Jesus said, “Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bride-groom. 2 Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. 3 When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; 4 but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. 5 As the bride-groom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. 6 But at mid-night there was a shout, ‘Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.’ 7 Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps. 8 The foolish..."
said to the wise, ‘Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.’ 9 But the wise
replied, ‘No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the deal-
ers and buy some for yourselves.’ 10 And while they went to buy it, the bride-groom
came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door
was shut. 11 Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, ‘Lord, lord, open to us.’ 12
But he replied, ‘Truly I tell you, I do not know you.’ 13 Keep awake therefore, for you
know neither the day nor the hour. ¶ The Gospel of the Lord. ¶ Praise to you, Lord Christ.

(Prepared by William G. Gartig November 7, 2008)