

Gospel and Sermon Transcript -22nd Sunday After Pentecost - November 9, 2025

Ah, he's late.

He better make up for it by preaching in extra ten minutes.

Said nobody ever.

Not to worry.

The red poppies prompt me to express some appreciation for the ways you are remembering.

And I hope that we remember certainly those who have given the ultimate sacrifice of their lives,

but also to remember veterans who come home with wounds that never heal.

Please be remembering these people and many of us have families in which this is a reality.

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke the 20th chapter.

Some sad you see those who say there is no resurrection came to Jesus and asked him a question.

Teacher, Moses wrote for us that if a man's brother dies leaving a wife but no children, the man shall marry the widow and raise up children for his brother.

Now there were seven brothers.

The first married a woman and died childless.

Then the second and the third married her and so on the way with all seven died childless.

Finally, the woman also died in the resurrection.

Therefore whose life whose wife will this woman be for seven and married her.

And then Jesus said to them those who belong to this age marry and are given in marriage.

But those who are considered worthy of a place in that age and in the resurrection from the dead neither marry nor are given in marriage.

Indeed they cannot die anymore because they are like angels and our children of God being children of the resurrection.

And the fact that the dead are raised.

So Moses himself showed in the story about the bush where he speaks of the Lord as the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, the God of Jacob.

Now God is not the God of the dead but of the living.

For to God all of them are alive.

The gospel of our Lord.

Won't you be seated.

The Sermon

Grace and peace to you from the one who was, who is and who is to come.

The God of the living.

Well, seven of them huh.

And you think I'm going to unpack this don't you.

Instead I'm going to suggest that you check out the post that Bob kindly put up for us where there is an expansion of material that explains a lot about what's going on in this reading.

It seemed that much of it is fairly intricate and probably not well placed in a sermon.

Fly double dog there you are.

Read the stuff online and see what you learn.

Meanwhile, there are a couple of things yet to be said.

Jesus words are meant to comfort.

They're not meant to win a debate or to shame his questioners.

And where does that comfort lie exactly?

After all, Moses himself.

Maybe it pays to think about Moses story a little bit.

At this point he's a fugitive.

In his new witness protection identity, he is tending sheep.

And then God shows up as God tends to do.

Moses, minding his own shepherdly business, happens to catch out of the corner of his eye a burning bush.

He stops, he approaches, and he hears a divine voice that says take off your sandals.

This is divine and holy ground.

And guess what, Moses?

I've got a job for you.

We know Moses' job to be the bearer and the facilitator of God's liberation.

Now as Moses is perusing the job description, he wonders a lot of things,

but one of them is whom shall I say sent me?

This is where we get that answer about the God of the living.

Well, the God of your ancestors, ancestors whose story Moses would know very, very well.

The God who shows up for Abraham and Sarah when they believe that their life and line dies with them,

and God shows up and says guess what?

From your own child, a whole nation is going to be birthed.

Promises that continue in the life of Isaac and Rebecca and their son Jacob and his wives, Leah and Rachel.

God shows up and is the God of these living people.

So Jesus says to all of those with an ear shot, that same God, that God of the living continues to show up.

As it happens, Jesus says these words at a time when he was getting flack from all sides and he'd already come to Jerusalem

on a day when palms were laid out before him and at a time when there were some who would discredit him or wanted to end him.

And yet Jesus rather than taking the defensive route or a confronting tone speaks a word of comfort to say,

remember this God who shows up for us, who has shown up throughout all of our history is still among us now.

If we pay some attention, I guess, to Jesus' other response, it is that the way things are here,

aren't the way things are going to be in the life to come.

And yet God shows up there too.

When we recite the Creed, we say the resurrection of the body and the life everlasting.

What might that mean?

Well, the details none of us know.

But I think we do know that the God who held the future of Abraham and Sarah is the God who holds our future as well.

Thanks be to God.

