

Thoughts on the Daily Word

22nd Week of Year. Monday 1st September. Readings: 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18; Psalm: 95; Luke 4:16-30.

We move to Luke's Gospel for most of the final period of the year. Today Jesus announces himself as the fulfilment of the Old Testament. Not just claiming that role but announcing also what that role meant. It was an astounding declaration, especially in his hometown. Fulfilment of the promises is vital for the early Church. Paul has to describe once again to the Thessalonians that the promise of the Second Coming of Christ will come and what it will entail. Neither Jesus nor Paul announces when it will be. This is about expectant faith, a trust that, just like Christ himself in his death and resurrection, fulfilment will come. It does depend on faith but also the evidence of a new creation in the life of the Church itself. Fulfilment is happening before our eyes; the world is changing through our faith in Christ. Expectant faith means an active trust that this new world is possible.