

MCC of Northern Virginia
2021 Stewardship Campaign
We Are Workers Together

Harvest of Faith
Rev. Emma Chattin, Preaching

November 15, 2020

First Reading ~ *from 1 Thessalonians: 5:1-11*

Now, my friends, concerning the times and the seasons, you do not need to have anything written to you. For you yourselves know very well that the day of God will come like a thief in the night. When they say, "There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape. But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness.

So then let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober; for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through Christ, who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep, we may live with him.

Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

Second Reading ~ *adapted from Nadia Boltz-Webber on Faith*

I don't think faith is given in sufficient quantities to individuals. I think it's given in sufficient quantities to communities. That old saw that 'God will not give you more than you can handle'... My husband is from Texas, and he says... 'God won't give you more than YAWL can handle'. Faith is a team sport, it's not an individual competition. Sometimes you may be tormented with the thought, "I wish my faith were stronger!" Remember, faith is a group effort. It's really about community.