

## November 16th, 2025 Lectionary Notes

### The Readings on This Day

\*\*\*[Click on the links for the Bible Verse\(s\)](#)

Sunday, November 13–19

### Lectionary 33

The readings hold before us the close of the church year, the destruction of nations, the end of the earth as we know it, and thus of course our own death. A fundamental aspect of all world religions is their willingness to address the fact of death.

#### [Malachi 4:1-2a](#)

This passage is set next to the Lucan apocalypse because of its imagery of both judgment and mercy. The tree of evil will be burned up. Christians see Christ as the sun by which God will heal and bring justice. As also Christians fear future terrors, we can trust in divine healing.

#### [The Psalm for the Day](#)

Having heard Malachi's words that God will shine like the sun despite the fires that burn around us, we join together in [Psalm 98](#), which is also appointed for Christmas Day. For Christians, the sun of righteousness is Jesus Christ. Nature is rejoicing, and we encourage one another not to fear earthquakes and portents.

#### [2 Thessalonians 3:6-13](#)

In this, the final excerpt in the ecumenical lectionary from 2 Thessalonians, Christians are called to live in the real present, rather than in an imagined ideal future. Care must be taken that this passage not be heard as condemning those countless people who cannot find adequate work, which was not a problem that the early church faced.

#### [Luke 21:5-19](#)

The human fear of future terrors is perennial. Not breath-taking buildings, nor stunning art, nor religious affiliation, nor national pride, nor the stability of the earth, nor what our society likes to call "family values" will save: Christ is the one.

