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| Matthew  25: 1-13  Selection C3 | **A Reading from the Holy Gospel According to Matthew**  **Jesus told his disciples this parable:**  **“The kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who**  **took their lamps and went out to meet the bridegroom.**  **Five of them were foolish and five were wise.**  **The foolish ones, when taking their lamps, brought no oil with**  **them, but the wise brought flasks of oil with their lamps.**  **Since the bridegroom was long delayed,**  **they all became drowsy and fell asleep.**  **At midnight, there was a cry, ‘Behold, the bridegroom!**  **Come out to meet him!’**  **Then all those virgins got up and trimmed their lamps.**  **The foolish ones said to the wise, ‘Give us**  **some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.’**  **But the wise ones replied, ‘No, for there may not be enough**  **for us and you.**  **Go instead to the merchants and buy some for yourselves.’**  **While they went off to buy it, the bridegroom came and those**  **who were ready went into the wedding feast with him.**  **Then the door was locked. Afterwards the other virgins came**  **and said, ‘Lord, Lord, open the door for us!’**  **But he said in reply, ‘Amen, I say to you, I do not know you.’**  **Therefore, stay awake, for you know neither the day nor the hour.**  **The Gospel of the Lord** |