

May 10, 2026

## First Reading

*Acts 17:22-31*

A reading from the 17<sup>th</sup> Chapter of Acts.

Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said,  
“Athenians, I see how extremely spiritual you are in every way.  
For as I went through the city  
and looked carefully at the objects of your worship,  
I found among them an altar with the inscription, ‘To an unknown god.’  
What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you.  
The God who made the world and everything in it,  
he who is Lord of heaven and earth,  
does not live in shrines made by human hands,  
nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything,  
since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things.

From one ancestor he made all peoples to inhabit the whole earth,  
and he allotted the times of their existence  
and the boundaries of the places where they would live,  
so that they would search for God  
and perhaps fumble about for him and find him—  
though indeed he is not far from each one of us.  
For ‘In him we live and move and have our being’;  
as even some of your own poets have said,  
‘For we, too, are his offspring.’

“Since we are God’s offspring,  
we ought not to think that the deity is like gold or silver or stone,  
an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals.  
While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance,  
now he commands all people everywhere to repent,  
because he has fixed a day  
on which he will have the world judged in righteousness  
by a man whom he has appointed,  
and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead.”

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

## Second Reading

*1 Peter 3:13-22*

A reading from the 3<sup>rd</sup> Chapter of 1<sup>st</sup> Peter.

Now who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good?

But even if you do suffer for doing what is right, you are blessed.

Do not fear what they fear, and do not be intimidated,

but in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord.

Always be ready to make your defense to anyone

who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you,

yet do it with gentleness and respect.

Maintain a good conscience so that, when you are maligned,

those who abuse you for your good conduct in Christ may be put to shame.

For it is better to suffer for doing good, if suffering should be God's will,

than to suffer for doing evil.

For Christ also suffered for sins once for all,

the righteous for the unrighteous,

in order to bring you to God.

He was put to death in the flesh but made alive in the spirit,

in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison,

who in former times did not obey,

when God waited patiently in the days of Noah,

during the building of the ark,

in which a few, that is, eight lives, were saved through water.

And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you—

not as a removal of dirt from the body

but as an appeal to God for a good conscience,

through the resurrection of Jesus Christ,

who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God,

with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**