

Eastern Mission

Apostolic Lutheran Church of America

September 2025

Dear Friends,

For the month of September I thought it fitting to meditate on the text from Ecclesiasticus 11:

1. Wisdom lifteth up the head of him that is of low degree, and maketh him to sit among great men.
2. Commend not a man for his beauty; neither abhor a man for his outward appearance.
3. The bee is little among such as fly; but her fruit is the chief of sweet things.
4. Boast not of thy clothing and raiment, and exalt not thyself in the day of honour: for the works of the Lord are wonderful, and his works among men are hidden.
5. Many kings have sat down upon the ground; and one that was never thought of hath worn the crown.
6. Many mighty men have been greatly disgraced; and the honourable delivered into other men's hands.
7. Blame not before thou hast examined the truth: understand first, and then rebuke.
8. Answer not before thou hast heard the cause: neither interrupt men in the midst of their talk.
9. Strive not in a matter that concerneth thee not; and sit not in judgment with sinners.
10. My son, meddle not with many matters: for if thou meddle much, thou shalt not be innocent; and if thou follow after, thou shalt not obtain, neither shalt thou escape by fleeing.
11. There is one that laboureth, and taketh pains, and maketh haste, and is so much the more behind.
12. Again, there is another that is slow, and hath need of help, wanting ability, and full of poverty; yet the eye of the Lord looked upon him for good, and set him up from his low estate,
13. And lifted up his head from misery; so that many that saw it marvelled at him.
14. Prosperity and adversity, life and death, poverty and riches, come of the Lord.
15. Wisdom, knowledge, and understanding of the law, are of the Lord: love, and the way of good works, are from him.

God's Peace, Mark Seppanen