

## Scripture Readings for November 18/19

### First Reading: Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18

*Zephaniah (like the prophet Amos in last week's first reading) presents the day of the Lord as one of judgment and wrath. Descriptions of the last day in the New Testament include details taken from Old Testament accounts of the day of the Lord.*

7Be silent before the Lord God!

For the day of the Lord is at hand;  
the Lord has prepared a sacrifice,  
he has consecrated his guests.

12At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps,

and I will punish the people  
who rest complacently on their dregs,  
those who say in their hearts,  
"The Lord will not do good,  
nor will he do harm."

13Their wealth shall be plundered,

and their houses laid waste.  
Though they build houses,  
they shall not inhabit them;  
though they plant vineyards,  
they shall not drink wine from them.

14The great day of the Lord is near,

near and hastening fast;  
the sound of the day of the Lord is bitter,

the warrior cries aloud there.

15That day will be a day of wrath,

a day of distress and anguish,

a day of ruin and devastation,

a day of darkness and gloom,

a day of clouds and thick darkness,

16a day of trumpet blast and battle cry

against the fortified cities

and against the lofty battlements.

17I will bring such distress upon people

that they shall walk like the blind;

because they have sinned against the Lord,

their blood shall be poured out like dust,

and their flesh like dung.

18Neither their silver nor their gold

will be able to save them

on the day of the Lord's wrath;

in the fire of his passion

the whole earth shall be consumed;

for a full, a terrible end

he will make of all the inhabitants of the earth.

## **Psalmody** Psalm 90: 1-8 (9-11) 12

1 Lord, you have | been our refuge

from one generation | to another.

**2 Before the mountains were brought forth, or the land and the | earth were born,**

**from age to age | you are God.**

3 You turn us back to the | dust and say,

“Turn back, O child- | ren of earth.”

**4 For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when | it is past and like a watch | in the night;**

5 you sweep them away | like a dream,

they fade away suddenly | like the grass:

**6 in the morning it is | green and flourishes;**

**in the evening it is dried | up and withered.**

7 For we are consumed | by your anger;

we are afraid because | of your wrath.

**8 Our iniquities you have | set before you,**

**and our secret sins in the light | of your countenance.**

[ 9 When you are angry, all our | days are gone;

we bring our years to an end | like a sigh.

**10 The span of our life is seventy years, perhaps in strength | even eighty;**

**yet the sum of them is but labor and sorrow, for they pass away quickly and | we are gone.**

11 Who regards the power | of your wrath?

Who rightly fears your | indignation?

] **12 So teach us to num- | ber our days**

**that we may apply our | hearts to wisdom.**