Rochester NH**

Trinity 8

Trinity 8 (There are three choices of propers for each office this week) A Homily is provided for Morning Prayer A, and one for Evening Prayer A. Others are to be written.

Morning Prayer A

First Lesson: Ecclesiasticus 1:18-27

Here beginneth the eighteenth verse of the first chapter of the book called Ecclesiasticus.

18: The fear of the Lord is a crown of wisdom, making peace and perfect health to flourish; both which are the gifts of God: and it enlargeth their rejoicing that love him.

19: Wisdom raineth down skill and knowledge of understanding, and exalteth them to honour that hold her fast.

20: The root of wisdom is to fear the Lord, and the branches thereof are long life.

21: The fear of the Lord driveth away sins: and where it is present, it turneth away wrath.

22: A furious man cannot be justified; for the sway of his fury shall be his destruction.

23: A patient man will tear for a time, and afterward joy shall spring up unto him.

24: He will hide his words for a time, and the lips of many shall declare his wisdom.

25: The parables of knowledge are in the treasures of wisdom: but godliness is an abomination to a sinner.

26: If thou desire wisdom, keep the commandments, and the Lord shall give her unto thee.

27: For the fear of the Lord is wisdom and instruction: and faith and meekness are his delight.

Here endeth the First Lesson.

6 And when Herod would have brought him forth, the same night Peter was sleeping between two soldiers, bound with two chains: and the keepers before the door kept the prison.

7 And, behold, the angel of the Lord came upon him, and a light shined in the prison: and he smote Peter on the side, and raised him up, saying, Arise up quickly. And his chains fell off from his hands.

8 And the angel said unto him, Gird thyself, and bind on thy sandals. And so he did. And he saith unto him, Cast thy garment about thee, and follow me.

9 And he went out, and followed him; and wist not that it was true which was done by the angel; but thought he saw a vision.

10 When they were past the first and the second ward, they came unto the iron gate that leadeth unto the city; which opened to them of his own accord: and they went out, and passed on through one street; and forthwith the angel departed from him.

11 And when Peter was come to himself, he said, Now I know of a surety, that the LORD hath sent his angel, and hath delivered me out of the hand of Herod, and from all the expectation of the people of the Jews.

12 And when he had considered the thing, he came to the house of Mary the mother of John, whose surname was Mark; where many were gathered together praying.

13 And as Peter knocked at the door of the gate, a damsel came to hearken, named Rhoda.

23 The LORD render to every man his righteousness and his faithfulness; for the LORD delivered thee into my hand to day, but I would not stretch forth mine hand against the LORD's anointed.

24 And, behold, as thy life was much set by this day in mine eyes, so let my life be much set by in the eyes of the LORD, and let him deliver me out of all tribulation.

25 Then Saul said to David, Blessed be thou, my son David: thou shalt both do great things, and also shalt still prevail. So David went on his way, and Saul returned to his place.

Here endeth the First Lesson.

Second Lesson: Acts 12:1-17

Here beginneth the twelfth chapter of the Acts of the Apostles.

1 Now about that time Herod the king stretched forth his hands to vex certain of the church.

2 And he killed James the brother of John with the sword.

3 And because he saw it pleased the Jews, he proceeded further to take Peter also. (Then were the days of unleavened bread.)

4 And when he had apprehended him, he put him in prison, and delivered him to four quaternions of soldiers to keep him; intending after Easter to bring him forth to the people.

5 Peter therefore was kept in prison: but prayer was made without ceasing of the church unto God for him.

Second Lesson: John 7:14-24

Here beginneth the fourteenth verse of the seventh chapter of the Gospel according to St. John.

14 Now about the midst of the feast Jesus went up into the temple, and taught.

15 And the Jews marvelled, saying, How knoweth this man letters, having never learned?

16 Jesus answered them, and said, My doctrine is not mine, but his that sent me.

17 If any man will do his will, he shall know of the doctrine, whether it be of God, or whether I speak of myself.

18 He that speaketh of himself seeketh his own glory: but he that seeketh his glory that sent him, the same is true, and no unrighteousness is in him.

19 Did not Moses give you the law, and yet none of you keepeth the law? Why go ye about to kill me?

20 The people answered and said, Thou hast a devil: who goeth about to kill thee?

21 Jesus answered and said unto them, I have done one work, and ye all marvel.

22 Moses therefore gave unto you circumcision; (not because it is of Moses, but of the fathers;) and ye on the sabbath day circumcise a man.

23 If a man on the sabbath day receive circumcision, that the law of Moses should not be broken; are ye angry at me, because I have made a man every whit whole on the sabbath day?

24 Judge not according to the appearance, but judge righteous judgment.

Here endeth the Second Lesson.

Homily

Where does wisdom come from?
 What is wisdom?
 What result does it have?
 The first lesson, from Ecclesiasticus
 discusses just these questions,
 and Jesus, as reported by John
 applies it to Himself, and thus to us,
 His chosen people.

Does wisdom come from our native ability?
 Does it come from studying a lot?
 Is it something that comes with age?
 Well, all of those things help.
 All of those things are things to be wise about.
 They provide the tools for making wise decisions,
 but none of them are wisdom,
 as Ecclesiasticus says,

"The root of wisdom is to fear the Lord, ..."

Does that mean to be afraid of Him?
 Well, not really, but ...
 Well, maybe you remember the Narnia series.
 The children had just found out that the great
 Aslan,
 whom they were going to meet, was a lion.
 "Is he safe?" they asked.
 "Who said anything about safe?"
 answered Mr. Beaver, "He's a lion, I tell you.
 He's not safe at all, but he's good"

12 So David took the spear and the cruse of water
 from Saul's bolster; and they gat them away, and
 no man saw it, nor knew it, neither awaked: for
 they were all asleep; because a deep sleep from the
 LORD was fallen upon them.

13 Then David went over to the other side, and
 stood on the top of an hill afar off; a great space
 being between them:

14 And David cried to the people, and to Abner the
 son of Ner, saying, Answerest thou not, Abner? Then
 Abner answered and said, Who art thou that criest
 to the king?

15 And David said to Abner, Art not thou a valiant
 man? and who is like to thee in Israel? wherefore
 then hast thou not kept thy lord the king? for there
 came one of the people in to destroy the king thy
 lord.

16 This thing is not good that thou hast done. As
 the LORD liveth, ye are worthy to die, because ye
 have not kept your master, the LORD's anointed.
 And now see where the king's spear is, and the
 cruse of water that was at his bolster.

17 And Saul knew David's voice, and said, Is this
 thy voice, my son David? And David said, It is my
 voice, my lord, O king.

21 Then said Saul, I have sinned: return, my son
 David: for I will no more do thee harm, because
 my soul was precious in thine eyes this day: behold, I
 have played the fool, and have erred exceedingly.

22 And David answered and said, Behold the
 king's spear! and let one of the young men come
 over and fetch it.

Evening Prayer C

First Lesson: 1 Sam 26:1-7, 12-17, 21-25

Here beginneth the twenty-sixth chapter of the First Book of Samuel.

1 And the Ziphites came unto Saul to Gibeah, saying, Doth not David hide himself in the hill of Hachilah, which is before Jeshimon?

2 Then Saul arose, and went down to the wilderness of Ziph, having three thousand chosen men of Israel with him, to seek David in the wilderness of Ziph.

3 And Saul pitched in the hill of Hachilah, which is before Jeshimon, by the way. But David abode in the wilderness, and he saw that Saul came after him into the wilderness.

4 David therefore sent out spies, and understood that Saul was come in very deed.

5 And David arose, and came to the place where Saul had pitched: and David beheld the place where Saul lay, and Abner the son of Ner, the captain of his host: and Saul lay in the trench, and the people pitched round about him.

6 Then answered David and said to Ahimelech the Hittite, and to Abishai the son of Zeruah, brother to Joab, saying, Who will go down with me to Saul to the camp? And Abishai said, I will go down with thee.

7 So David and Abishai came to the people by night: and, behold, Saul lay sleeping within the trench, and his spear stuck in the ground at his bolster: but Abner and the people lay round about him.

The fear of the Lord starts with awe,
the realization of His greatness and majesty,
and shortly passes to an uncomfortable realization
that we are not worthy to meet Him,
and our knees should shake.
But He is good and we can trust Him,
and He demands that of us.
The fear of the Lord is a big concept
and includes all that.
And that is where wisdom starts.

Let's continue:

"The fear of the Lord driveth away sins: "

If we understand what it is to be in His presence,
we're going to want to please him,
both because it's dangerous not to,
and (more importantly)
because we want to, because He is good.

*"and where it is present, it turneth away wrath.
A furious man cannot be justified;
for the sway of his fury shall be his destruction."*

Please, be careful of "righteous indignation".
When anger takes over, even for a good reason,
self-centeredness is the result,
and the walls we build against others
are also walls against God.
And, if righteous anger is so dangerous,
well, what of wrongful anger?

*"A patient man will tear [weep] for a time,
and afterward joy shall spring up unto him. "*

Patient endurance of a wrong
sometimes has a favorable result,
but even if it doesn't,
there is the joy of knowing the approval of God.

*"For the fear of the Lord
is wisdom and instruction:
and faith and meekness are his delight. "*

Which brings us to the Gospel reading:
wisdom, as demonstrated by Our Lord,
is not found in our own abilities,
nor in all the things we have learned,
but in God:

*"Now about the midst of the feast
Jesus went up into the temple, and taught.
And the Jews marvelled, saying,
How knoweth this man letters,
having never learned?
Jesus answered them, and said,
My doctrine is not mine, but his that sent me.
If any man will do his will,
he shall know of the doctrine,
whether it be of God, or whether I speak of myself.
He that speaketh of himself seeketh his own glory:
but he that seeketh his glory that sent him,
the same is true,
and no unrighteousness is in him."*

31 Behold, the righteous shall be recompensed in
the earth: much more the wicked and the sinner.

Here endeth the First Lesson.

Second Lesson: Matt 7:15-21

*Here beginneth the fifteenth verse of the seventh
chapter of the Gospel according to St. Matthew.*

15 Beware of false prophets, which come to you in
sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening
wolves.

16 Ye shall know them by their fruits. Do men
gather grapes of thorns, or figs of thistles?

17 Even so every good tree bringeth forth good
fruit; but a corrupt tree bringeth forth evil fruit.

18 A good tree cannot bring forth evil fruit, neither
can a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit.

19 Every tree that bringeth not forth good fruit is
hewn down, and cast into the fire.

20 Wherefore by their fruits ye shall know them.

21 Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord,
shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that
doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven.

Here endeth the Second Lesson.

Homily to be written

Day by day,
 Dear Lord, of thee three things I pray:
 To see thee more clearly,
 Love thee more dearly,
 Follow thee more nearly,
 Day by Day
 Amen.

Evening Prayer B

First Lesson: Prov 11:24-31

Here beginneth the twenty-fourth verse of the eleventh chapter of the Book of Proverbs.

24 There is that scattereth, and yet increaseth; and there is that withholdeth more than is meet, but it tendeth to poverty.

25 The liberal soul shall be made fat: and he that watereth shall be watered also himself.

26 He that withholdeth corn, the people shall curse him: but blessing shall be upon the head of him that selleth it.

27 He that diligently seeketh good procureth favour: but he that seeketh mischief, it shall come unto him.

28 He that trusteth in his riches shall fall; but the righteous shall flourish as a branch.

29 He that troubleth his own house shall inherit the wind: and the fool shall be servant to the wise of heart.

30 The fruit of the righteous is a tree of life; and he that winneth souls is wise.

Which brings us back to where we started. There's a verse in Proverbs that says, "*The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom.*" Moreover, the objective of wisdom is the presence of God and union with Him. There is really no other goal that matters.

let us pray.

Almighty God, the fountain of all wisdom, who knowest our necessities before we ask, and our ignorance in asking; We beseech thee to have compassion upon our infirmities; and those things which for our unworthiness we dare not, and for our blindness we cannot ask, vouchsafe to give us, for the worthiness of thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Morning Prayer B

First Lesson: Zech 4:1-10

Here beginneth the fourth chapter of the Prophet Zechariah.

1 And the angel that talked with me came again, and waked me, as a man that is wakened out of his sleep.

2 And said unto me, What seest thou? And I said, I have looked, and behold a candlestick all of gold, with a bowl upon the top of it, and his seven lamps thereon, and seven pipes to the seven lamps, which are upon the top thereof:

3 And two olive trees by it, one upon the right side of the bowl, and the other upon the left side thereof.

4 So I answered and spake to the angel that talked with me, saying, What are these, my lord?

5 Then the angel that talked with me answered and said unto me, Knowest thou not what these be? And I said, No, my lord.

6 Then he answered and spake unto me, saying, This is the word of the LORD unto Zerubbabel, saying, Not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit, saith the LORD of hosts.

7 Who art thou, O great mountain? before Zerubbabel thou shalt become a plain: and he shall bring forth the headstone thereof with shoutings, crying, Grace, grace unto it.

8 Moreover the word of the LORD came unto me, saying,

9 The hands of Zerubbabel have laid the founda-

That would have been a good thing,
but she wouldn't have been able to grow.
Mary hungered.
She wanted to grow.
She found wisdom in the person of Jesus,
and that's what she sought.

Listen again to the son of Sirach:

*"... if thou wilt, thou shalt be taught:
and if thou wilt apply thy mind,
thou shalt be prudent.
If thou love to hear,
thou shalt receive understanding:
and if thou bow thine ear, thou shalt be wise,
Stand in the multitude of the elders;
and cleave unto him that is wise. "*

Mary did that.

So can we.

It's our calling, to sit at the feet of Jesus,
to learn wisdom in his presence,
to grow up, as St. Paul said,
"Into the stature of the fullness of Christ."
Nothing less will do,
and it takes time:

Do less doing,
run less running,
dream some dreams, my friend,
dream some dreams,
and think some thoughts,
and live.

Let us pray.

And what is it he wants so passionately?
 Wisdom
 And what is wisdom?
 Not just knowledge.
 You can know an awful lot of facts,
 and still act like an idiot.
 Facts can be learned quickly,
 but learning how to use them right cannot.
 Wisdom begins with facts,
 but it requires time, lots of time.
 It requires thought, lots of thought.
 And, yes, it requires imagination,
 the ability to envision where the facts may lead.
 A fact can be picked up quickly and held,
 but wisdom must be nurtured,
 one must grow into it,
 it required time,
 time that is not spent doing other things.

Martha
 was doing all the things she knew how to do,
 and she was doing them well.
 She would do them well the next time
 and the time after that,
 and the time after that.
 She had knowledge and the will to put it to work,
 and all that was good indeed.
 But she wasn't growing.
 She wasn't hungering to be more than she was.
 It was a good place she was stuck in,
 but she was stuck.

Mary
 could have been helping her sister.

tion of this house; his hands shall also finish it; and thou shalt know that the LORD of hosts hath sent me unto you.

10 For who hath despised the day of small things? for they shall rejoice, and shall see the plummet in the hand of Zerubbabel with those seven; they are the eyes of the LORD, which run to and fro through the whole earth.

Here endeth the First Lesson.

Second Lesson: Gal 3:24-4:7

Here beginneth the twenty-fourth verse of the third chapter of the Epistle of St. Paul to the Galatians.

24 Wherefore the law was our schoolmaster to bring us unto Christ, that we might be justified by faith.

25 But after that faith is come, we are no longer under a schoolmaster.

26 For ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus.

27 For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ.

28 There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus.

29 And if ye be Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise.

4:1 Now I say, That the heir, as long as he is a child, differeth nothing from a servant, though he

be lord of all;
 2 But is under tutors and governors until the time appointed of the father.
 3 Even so we, when we were children, were in bondage under the elements of the world:
 4 But when the fulness of the time was come, God sent forth his Son, made of a woman, made under the law,
 5 To redeem them that were under the law, that we might receive the adoption of sons.
 6 And because ye are sons, God hath sent forth the Spirit of his Son into your hearts, crying, Abba, Father.
 7 Wherefore thou art no more a servant, but a son; and if a son, then an heir of God through Christ.

Here endeth the Second Lesson.

Homily to be written

Morning Prayer C

First Lesson: Gen 24:1-27

Here beginneth the twenty-fourth chapter of the Book of Genesis.

1 And Abraham was old, and well stricken in age: and the LORD had blessed Abraham in all things.
 2 And Abraham said unto his eldest servant of his house, that ruled over all that he had, Put, I pray thee, thy hand under my thigh:

Mary chose the better part, He said,
 and what is that better part?

We heard some heavy thoughts in Ecclesiasticus.

*“... wisdom ... is not manifest unto many.
 ... put thy feet into her fetters,
 and thy neck into her chain.
 Bow down thy shoulder, and bear her,
 and be not grieved with her bonds.
 Come unto her with thy whole heart,
 and keep her ways with all thy power.
 Search, and seek,
 and she shall be made known unto thee:
 and when thou hast got hold of her,
 let her not go.”*

This mysterious writer, the son of Sirach, called Jesus (or Joshua), even though his book is in the Apocrypha, certainly knew something profound, and expressed it with passion. Yes, that's the word, passion.

Is sounds like a pretty intense romance being discussed here, a really strong desire, strong enough to willingly accept bondage. We're not talking about a quick fling, a casual acquaintance, or a one-night stand, but a commitment
 “Search, seek, and when you have hold of her, don't let go.”
 “Till death us do part ...”
 Doesn't this sound like marriage?

Martha was, without a doubt, following her.
 She was busy doing good things,
 things that had to be done,
 things any good hostess would do.
 Meanwhile her sister was sitting with the guests,
 not helping her one little bit.
 Martha was a bit peeved,
 Wouldn't you have been?
 Jesus, as He did so very often,
 took a different view,
 one at odds with what good people thought.
 He looked at Martha and saw this:

Doing, doing, doing,
 never ceasing, never resting,
 never gazing, never dreaming,
 never thinking thoughts worth thinking,
 busy, busy, running, running.
 always active, dead inside,
 so dead, so dead.

He saw a woman so caught up in the needful
 that she was missing the reason for it all,
 so busy entertaining the Messiah
 that she was ignoring what he had for her,
 doing good things, but untouched by His grace.
 What would he say to Martha?
 Maybe something like this:

Do less doing,
 run less running,
 dream some dreams, my friend,
 dream some dreams,
 and think some thoughts,
 and live.

3 And I will make thee swear by the LORD, the
 God of heaven, and the God of the earth, that thou
 shalt not take a wife unto my son of the daughters
 of the Canaanites, among whom I dwell:

4 But thou shalt go unto my country, and to my
 kindred, and take a wife unto my son Isaac.

5 And the servant said unto him, Peradventure the
 woman will not be willing to follow me unto this
 land: must I needs bring thy son again unto the
 land from whence thou camest?

6 And Abraham said unto him, Beware thou that
 thou bring not my son thither again.

7 The LORD God of heaven, which took me from
 my father's house, and from the land of my kin-
 dred, and which spake unto me, and that sware
 unto me, saying, Unto thy seed will I give this
 land; he shall send his angel before thee, and thou
 shalt take a wife unto my son from thence.

8 And if the woman will not be willing to follow
 thee, then thou shalt be clear from this my oath:
 only bring not my son thither again.

9 And the servant put his hand under the thigh of
 Abraham his master, and sware to him concerning
 that matter.

10 And the servant took ten camels of the camels
 of his master, and departed; for all the goods of his
 master were in his hand: and he arose, and went to
 Mesopotamia, unto the city of Nahor.

11 And he made his camels to kneel down without
 the city by a well of water at the time of the evening,
 even the time that women go out to draw water.

12 And he said O LORD God of my master
 Abraham, I pray thee, send me good speed this
 day, and shew kindness unto my master Abraham.

13 Behold, I stand here by the well of water; and the daughters of the men of the city come out to draw water:

14 And let it come to pass, that the damsel to whom I shall say, Let down thy pitcher, I pray thee, that I may drink; and she shall say, Drink, and I will give thy camels drink also: let the same be she that thou hast appointed for thy servant Isaac; and thereby shall I know that thou hast shewed kindness unto my master.

15 And it came to pass, before he had done speaking, that, behold, Rebekah came out, who was born to Bethuel, son of Milcah, the wife of Nahor, Abraham's brother, with her pitcher upon her shoulder.

16 And the damsel was very fair to look upon, a virgin, neither had any man known her: and she went down to the well, and filled her pitcher, and came up.

17 And the servant ran to meet her, and said, Let me, I pray thee, drink a little water of thy pitcher.

18 And she said, Drink, my lord: and she hastened, and let down her pitcher upon her hand, and gave him drink.

19 And when she had done giving him drink, she said, I will draw water for thy camels also, until they have done drinking.

20 And she hastened, and emptied her pitcher into the trough, and ran again unto the well to draw water, and drew for all his camels.

21 And the man wondering at her held his peace, to wit whether the LORD had made his journey prosperous or not.

Homily

We heard a gospel reading that runs counter to a good part of what we've all been taught. We've been brought up to respect the work ethic, the idea that hard work, ambition, attending to business, and lots of activity, is morally required of us, and that lack of this kind of busy-ness is a moral failing known as laziness. We tend to judge people (and ourselves) by what they (or we) have accomplished. We ask, "What's it good for?" "What's the bottom line?" "What result do you expect?" And we judge success on whether those results are achieved. The whole idea seems to make good sense. It certainly is practical. It lies at the heart of our modern economy, and most of what we have and enjoy would not exist without hard work. It's easy to build a strong Scriptural case in favor of such an attitude. One finds the rewards of hard work and the costs of slothfulness well illustrated throughout the Bible. Jesus Himself filled his parables with stories of successful business men, and then there's the woman in the last chapter of Proverbs (check it out if you don't know her), incredibly busy and incredibly admirable.

35: Be willing to hear every godly discourse; and let not the parables of understanding escape thee.

36: And if thou seest a man of understanding, get thee betimes unto him, and let thy foot wear the steps of his door.

37: Let thy mind be upon the ordinances of the Lord and meditate continually in his commandments: he shall establish thine heart, and give thee wisdom at thine own desire.

Here endeth the First Lesson.

Second Lesson: Luke 10:38-42

Here beginneth the thirty-eighth verse of the tenth chapter of the Gospel according to St. Luke.

38 Now it came to pass, as they went, that he entered into a certain village: and a certain woman named Martha received him into her house.

39 And she had a sister called Mary, which also sat at Jesus' feet, and heard his word.

40 But Martha was cumbered about much serving, and came to him, and said, Lord, dost thou not care that my sister hath left me to serve alone? bid her therefore that she help me.

41 And Jesus answered and said unto her, Martha, Martha, thou art careful and troubled about many things:

42 But one thing is needful: and Mary hath chosen that good part, which shall not be taken away from her.

Here endeth the Second Lesson.

22 And it came to pass, as the camels had done drinking, that the man took a golden earring of half a shekel weight, and two bracelets for her hands of ten shekels weight of gold;

23 And said, Whose daughter art thou? tell me, I pray thee: is there room in thy father's house for us to lodge in?

24 And she said unto him, I am the daughter of Bethuel the son of Milcah, which she bare unto Nahor.

25 She said moreover unto him, We have both straw and provender enough, and room to lodge in.

26 And the man bowed down his head, and worshipped the LORD.

27 And he said, Blessed be the LORD God of my master Abraham, who hath not left destitute my master of his mercy and his truth: I being in the way, the LORD led me to the house of my master's brethren.

Here endeth the First Lesson.

Second Lesson: Eph 5:22-33

Here beginneth the twenty-second verse of the fifth chapter of the Epistle of St. Paul to the Ephesians.

22 Wives, submit yourselves unto your own husbands, as unto the Lord.

23 For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church: and he is the saviour of the body.

24 Therefore as the church is subject unto Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in every thing.

25 Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it;
 26 That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word,
 27 That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish.
 28 So ought men to love their wives as their own bodies. He that loveth his wife loveth himself.
 29 For no man ever yet hated his own flesh; but nourisheth and cherisheth it, even as the Lord the church:
 30 For we are members of his body, of his flesh, and of his bones.
 31 For this cause shall a man leave his father and mother, and shall be joined unto his wife, and they two shall be one flesh.
 32 This is a great mystery: but I speak concerning Christ and the church.
 33 Nevertheless let every one of you in particular so love his wife even as himself; and the wife see that she reverence her husband.

Here endeth the Second Lesson.

Homily to be written

Evening Prayer A

First Lesson: Ecclesiasticus 6:22-end

Here beginneth the twenty-second verse of the sixth chapter of the book called Ecclesiasticus.

22: For wisdom is according to her name, and she is not manifest unto many.
 23: Give ear, my son, receive my advice, and refuse not my counsel,
 24: And put thy feet into her fetters, and thy neck into her chain.
 25: Bow down thy shoulder, and bear her, and be not grieved with her bonds.
 26: Come unto her with thy whole heart, and keep her ways with all thy power.
 27: Search, and seek, and she shall be made known unto thee: and when thou hast got hold of her, let her not go.
 28: For at the last thou shalt find her rest, and that shall be turned to thy joy.
 29: Then shall her fetters be a strong defence for thee, and her chains a robe of glory.
 30: For there is a golden ornament upon her, and her bands are purple lace.
 31: Thou shalt put her on as a robe of honour, and shalt put her about thee as a crown of joy.
 32: My son, if thou wilt, thou shalt be taught: and if thou wilt apply thy mind, thou shalt be prudent.
 33: If thou love to hear, thou shalt receive understanding: and if thou bow thine ear, thou shalt be wise,
 34: Stand in the multitude of the elders; and cleave unto him that is wise.