



The Church Year

Time is a gift of God's creation. People order time in various ways, often based on the rhythms of nature. The church organizes time by the church year. It tells the story of God, who is beyond time, acting in history—above all through the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

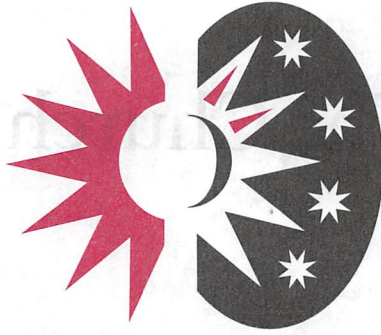
All Sundays of the year are festivals of our Lord Jesus Christ. In a profound sense, Sunday—the first day and the eighth day of the week, the weekly celebration of the day of resurrection—is the primary Christian festival. Other principal festivals and observances are the Nativity of Our Lord and the Epiphany of Our Lord; Ash Wednesday and the days of Holy Week; the Three Days of Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and the Resurrection of Our Lord; the Sundays of Easter, the Ascension of Our Lord, and the Day of Pentecost; and The Holy Trinity.

The church year includes the Christmas and Easter cycles of seasons and the periods of time after Epiphany and after Pentecost. The Christmas cycle begins with the first Sunday of Advent, four Sundays before December 25, and concludes with the Epiphany of Our Lord on January 6. The Easter cycle begins with Ash Wednesday forty days before Easter and concludes with the Day of Pentecost on the fiftieth day of Easter. The weekly progression of Sundays characterizes the Time after Epiphany and the Time after Pentecost.

Lesser festivals are additional days when we celebrate the life of Christ, the witness of those who accompanied and testified to him, and the gifts of God in the church. Commemorations illuminate various aspects of the church's life and mission through the lives of women and men who have followed Christ in succeeding generations.

The propers include scripture readings and other texts that are chosen to support the church year. Many Christian churches unite around a three-year set of Bible readings, the Revised Common Lectionary. Other propers include the prayer of the day. Additional prayers for assembly worship and devotional use are also located in this section.

Calendar



Sundays and Principal Festivals

Advent

First Sunday of Advent *B**
Second Sunday of Advent *B*
Third Sunday of Advent *B*
Fourth Sunday of Advent *B*

Christmas

Nativity of Our Lord *W*
Christmas Eve
Christmas Day
First Sunday of Christmas *W*
Second Sunday of Christmas *W*
Epiphany of Our Lord *W*

Time after Epiphany

Baptism of Our Lord *W*
First Sunday after Epiphany
Sundays after Epiphany *G*
Transfiguration of Our Lord *W*
Last Sunday after Epiphany

Lent

Ash Wednesday *P*
First Sunday in Lent *P*
Second Sunday in Lent *P*
Third Sunday in Lent *P*
Fourth Sunday in Lent *P*
Fifth Sunday in Lent *P*
Sunday of the Passion *S/P*
Palm Sunday

Monday in Holy Week *S/P*
Tuesday in Holy Week *S/P*
Wednesday in Holy Week *S/P*

The Three Days

Maundy Thursday *S/W*
Good Friday
Resurrection of Our Lord *W/Go*
Vigil of Easter
Easter Day

Easter

Resurrection of Our Lord *W/Go*
Second Sunday of Easter *W*
Third Sunday of Easter *W*
Fourth Sunday of Easter *W*
Fifth Sunday of Easter *W*
Sixth Sunday of Easter *W*
Ascension of Our Lord *W*
Seventh Sunday of Easter *W*
Pentecost *R*
Vigil of Pentecost
Day of Pentecost

Time after Pentecost

The Holy Trinity *W*
First Sunday after Pentecost
Sundays after Pentecost *G*
Christ the King *W*
Last Sunday after Pentecost G

*The letters indicate the suggested colors: B=blue, W=white, G=green, P=purple, S=scarlet, Go=gold, R=red.

Lesser Festivals and Commemorations

January

- 1 NAME OF JESUS* *W*
- 2 Johann Konrad Wilhelm Loehe, renewer of the church, 1872 *W*
- 15 Martin Luther King Jr., renewer of society, martyr, 1968 *S/R*
- 17 Antony of Egypt, renewer of the church, c. 356 *W*
Pachomius, renewer of the church, 346 *W*
- 18 CONFESSION OF PETER *W*
Week of Prayer for Christian Unity begins
- 19 Henry, Bishop of Uppsala, martyr, 1156 *S/R*
- 21 Agnes, martyr, c. 304 *S/R*
- 25 CONVERSION OF PAUL *W*
Week of Prayer for Christian Unity ends
- 26 Timothy, Titus, and Silas, missionaries *W*
- 27 Lydia, Dorcas, and Phoebe, witnesses to the faith *W*
- 28 Thomas Aquinas, teacher, 1274 *W*

February

- 2 PRESENTATION OF OUR LORD *W*
- 3 Ansgar, Bishop of Hamburg, missionary to Denmark and Sweden, 865 *W*
- 5 The Martyrs of Japan, 1597 *S/R*
- 14 Cyril, monk, 869; Methodius, bishop, 885; missionaries to the Slavs *W*
- 18 Martin Luther, renewer of the church, 1546 *W*
- 23 Polycarp, Bishop of Smyrna, martyr, 156 *S/R*
- 25 Elizabeth Fedde, deaconess, 1921 *W*

March

- 1 George Herbert, hymnwriter, 1633 *W*
- 2 John Wesley, 1791; Charles Wesley, 1788; renewers of the church *W*
- 7 Perpetua and Felicity and companions, martyrs at Carthage, 202 *S/R*
- 10 Harriet Tubman, 1913; Sojourner Truth, 1883; renewers of society *W*
- 12 Gregory the Great, Bishop of Rome, 604 *W*
- 17 Patrick, bishop, missionary to Ireland, 461 *W*
- 19 JOSEPH, GUARDIAN OF JESUS *W*

- 21 Thomas Cranmer, Bishop of Canterbury, martyr, 1556 *S/R*
- 22 Jonathan Edwards, teacher, missionary to American Indians, 1758 *W*
- 24 Oscar Arnulfo Romero, Bishop of El Salvador, martyr, 1980 *S/R*
- 25 ANNUNCIATION OF OUR LORD *W*
- 29 Hans Nielsen Hauge, renewer of the church, 1824 *W*
- 31 John Donne, poet, 1631 *W*

April

- 4 Benedict the African, confessor, 1589 *W*
- 6 Albrecht Dürer, 1528; Matthias Grünewald, 1529; Lucas Cranach, 1553; artists *W*
- 9 Dietrich Bonhoeffer, theologian, 1945 *W*
- 10 Mikael Agricola, Bishop of Turku, 1557 *W*
- 19 Olavus Petri, priest, 1552; Laurentius Petri, Bishop of Uppsala, 1573; renewers of the church *W*
- 21 Anselm, Bishop of Canterbury, 1109 *W*
- 23 Toyohiko Kagawa, renewer of society, 1960 *W*
- 25 MARK, EVANGELIST *S/R*
- 29 Catherine of Siena, theologian, 1380 *W*

May

- 1 PHILIP AND JAMES, APOSTLES *S/R*
- 2 Athanasius, Bishop of Alexandria, 373 *W*
- 4 Monica, mother of Augustine, 387 *W*
- 8 Julian of Norwich, renewer of the church, c. 1416 *W*
- 9 Nicolaus Ludwig von Zinzendorf, renewer of the church, hymnwriter, 1760 *W*
- 14 MATTHIAS, APOSTLE *S/R*
- 18 Erik, King of Sweden, martyr, 1160 *S/R*
- 21 Helena, mother of Constantine, c. 330 *W*
- 24 Nicolaus Copernicus, 1543; Leonhard Euler, 1783; scientists *W*
- 27 John Calvin, renewer of the church, 1564 *W*
- 29 Jiří Tranovský, hymnwriter, 1637 *W*
- 31 VISIT OF MARY TO ELIZABETH *W*

*Lesser festivals are listed in small capital letters. The other listings are commemorations. Dates after names indicate year of death.

June

- 1 Justin, martyr at Rome, c. 165 *S/R*
- 3 The Martyrs of Uganda, 1886 *S/R*
John XXIII, Bishop of Rome, 1963 *W*
- 5 Boniface, Bishop of Mainz, missionary to Germany, martyr, 754 *S/R*
- 7 Seattle, chief of the Duwamish Confederacy, 1866 *W*
- 9 Columba, 597; Aidan, 651; Bede, 735; renewers of the church *W*
- 11 BARNABAS, APOSTLE *S/R*
- 14 Basil the Great, Bishop of Caesarea, 379 *W*
Gregory, Bishop of Nyssa, c. 385 *W*
Gregory of Nazianzus, Bishop of Constantinople, c. 389 *W*
Macrina, teacher, c. 379 *W*
- 21 Onesimos Nesib, translator, evangelist, 1931 *W*
- 24 JOHN THE BAPTIST *W*
- 25 Presentation of the Augsburg Confession, 1530 *W*
Philipp Melancthon, renewer of the church, 1560 *W*
- 27 Cyril, Bishop of Alexandria, 444 *W*
- 28 Irenaeus, Bishop of Lyons, c. 202 *W*
- 29 PETER AND PAUL, APOSTLES *S/R*

July

- 1 Catherine Winkworth, 1878; John Mason Neale, 1866; hymn translators *W*
- 3 THOMAS, APOSTLE *S/R*
- 6 Jan Hus, martyr, 1415 *S/R*
- 11 Benedict of Nursia, Abbot of Monte Cassino, c. 540 *W*
- 12 Nathan Söderblom, Bishop of Uppsala, 1931 *W*
- 17 Bartolomé de Las Casas, missionary to the Indies, 1566 *W*
- 22 MARY MAGDALENE, APOSTLE *W*
- 23 Birgitta of Sweden, renewer of the church, 1373 *W*
- 25 JAMES, APOSTLE *S/R*
- 28 Johann Sebastian Bach, 1750; Heinrich Schütz, 1672; George Frederick Handel, 1759; musicians *W*
- 29 Mary, Martha, and Lazarus of Bethany *W*
Olaf, King of Norway, martyr, 1030 *S/R*

August

- 8 Dominic, founder of the Order of Preachers (Dominicans), 1221 *W*
- 10 Lawrence, deacon, martyr, 258 *S/R*
- 11 Clare, Abbess of San Damiano, 1253 *W*
- 13 Florence Nightingale, 1910; Clara Maass, 1901; renewers of society *W*
- 14 Maximilian Kolbe, 1941; Kaj Munk, 1944; martyrs *S/R*
- 15 MARY, MOTHER OF OUR LORD *W*
- 20 Bernard, Abbot of Clairvaux, 1153 *W*
- 24 BARTHOLOMEW, APOSTLE *S/R*
- 28 Augustine, Bishop of Hippo, 430 *W*
Moses the Black, monk, martyr, c. 400 *S/R*

September

- 2 Nikolai Frederik Severin Grundtvig, bishop, renewer of the church, 1872 *W*
- 9 Peter Claver, priest, missionary to Colombia, 1654 *W*
- 13 John Chrysostom, Bishop of Constantinople, 407 *W*
- 14 HOLY CROSS DAY *S/R*
- 16 Cyprian, Bishop of Carthage, martyr, c. 258 *S/R*
- 17 Hildegard, Abbess of Bingen, 1179 *W*
- 18 Dag Hammarskjöld, renewer of society, 1961 *W*
- 21 MATTHEW, APOSTLE AND EVANGELIST *S/R*
- 29 MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS *W*
- 30 Jerome, translator, teacher, 420 *W*

October

- 4 Francis of Assisi, renewer of the church, 1226 *W*
Theodor Fliedner, renewer of society, 1864 *W*
- 6 William Tyndale, translator, martyr, 1536 *S/R*
- 7 Henry Melchior Muhlenberg, pastor in North America, 1787 *W*
- 15 Teresa of Avila, teacher, renewer of the church, 1582 *W*
- 17 Ignatius, Bishop of Antioch, martyr, c. 115 *S/R*
- 18 LUKE, EVANGELIST *S/R*
- 23 James of Jerusalem, martyr, c. 62 *S/R*

- 26 Philipp Nicolai, 1608; Johann Heermann, 1647; Paul Gerhardt, 1676; hymnwriters **W**
- 28 SIMON AND JUDE, APOSTLES **S/R**
- 31 REFORMATION DAY **R**

November

- 1 ALL SAINTS DAY **W**
- 3 Martín de Porres, renewer of society, 1639 **W**
- 7 John Christian Frederick Heyer, 1873; Bartholomaeus Ziegenbalg, 1719; Ludwig Nommensen, 1918; missionaries **W**
- 11 Martin, Bishop of Tours, 397 **W**
Søren Aabye Kierkegaard, teacher, 1855 **W**
- 17 Elizabeth of Hungary, renewer of society, 1231 **W**
- 23 Clement, Bishop of Rome, c. 100 **W**
Miguel Agustín Pro, martyr, 1927 **S/R**

- 24 Justus Falckner, 1723; Jehu Jones, 1852; William Passavant, 1894; pastors in North America **W**
- 25 Isaac Watts, hymnwriter, 1748 **W**
- 30 ANDREW, APOSTLE **S/R**

December

- 3 Francis Xavier, missionary to Asia, 1552 **W**
- 4 John of Damascus, theologian and hymnwriter, c. 749 **W**
- 6 Nicholas, Bishop of Myra, c. 342 **W**
- 7 Ambrose, Bishop of Milan, 397 **W**
- 13 Lucy, martyr, 304 **S/R**
- 14 John of the Cross, renewer of the church, 1591 **W**
- 20 Katharina von Bora Luther, renewer of the church, 1552 **W**
- 26 STEPHEN, DEACON AND MARTYR **S/R**
- 27 JOHN, APOSTLE AND EVANGELIST **W**
- 28 THE HOLY INNOCENTS, MARTYRS **S/R**



Propers



Sundays and Principal Festivals

Advent

First Sunday of Advent

A

Isaiah 2:1-5
Psalm 122 (1)*
Romans 13:11-14
Matthew 24:36-44

Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection save us from the threatening dangers of our sins, and enlighten our walk in the way of your salvation, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

B

Isaiah 64:1-9
Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19 (7)
1 Corinthians 1:3-9
Mark 13:24-37

Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection awaken us to the threatening dangers of our sins, and keep us blameless until the coming of your new day, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

C

Jeremiah 33:14-16
Psalm 25:1-10 (1)
1 Thessalonians 3:9-13
Luke 21:25-36

Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection alert us to the threatening dangers of our sins, and redeem us for your life of justice, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Second Sunday of Advent

A

Isaiah 11:1-10
Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19 (7)
Romans 15:4-13
Matthew 3:1-12

Stir up our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of your only Son. By his coming nurture our growth as people of repentance and peace; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

*The appointed psalm refrain is from the verse in parentheses.

B

Isaiah 40:1-11 Stir up our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of your only Son. By his coming strengthen us to serve you with purified lives; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Psalm 85:1-2, 8-13 (13)

2 Peter 3:8-15a

Mark 1:1-8

C

Malachi 3:1-4 Stir up our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of your only Son. By his coming give to all the people of the world knowledge of your salvation; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

or Baruch 5:1-9

Luke 1:68-79 (78)

Philippians 1:3-11

Luke 3:1-6

Third Sunday of Advent**A**

Isaiah 35:1-10 Stir up the wills of all who look to you, Lord God, and strengthen our faith in your coming, that, transformed by grace, we may walk in your way; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Psalm 146:5-10 (8)

or Luke 1: 46b-55 (47)

James 5:7-10

Matthew 11:2-11

B

Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11 Stir up the wills of your faithful people, Lord God, and open our ears to the words of your prophets, that, anointed by your Spirit, we may testify to your light; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Psalm 126 (3)

or Luke 1: 46b-55 (52)

1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

John 1:6-8, 19-28

C

Zephaniah 3:14-20 Stir up the wills of your faithful people, Lord God, and open our ears to the preaching of John, that, rejoicing in your salvation, we may bring forth the fruits of repentance; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Isaiah 12:2-6 (6)

Philippians 4:4-7

Luke 3:7-18

Fourth Sunday of Advent**A**

Isaiah 7:10-16 Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. With your abundant grace and might, free us from the sin that hinders our faith, that eagerly we may receive your promises, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19 (7)

Romans 1:1-7

Matthew 1:18-25

B

2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16 Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. With your abundant grace and might, free us from the sin that would obstruct your mercy, that willingly we may bear your redeeming love to all the world, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Luke 1:46b-55 (52)

or Psalm 89:1-4, 19-26 (1)

Romans 16:25-27

Luke 1:26-38

C

Micah 5:2-5a

Luke 1: 46b-55 (52)

or Psalm 80:1-7 (7)

Hebrews 10:5-10

Luke 1:39-45 [46-55]

Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. With your abundant grace and might, free us from the sin that binds us, that we may receive you in joy and serve you always, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Christmas

Nativity of Our Lord

A, B, C

I Particularly appropriate for

Christmas Eve

Isaiah 9:2-7

Psalm 96 (11)

Titus 2:11-14

Luke 2:1-14 [15-20]

Almighty God, you made this holy night shine with the brightness of the true Light. Grant that here on earth we may walk in the light of Jesus' presence and in the last day wake to the brightness of his glory; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

A, B, C

II Particularly appropriate for

Christmas Day

Isaiah 62:6-12

Psalm 97 (11)

Titus 3:4-7

Luke 2:[1-7] 8-20

All-powerful and unseen God, the coming of your light into our world has brightened weary hearts with peace. Call us out of darkness, and empower us to proclaim the birth of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

A, B, C

III Particularly appropriate for

Christmas Day

Isaiah 52:7-10

Psalm 98 (3)

Hebrews 1:1-4 [5-12]

John 1:1-14

Almighty God, you gave us your only Son to take on our human nature and to illumine the world with your light. By your grace adopt us as your children and enlighten us with your Spirit, through Jesus Christ, our Redeemer and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

First Sunday of Christmas

A

Isaiah 63:7-9

Psalm 148 (13)

Hebrews 2:10-18

Matthew 2:13-23

O Lord God, you know that we cannot place our trust in our own powers. As you protected the infant Jesus, so defend us and all the needy from harm and adversity, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

B

Isaiah 61:10—62:3

Psalm 148 (13)

Galatians 4:4-7

Luke 2:22-40

Almighty God, you wonderfully created the dignity of human nature and yet more wonderfully restored it. In your mercy, let us share the divine life of the one who came to share our humanity, Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

C

1 Samuel 2:18-20, 26
Psalm 148 (13)
Colossians 3:12-17
Luke 2:41-52

Shine into our hearts the light of your wisdom, O God, and open our minds to the knowledge of your word, that in all things we may think and act according to your good will and may live continually in the light of your Son, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

When January 1 falls on a Sunday, the Name of Jesus is normally celebrated on that day.

Second Sunday of Christmas

A, B, C

Jeremiah 31:7-14
or Sirach 24:1-12
Psalm 147:12-20 (12)
or Wisdom 10:15-21 (20)
Ephesians 1:3-14
John 1:[1-9] 10-18

Almighty God, you have filled all the earth with the light of your incarnate Word. By your grace empower us to reflect your light in all that we do, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

OR

O God our redeemer, you created light that we might live, and you illumine our world with your beloved Son. By your Spirit comfort us in all darkness, and turn us toward the light of Jesus Christ our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Epiphany of Our Lord

If celebration of the Epiphany of Our Lord is not possible on January 6, it may be observed on the second Sunday of Christmas (January 2 or later). When January 6 falls on a Sunday, it is celebrated as the Epiphany of Our Lord.

A, B, C

Isaiah 60:1-6
Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14 (11)
Ephesians 3:1-12
Matthew 2:1-12

O God, on this day you revealed your Son to the nations by the leading of a star. Lead us now by faith to know your presence in our lives, and bring us at last to the full vision of your glory, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

OR

Almighty and ever-living God, you revealed the incarnation of your Son by the brilliant shining of a star. Shine the light of your justice always in our hearts and over all lands, and accept our lives as the treasure we offer in your praise and for your service, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

OR

Everlasting God, the radiance of all faithful people, you brought the nations to the brightness of your rising. Fill the world with your glory, and show yourself to all the world through him who is the true light and the bright morning star, your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Time after Epiphany

The lectionary number refers to the appointed set of lectionary readings and propers, ordered in sequence beginning with the Sundays in the Time after Epiphany and continuing again in the Time after Pentecost.

Baptism of Our Lord

First Sunday after Epiphany Sunday, January 7–13 Lectionary 1

A

Isaiah 42:1-9
Psalm 29 (3)
Acts 10:34-43
Matthew 3:13-17

O God our Father, at the baptism of Jesus you proclaimed him your beloved Son and anointed him with the Holy Spirit. Make all who are baptized into Christ faithful to their calling to be your daughters and sons, and empower us all with your Spirit, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

B

Genesis 1:1-5
Psalm 29 (3)
Acts 19:1-7
Mark 1:4-11

Holy God, creator of light and giver of goodness, your voice moves over the waters. Immerse us in your grace, and transform us by your Spirit, that we may follow after your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

C

Isaiah 43:1-7
Psalm 29 (3)
Acts 8:14-17
Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

Almighty God, you anointed Jesus at his baptism with the Holy Spirit and revealed him as your beloved Son. Keep all who are born of water and the Spirit faithful in your service, that we may rejoice to be called children of God, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Second Sunday after Epiphany

Sunday, January 14–20 Lectionary 2

A

Isaiah 49:1-7
Psalm 40:1-11 (8)
1 Corinthians 1:1-9
John 1:29-42

Holy God, our strength and our redeemer, by your Spirit hold us forever, that through your grace we may worship you and faithfully serve you, follow you and joyfully find you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

B

1 Samuel 3:1-10 [11-20]
Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18 (1)
1 Corinthians 6:12-20
John 1:43-51

Thanks be to you, Lord Jesus Christ, most merciful redeemer, for the countless blessings and benefits you give. May we know you more clearly, love you more dearly, and follow you more nearly, day by day praising you, with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

C

Isaiah 62:1-5
Psalm 36:5-10 (8)
1 Corinthians 12:1-11
John 2:1-11

Lord God, source of every blessing, you showed forth your glory and led many to faith by the works of your Son, who brought gladness and salvation to his people. Transform us by the Spirit of his love, that we may find our life together in him, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Third Sunday after Epiphany

Sunday, January 21–27 Lectionary 3

A

Isaiah 9:1-4 Lord God, your lovingkindness always goes before us and
Psalm 27:1, 4-9 (1) follows after us. Summon us into your light, and direct our
1 Corinthians 1:10-18 steps in the ways of goodness that come through the cross of
Matthew 4:12-23 your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

B

Jonah 3:1-5, 10 Almighty God, by grace alone you call us and accept us in your
Psalm 62:5-12 (6) service. Strengthen us by your Spirit, and make us worthy of
1 Corinthians 7:29-31 your call, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**
Mark 1:14-20

C

Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10 Blessed Lord God, you have caused the holy scriptures to be
Psalm 19 (7) written for the nourishment of your people. Grant that we may
1 Corinthians 12:12-31a hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that,
Luke 4:14-21 comforted by your promises, we may embrace and forever hold
fast to the hope of eternal life, through your Son, Jesus Christ
our Lord. **Amen.**

Fourth Sunday after Epiphany (if before Transfiguration)

Sunday, January 28–February 3 Lectionary 4

A

Micah 6:1-8 Holy God, you confound the world's wisdom in giving your
Psalm 15 (1) kingdom to the lowly and the pure in heart. Give us such a
1 Corinthians 1:18-31 hunger and thirst for justice, and perseverance in striving for
Matthew 5:1-12 peace, that in our words and deeds the world may see the life of
your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

B

Deuteronomy 18:15-20 Compassionate God, you gather the whole universe into your
Psalm 111 (10) radiant presence and continually reveal your Son as our Savior.
1 Corinthians 8:1-13 Bring wholeness to all that is broken and speak truth to us in
Mark 1:21-28 our confusion, that all creation will see and know your Son,
Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

C

Jeremiah 1:4-10 Almighty and ever-living God, increase in us the gifts of faith,
Psalm 71:1-6 (6) hope, and love; and that we may obtain what you promise,
1 Corinthians 13:1-13 make us love what you command, through your Son, Jesus
Luke 4:21-30 Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

When February 2 falls on a Sunday, the Presentation of Our Lord is normally celebrated on that day.

Fifth Sunday after Epiphany *(if before Transfiguration)*

Sunday, February 4–10 Lectionary 5

A

Isaiah 58:1-9a [9b-12] Lord God, with endless mercy you receive the prayers of all
Psalm 112:1-9 [10] (4) who call upon you. By your Spirit show us the things we ought
1 Corinthians 2:1-12 [13-16] to do, and give us the grace and power to do them, through
Matthew 5:13-20 Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

B

Isaiah 40:21-31 Everlasting God, you give strength to the weak and power to
Psalm 147:1-11, 20c (3) the faint. Make us agents of your healing and wholeness, that
1 Corinthians 9:16-23 your good news may be made known to the ends of your
Mark 1:29-39 creation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

C

Isaiah 6:1-8 [9-13] Most holy God, the earth is filled with your glory, and before
Psalm 138 (2) you angels and saints stand in awe. Enlarge our vision to see
1 Corinthians 15:1-11 your power at work in the world, and by your grace make us
Luke 5:1-11 heralds of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Sixth Sunday after Epiphany *(if before Transfiguration)*

Sunday, February 11–17 Lectionary 6

A

Deuteronomy 30:15-20 O God, the strength of all who hope in you, because we are
or Sirach 15:15-20 weak mortals we accomplish nothing good without you. Help
Psalm 119:1-8 (1) us to see and understand the things we ought to do, and give us
1 Corinthians 3:1-9 grace and power to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior
Matthew 5:21-37 and Lord. **Amen.**

B

2 Kings 5:1-14 Almighty and ever-living God, with mercy you look upon our
Psalm 30 (2) weaknesses. Stretch out your wondrous hand to protect us
1 Corinthians 9:24-27 from danger and restore us to health, through Jesus Christ, our
Mark 1:40-45 Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

C

Jeremiah 17:5-10 Living God, in Christ you make all things new. Transform the
Psalm 1 (3) poverty of our nature by the riches of your grace, and in the
1 Corinthians 15:12-20 renewal of our lives make known your glory, through Jesus
Luke 6:17-26 Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Seventh Sunday after Epiphany *(if before Transfiguration)*

Sunday, February 18–24 Lectionary 7

A

Leviticus 19:1-2, 9-18 Holy God of compassion, you invite us into your way of
Psalm 119:33-40 (33) forgiveness and peace. Lead us to love our enemies, and
1 Corinthians 3:10-11, 16-23 transform our words and deeds to be like his through whom
Matthew 5:38-48 we pray, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

B

Isaiah 43:18-25
Psalm 41 (4)
2 Corinthians 1:18-22
Mark 2:1-12

Almighty God, in signs and wonders your Son revealed the greatness of your saving love. Renew us with your grace, and sustain us by your power, that we may stand in the glory of your name, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

C

Genesis 45:3-11, 15
Psalm 37:1-11, 39-40 (11)
1 Corinthians 15:35-38,
42-50
Luke 6:27-38

O Lord Jesus, make us instruments of your peace, that where there is hatred, we may sow love, where there is injury, pardon, and where there is despair, hope. Grant, O divine master, that we may seek to console, to understand, and to love in your name, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Eighth Sunday after Epiphany *(if before Transfiguration)*

Sunday, February 25–March 1 Lectionary 8

A

Isaiah 49:8-16a
Psalm 131 (2)
1 Corinthians 4:1-5
Matthew 6:24-34

God of tender care, like a mother, like a father, you never forget your children, and you know already what we need. In all our anxiety give us trusting and faithful hearts, that in confidence we may embody the peace and justice of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

B

Hosea 2:14-20
Psalm 103:1-13, 22 (8)
2 Corinthians 3:1-6
Mark 2:13-22

Loving God, by tender words and covenant promise you have joined us to yourself forever, and you invite us to respond to your love with faithfulness. By your Spirit may we live with you and with one another in justice, mercy, and joy, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

C

Isaiah 55:10-13
or Sirach 27:4-7
Psalm 92:1-4, 12-15 (12)
1 Corinthians 15:51-58
Luke 6:39-49

O God our rock, your word brings life to the whole creation and salvation from sin and death. Nourish our faith in your promises, and ground us in your strength, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Transfiguration of Our Lord

Last Sunday after Epiphany

A

Exodus 24:12-18
Psalm 2 (7)
or Psalm 99 (9)
2 Peter 1:16-21
Matthew 17:1-9

O God, in the transfiguration of your Son you confirmed the mysteries of the faith by the witness of Moses and Elijah, and in the voice from the bright cloud declaring Jesus your beloved Son, you foreshadowed our adoption as your children. Make us heirs with Christ of your glory, and bring us to enjoy its fullness, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

B

2 Kings 2:1-12

Psalm 50:1-6 (2)

2 Corinthians 4:3-6

Mark 9:2-9

Almighty God, the resplendent light of your truth shines from the mountaintop into our hearts. Transfigure us by your beloved Son, and illumine the world with your image, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

C

Exodus 34:29-35

Psalm 99 (9)

2 Corinthians 3:12—4:2

Luke 9:28-36 [37-43a]

Holy God, mighty and immortal, you are beyond our knowing, yet we see your glory in the face of Jesus Christ. Transform us into the likeness of your Son, who renewed our humanity so that we may share in his divinity, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Lent

Ash Wednesday

A, B, C

Joel 2:1-2, 12-17

or Isaiah 58:1-12

Psalm 51:1-17 (1)

2 Corinthians 5:20b—6:10

Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

Almighty and ever-living God, you hate nothing you have made, and you forgive the sins of all who are penitent. Create in us new and honest hearts, so that, truly repenting of our sins, we may receive from you, the God of all mercy, full pardon and forgiveness through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

OR

Gracious God, out of your love and mercy you breathed into dust the breath of life, creating us to serve you and our neighbors. Call forth our prayers and acts of kindness, and strengthen us to face our mortality with confidence in the mercy of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

First Sunday in Lent

A

Genesis 2:15-17; 3:1-7

Psalm 32 (10)

Romans 5:12-19

Matthew 4:1-11

Lord God, our strength, the struggle between good and evil rages within and around us, and the devil and all the forces that defy you tempt us with empty promises. Keep us steadfast in your word, and when we fall, raise us again and restore us through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

B

Genesis 9:8-17

Psalms 25:1-10 (10)

1 Peter 3:18-22

Mark 1:9-15

Holy God, heavenly Father, in the waters of the flood you saved the chosen, and in the wilderness of temptation you protected your Son from sin. Renew us in the gift of baptism. May your holy angels be with us, that the wicked foe may have no power over us, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

C

Deuteronomy 26:1-11

Psalms 91:1-2, 9-16 (11)

Romans 10:8b-13

Luke 4:1-13

O Lord God, you led your people through the wilderness and brought them to the promised land. Guide us now, so that, following your Son, we may walk safely through the wilderness of this world toward the life you alone can give, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Second Sunday in Lent

A

Genesis 12:1-4a

Psalms 121 (1, 2)

Romans 4:1-5, 13-17

John 3:1-17

O God, our leader and guide, in the waters of baptism you bring us to new birth to live as your children. Strengthen our faith in your promises, that by your Spirit we may lift up your life to all the world through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

B

Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16

Psalms 22:23-31 (27)

Romans 4:13-25

Mark 8:31-38

O God, by the passion of your blessed Son you made an instrument of shameful death to be for us the means of life. Grant us so to glory in the cross of Christ that we may gladly suffer shame and loss for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

C

Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18

Psalms 27 (5)

Philippians 3:17—4:1

Luke 13:31-35

God of the covenant, in the mystery of the cross you promise everlasting life to the world. Gather all peoples into your arms, and shelter us with your mercy, that we may rejoice in the life we share in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Third Sunday in Lent

A

Exodus 17:1-7

Psalms 95 (1)

Romans 5:1-11

John 4:5-42

Merciful God, the fountain of living water, you quench our thirst and wash away our sin. Give us this water always. Bring us to drink from the well that flows with the beauty of your truth through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

B

Exodus 20:1-17

Psalms 19 (8)

1 Corinthians 1:18-25

John 2:13-22

Holy God, through your Son you have called us to live faithfully and act courageously. Keep us steadfast in your covenant of grace, and teach us the wisdom that comes only through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

C

Isaiah 55:1-9

Psalms 63:1-8 (1)

1 Corinthians 10:1-13

Luke 13:1-9

Eternal God, your kingdom has broken into our troubled world through the life, death, and resurrection of your Son. Help us to hear your word and obey it, and bring your saving love to fruition in our lives, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Fourth Sunday in Lent

A

1 Samuel 16:1-13

Psalms 23 (5)

Ephesians 5:8-14

John 9:1-41

Bend your ear to our prayers, Lord Christ, and come among us. By your gracious life and death for us, bring light into the darkness of our hearts, and anoint us with your Spirit, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

B

Numbers 21:4-9

Psalms 107:1-3, 17-22 (19)

Ephesians 2:1-10

John 3:14-21

O God, rich in mercy, by the humiliation of your Son you lifted up this fallen world and rescued us from the hopelessness of death. Lead us into your light, that all our deeds may reflect your love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

C

Joshua 5:9-12

Psalms 32 (11)

2 Corinthians 5:16-21

Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

God of compassion, you welcome the wayward, and you embrace us all with your mercy. By our baptism clothe us with garments of your grace, and feed us at the table of your love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Fifth Sunday in Lent

A

Ezekiel 37:1-14

Psalms 130 (5)

Romans 8:6-11

John 11:1-45

Almighty God, your Son came into the world to free us all from sin and death. Breathe upon us the power of your Spirit, that we may be raised to new life in Christ and serve you in righteousness all our days, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

B

Jeremiah 31:31-34

Psalms 51:1-12 (10)

or Psalm 119:9-16 (11)

Hebrews 5:5-10

John 12:20-33

O God, with steadfast love you draw us to yourself, and in mercy you receive our prayers. Strengthen us to bring forth the fruits of the Spirit, that through life and death we may live in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

C

Isaiah 43:16-21

Psalms 126 (5)

Philippians 3:4b-14

John 12:1-8

Creator God, you prepare a new way in the wilderness, and your grace waters our desert. Open our hearts to be transformed by the new thing you are doing, that our lives may proclaim the extravagance of your love given to all through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Sunday of the Passion

Palm Sunday

A

Procession with Palms

Matthew 21:1-11

Isaiah 50:4-9a

Psalms 31:9-16 (5)

Philippians 2:5-11

Matthew 26:14—27:66

or Matthew 27:11-54

A, B, C

Everlasting God, in your endless love for the human race you sent our Lord Jesus Christ to take on our nature and to suffer death on the cross. In your mercy enable us to share in his obedience to your will and in the glorious victory of his resurrection, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

OR

Sovereign God, you have established your rule in the human heart through the servanthood of Jesus Christ. By your Spirit, keep us in the joyful procession of those who with their tongues confess Jesus as Lord and with their lives praise him as Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

B

Procession with Palms

Mark 11:1-11

or John 12:12-16

Isaiah 50:4-9a

Psalms 31:9-16 (5)

Philippians 2:5-11

Mark 14:1—15:47

or Mark 15:1-39 [40-47]

OR

O God of mercy and might, in the mystery of the passion of your Son you offer your infinite life to the world. Gather us around the cross of Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

C

Procession with Palms

Luke 19:28-40

Isaiah 50:4-9a

Psalms 31:9-16 (5)

Philippians 2:5-11

Luke 22:14—23:56

or Luke 23:1-49

Monday in Holy Week

A, B, C

Isaiah 42:1-9

Psalms 36:5-11 (7)

Hebrews 9:11-15

John 12:1-11

O God, your Son chose the path that led to pain before joy and to the cross before glory. Plant his cross in our hearts, so that in its power and love we may come at last to joy and glory, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Tuesday in Holy Week

A, B, C

Isaiah 49:1-7

Psalms 71:1-14 (6)

1 Corinthians 1:18-31

John 12:20-36

Lord Jesus, you have called us to follow you. Grant that our love may not grow cold in your service, and that we may not fail or deny you in the time of trial, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Wednesday in Holy Week

A, B, C

Isaiah 50:4-9a

Psalms 70 (1)

Hebrews 12:1-3

John 13:21-32

Almighty God, your Son our Savior suffered at human hands and endured the shame of the cross. Grant that we may walk in the way of his cross and find it the way of life and peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

The Three Days

Maunder Thursday

A, B, C

Exodus 12:1-4 [5-10] 11-14

Psalms 116:1-2, 12-19 (13)

1 Corinthians 11:23-26

John 13:1-17, 31b-35

Holy God, source of all love, on the night of his betrayal, Jesus gave us a new commandment, to love one another as he loves us. Write this commandment in our hearts, and give us the will to serve others as he was the servant of all, your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

OR

Eternal God, in the sharing of a meal your Son established a new covenant for all people, and in the washing of feet he showed us the dignity of service. Grant that by the power of your Holy Spirit these signs of our life in faith may speak again to our hearts, feed our spirits, and refresh our bodies, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Good Friday

A, B, C

Isaiah 52:13—53:12

Psalms 22 (1)

Hebrews 10:16-25

or Hebrews 4:14-16; 5:7-9

John 18:1—19:42

Almighty God, look with loving mercy on your family, for whom our Lord Jesus Christ was willing to be betrayed, to be given over to the hands of sinners, and to suffer death on the cross; who now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. **Amen.**

OR

Merciful God, your Son was lifted up on the cross to draw all people to himself. Grant that we who have been born out of his wounded side may at all times find mercy in him, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Resurrection of Our Lord

The Resurrection of Our Lord, the last of the Three Days, is also the first of the fifty days of Easter.

Vigil of Easter

A, B, C

See the list of vigil readings and responses, p. 269.

Romans 6:3-11

John 20:1-18

Eternal giver of life and light, this holy night shines with the radiance of the risen Christ. Renew your church with the Spirit given us in baptism, that we may worship you in sincerity and truth and may shine as a light in the world, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

OR

O God, you are the creator of the world, the liberator of your people, and the wisdom of the earth. By the resurrection of your Son free us from our fears, restore us in your image, and ignite us with your light, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Easter Day

A

Acts 10:34-43

or Jeremiah 31:1-6

Psalms 118:1-2, 14-24 (24)

Colossians 3:1-4

or Acts 10:34-43

Matthew 28:1-10

or John 20:1-18

A, B, C

O God, you gave your only Son to suffer death on the cross for our redemption, and by his glorious resurrection you delivered us from the power of death. Make us die every day to sin, that we may live with him forever in the joy of the resurrection, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

B

Acts 10:34-43
or Isaiah 25:6-9
Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24 (24)
1 Corinthians 15:1-11
or Acts 10:34-43
Mark 16:1-8
or John 20:1-18

OR

God of mercy, we no longer look for Jesus among the dead, for he is alive and has become the Lord of life. Increase in our minds and hearts the risen life we share with Christ, and help us to grow as your people toward the fullness of eternal life with you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

C

Acts 10:34-43
or Isaiah 65:17-25
Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24 (24)
1 Corinthians 15:19-26
or Acts 10:34-43
Luke 24:1-12
or John 20:1-18

The following propers may be used for a service on the evening of Easter Day.

A, B, C

Isaiah 25:6-9
Psalm 114 (7)
1 Corinthians 5:6b-8
Luke 24:13-49

O God, whose blessed Son made himself known to his disciples in the breaking of bread, open the eyes of our faith, that we may behold him in all his redeeming work, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Easter

The following propers may be used for a service on Easter Monday or on another day during Easter week.

A, B, C

Daniel 12:1-3
Psalm 16:8-11 (9)
Acts 2:14, 22b-32
Matthew 28:9-15a

Almighty God, you give us the joy of celebrating our Lord's resurrection. Give us also the joys of life in your service, and bring us at last to the full joy of life eternal, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Second Sunday of Easter

A

Acts 2:14a, 22-32
Psalm 16 (11)
1 Peter 1:3-9
John 20:19-31

Almighty and eternal God, the strength of those who believe and the hope of those who doubt, may we, who have not seen, have faith in you and receive the fullness of Christ's blessing, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

B

Acts 4:32-35
Psalm 133 (1)
1 John 1:1—2:2
John 20:19-31

Almighty God, with joy we celebrate the day of our Lord's resurrection. By the grace of Christ among us, enable us to show the power of the resurrection in all that we say and do, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

C

Acts 5:27-32
Psalm 118:14-29 (28)
or Psalm 150 (6)
Revelation 1:4-8
John 20:19-31

O God of life, you reach out to us amid our fears with the wounded hands of your risen Son. By your Spirit's breath revive our faith in your mercy, and strengthen us to be the body of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Third Sunday of Easter

A

Acts 2:14a, 36-41
Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19 (13)
1 Peter 1:17-23
Luke 24:13-35

O God, your Son makes himself known to all his disciples in the breaking of bread. Open the eyes of our faith, that we may see him in his redeeming work, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

B

Acts 3:12-19
Psalm 4 (3)
1 John 3:1-7
Luke 24:36b-48

Holy and righteous God, you are the author of life, and you adopt us to be your children. Fill us with your words of life, that we may live as witnesses to the resurrection of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

C

Acts 9:1-6 [7-20]
Psalm 30 (11)
Revelation 5:11-14
John 21:1-19

Eternal and all-merciful God, with all the angels and all the saints we laud your majesty and might. By the resurrection of your Son, show yourself to us and inspire us to follow Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Fourth Sunday of Easter

A

Acts 2:42-47
Psalm 23 (1)
1 Peter 2:19-25
John 10:1-10

O God our shepherd, you know your sheep by name and lead us to safety through the valleys of death. Guide us by your voice, that we may walk in certainty and security to the joyous feast prepared in your house, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

B

Acts 4:5-12
Psalm 23 (1)
1 John 3:16-24
John 10:11-18

O Lord Christ, good shepherd of the sheep, you seek the lost and guide us into your fold. Feed us, and we shall be satisfied; heal us, and we shall be whole. Make us one with you, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

C

Acts 9:36-43
Psalm 23 (1)
Revelation 7:9-17
John 10:22-30

O God of peace, you brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, the great shepherd of the sheep. By the blood of your eternal covenant, make us complete in everything good that we may do your will, and work among us all that is well-pleasing in your sight, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Fifth Sunday of Easter

A
Acts 7:55-60
Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16 (5)
1 Peter 2:2-10
John 14:1-14
Almighty God, your Son Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life. Give us grace to love one another, to follow in the way of his commandments, and to share his risen life with all the world, for he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

B
Acts 8:26-40
Psalm 22:25-31 (27)
1 John 4:7-21
John 15:1-8
O God, you give us your Son as the vine apart from whom we cannot live. Nourish our life in his resurrection, that we may bear the fruit of love and know the fullness of your joy, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

C
Acts 11:1-18
Psalm 148 (13)
Revelation 21:1-6
John 13:31-35
O Lord God, you teach us that without love, our actions gain nothing. Pour into our hearts your most excellent gift of love, that, made alive by your Spirit, we may know goodness and peace, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Sixth Sunday of Easter

A
Acts 17:22-31
Psalm 66:8-20 (8)
1 Peter 3:13-22
John 14:15-21
Almighty and ever-living God, you hold together all things in heaven and on earth. In your great mercy receive the prayers of all your children, and give to all the world the Spirit of your truth and peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

B
Acts 10:44-48
Psalm 98 (4)
1 John 5:1-6
John 15:9-17
O God, you have prepared for those who love you joys beyond understanding. Pour into our hearts such love for you that, loving you above all things, we may obtain your promises, which exceed all we can desire; through Jesus Christ, your Son and our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

C
Acts 16:9-15
Psalm 67 (4)
Revelation 21:10, 22—22:5
John 14:23-29
or John 5:1-9
Bountiful God, you gather your people into your realm, and you promise us food from your tree of life. Nourish us with your word, that empowered by your Spirit we may love one another and the world you have made, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Ascension of Our Lord

A, B, C

Acts 1:1-11

Psalm 47 (5)

or Psalm 93 (2)

Ephesians 1:15-23

Luke 24:44-53

Almighty God, your only Son was taken into the heavens and in your presence intercedes for us. Receive us and our prayers for all the world, and in the end bring everything into your glory, through Jesus Christ, our Sovereign and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

OR

Almighty God, your blessed Son, our Savior Jesus Christ, ascended far above all heavens that he might fill all things. Mercifully give us faith to trust that, as he promised, he abides with us on earth to the end of time, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Seventh Sunday of Easter

If the Ascension is not celebrated on the previous Thursday, it may be observed on this day.

A

Acts 1:6-14

Psalm 68:1-10, 32-35 (4)

1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11

John 17:1-11

O God of glory, your Son Jesus Christ suffered for us and ascended to your right hand. Unite us with Christ and each other in suffering and in joy, that all the world may be drawn into your bountiful presence, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

B

Acts 1:15-17, 21-26

Psalm 1 (6)

1 John 5:9-13

John 17:6-19

Gracious and glorious God, you have chosen us as your own, and by the powerful name of Christ you protect us from evil. By your Spirit transform us and your beloved world, that we may find our joy in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

C

Acts 16:16-34

Psalm 97 (12)

Revelation 22:12-14, 16-17,

20-21

John 17:20-26

O God, form the minds of your faithful people into your one will. Make us love what you command and desire what you promise, that, amid all the changes of this world, our hearts may be fixed where true joy is found, your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Pentecost

Vigil of Pentecost

A, B, C

Exodus 19:1-9

or Acts 2:1-11

Psalms 33:12-22 (20)

or Psalm 130 (4)

Romans 8:14-17, 22-27

John 7:37-39

Almighty and ever-living God, you fulfilled the promise of Easter by sending the gift of your Holy Spirit. Look upon your people gathered in prayer, open to receive the Spirit's flame. May it come to rest in our hearts and heal the divisions of word and tongue, that with one voice and one song we may praise your name in joy and thanksgiving; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Day of Pentecost

The fiftieth day of Easter

A

Acts 2:1-21

or Numbers 11:24-30

Psalms 104:24-34, 35b (30)

1 Corinthians 12:3b-13

or Acts 2:1-21

John 20:19-23

or John 7:37-39

O God, on this day you open the hearts of your faithful people by sending into us your Holy Spirit. Direct us by the light of that Spirit, that we may have a right judgment in all things and rejoice at all times in your peace, through Jesus Christ, your Son and our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

B

Acts 2:1-21

or Ezekiel 37:1-14

Psalms 104:24-34, 35b (30)

Romans 8:22-27

or Acts 2:1-21

John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15

Mighty God, you breathe life into our bones, and your Spirit brings truth to the world. Send us this Spirit, transform us by your truth, and give us language to proclaim your gospel, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

C

Acts 2:1-21

or Genesis 11:1-9

Psalms 104:24-34, 35b (30)

Romans 8:14-17

or Acts 2:1-21

John 14:8-17 [25-27]

God our creator, the resurrection of your Son offers life to all the peoples of earth. By your Holy Spirit, kindle in us the fire of your love, empowering our lives for service and our tongues for praise, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Time after Pentecost

With the exception of The Holy Trinity, which is always celebrated on the first Sunday after Pentecost, the propers for the Sundays after Pentecost are determined by calendar date. The lectionary number refers to the appointed set of lectionary readings and propers, ordered in sequence beginning with the Sundays in the Time after Epiphany and continuing again in the Time after Pentecost.

Beginning with Lectionary 9, two series of readings are provided for each Sunday. In the first series, the Old Testament reading and psalm are chosen to be complementary with the gospel reading. The second series uses Old Testament readings ordered semicontinuously, with psalms that relate to these readings. Both series use the same second reading and gospel, which are listed only once. The goals of the lectionary are best realized when one series or the other is used consistently throughout the Time after Pentecost.

The Holy Trinity

First Sunday after Pentecost

A

Genesis 1:1—2:4a

Psalms 8 (1)

2 Corinthians 13:11-13

Matthew 28:16-20

Almighty Creator and ever-living God: we worship your glory, eternal Three-in-One, and we praise your power, majestic One-in-Three. Keep us steadfast in this faith, defend us in all adversity, and bring us at last into your presence, where you live in endless joy and love, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

B

Isaiah 6:1-8

Psalms 29 (2)

Romans 8:12-17

John 3:1-17

OR

God of heaven and earth, before the foundation of the universe and the beginning of time you are the triune God: Author of creation, eternal Word of salvation, life-giving Spirit of wisdom. Guide us to all truth by your Spirit, that we may proclaim all that Christ has revealed and rejoice in the glory he shares with us. Glory and praise to you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

C

Proverbs 8:1-4, 22-31

Psalms 8 (2)

Romans 5:1-5

John 16:12-15

Sunday, May 24–28 (if after Holy Trinity)

Time after Pentecost—Lectionary 8

A

Isaiah 49:8-16a

Psalms 131 (2)

1 Corinthians 4:1-5

Matthew 6:24-34

God of tender care, like a mother, like a father, you never forget your children, and you know already what we need. In all our anxiety give us trusting and faithful hearts, that in confidence we may embody the peace and justice of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

B

Hosea 2:14-20

Psalms 103:1-13, 22 (8)

2 Corinthians 3:1-6

Mark 2:13-22

Loving God, by tender words and covenant promise you have joined us to yourself forever, and you invite us to respond to your love with faithfulness. By your Spirit may we live with you and with one another in justice, mercy, and joy, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

C

Isaiah 55:10-13

or Sirach 27:4-7

Psalm 92:1-4, 12-15 (12)

1 Corinthians 15:51-58

Luke 6:39-49

O God our rock, your word brings life to the whole creation and salvation from sin and death. Nourish our faith in your promises, and ground us in your strength, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Sunday, May 29–June 4 (if after Holy Trinity)**Time after Pentecost—Lectionary 9****A**Deuteronomy 11:18-21,
26-28

Psalm 31:1-5, 19-24 (3)

Romans 1:16-17; 3:22b-28
[29-31]

Matthew 7:21-29

Semicontinuous reading and psalm

Genesis 6:9-22; 7:24; 8:14-19

Psalm 46 (7)

O God our rock, you offer us a covenant of mercy, and you provide the foundation of our lives. Ground us in your word, and strengthen our resolve to be your disciples, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

B

Deuteronomy 5:12-15

Psalm 81:1-10 (1)

2 Corinthians 4:5-12

Mark 2:23—3:6

Semicontinuous reading and psalm

1 Samuel 3:1-10 [11-20]

Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18 (1)

Almighty and ever-living God, throughout time you free the oppressed, heal the sick, and make whole all that you have made. Look with compassion on the world wounded by sin, and by your power restore us to wholeness of life, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

C

1 Kings 8:22-23, 41-43

Psalm 96:1-9 (3)

Galatians 1:1-12

Luke 7:1-10

Semicontinuous reading and psalm

1 Kings 18:20-21 [22-29]

30-39

Psalm 96 (7)

Merciful Lord God, we do not presume to come before you trusting in our own righteousness, but in your great and abundant mercies. Revive our faith, we pray; heal our bodies, and mend our communities, that we may evermore dwell in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Sunday, June 5–11 (if after Holy Trinity)**Time after Pentecost—Lectionary 10****A**

Hosea 5:15—6:6

Psalm 50:7-15 (15)

Romans 4:13-25

Matthew 9:9-13, 18-26

Semicontinuous reading and psalm

Genesis 12:1-9

Psalm 33:1-12 (12)

O God, you are the source of life and the ground of our being. By the power of your Spirit bring healing to this wounded world, and raise us to the new life of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

B

Genesis 3:8-15

Psalms 130 (7)

2 Corinthians 4:13—5:1

Mark 3:20-35

Semicontinuous reading and psalm

1 Samuel 8:4-11 [12-15]

16-20 [11:14-15]

Psalms 138 (8)

All-powerful God, in Jesus Christ you turned death into life and defeat into victory. Increase our faith and trust in him, that we may triumph over all evil in the strength of the same Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

C

1 Kings 17:17-24

Psalms 30 (2)

Galatians 1:11-24

Luke 7:11-17

Semicontinuous reading and psalm

1 Kings 17:8-16 [17-24]

Psalms 146 (8)

Compassionate God, you have assured the human family of eternal life through Jesus Christ. Deliver us from the death of sin, and raise us to new life in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Sunday, June 12–18 (if after Holy Trinity)

Time after Pentecost—Lectionary 11

A

Exodus 19:2-8a

Psalms 100 (3)

Romans 5:1-8

Matthew 9:35—10:8 [9-23]

Semicontinuous reading and psalm

Genesis 18:1-15 [21:1-7]

Psalms 116:1-2, 12-19 (13)

God of compassion, you have opened the way for us and brought us to yourself. Pour your love into our hearts, that, overflowing with joy, we may freely share the blessings of your realm and faithfully proclaim the good news of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

B

Ezekiel 17:22-24

Psalms 92:1-4, 12-15 (12)

2 Corinthians 5:6-10 [11-13]

14-17

Mark 4:26-34

Semicontinuous reading and psalm

1 Samuel 15:34—16:13

Psalms 20 (6)

O God, you are the tree of life, offering shelter to all the world. Graft us into yourself and nurture our growth, that we may bear your truth and love to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

C

2 Samuel 11:26—12:10,

13-15

Psalms 32 (5)

Galatians 2:15-21

Luke 7:36—8:3

Semicontinuous reading and psalm

1 Kings 21:1-10 [11-14]

15-21a

Psalms 5:1-8 (8)

O God, throughout the ages you judge your people with mercy, and you inspire us to speak your truth. By your Spirit, anoint us for lives of faith and service, and bring all people into your forgiveness, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Sunday, June 19–25 *(if after Holy Trinity)*

Time after Pentecost—Lectionary 12

A
Jeremiah 20:7-13 Teach us, good Lord God, to serve you as you deserve, to give
Psalm 69:7-10 [11-15] and not to count the cost, to fight and not to heed the wounds,
 16-18 (16) to toil and not to seek for rest, to labor and not to ask for reward,
Romans 6:1b-11 except that of knowing that we do your will, through Jesus
Matthew 10:24-39 Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Semicontinuous reading and psalm

Genesis 21:8-21
Psalm 86:1-10, 16-17 (16)

B
Job 38:1-11 O God of creation, eternal majesty, you preside over land and
Psalm 107:1-3, 23-32 (29) sea, sunshine and storm. By your strength pilot us, by your
2 Corinthians 6:1-13 power preserve us, by your wisdom instruct us, and by your
Mark 4:35-41 hand protect us, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

Semicontinuous reading and psalm

1 Samuel 17:[1a, 4-11, 19-23]
 32-49
Psalm 9:9-20 (9)
or 1 Samuel 17:57—18:5,
 10-16
Psalm 133 (1)

C
Isaiah 65:1-9 O Lord God, we bring before you the cries of a sorrowing world.
Psalm 22:19-28 (22) In your mercy set us free from the chains that bind us, and
Galatians 3:23-29 defend us from everything that is evil, through Jesus Christ,
Luke 8:26-39 our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Semicontinuous reading and psalm

1 Kings 19:1-4 [5-7] 8-15a
Psalms 42 and 43 (43:3)

Sunday, June 26–July 2

Time after Pentecost—Lectionary 13

A
Jeremiah 28:5-9 O God, you direct our lives by your grace, and your words of
Psalm 89:1-4, 15-18 (1) justice and mercy reshape the world. Mold us into a people who
Romans 6:12-23 welcome our word and serve one another, through Jesus
Matthew 10:40-42 Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Semicontinuous reading and psalm

Genesis 22:1-14
Psalm 13 (5)

B

Lamentations 3:22-33
 or Wisdom 1:13-15; 2:23-24
 Psalm 30 (1)
 2 Corinthians 8:7-15
 Mark 5:21-43
Semicontinuous reading and psalm
 2 Samuel 1:1, 17-27
 Psalm 130 (1)

Almighty and merciful God, we implore you to hear the prayers of your people. Be our strong defense against all harm and danger, that we may live and grow in faith and hope, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

C

1 Kings 19:15-16, 19-21
 Psalm 16 (8)
 Galatians 5:1, 13-25
 Luke 9:51-62
Semicontinuous reading and psalm
 2 Kings 2:1-2, 6-14
 Psalm 77:1-2, 11-20 (15)

Sovereign God, ruler of all hearts, you call us to obey you, and you favor us with true freedom. Keep us faithful to the ways of your Son, that, leaving behind all that hinders us, we may steadfastly follow your paths, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Sunday, July 3–9

Time after Pentecost—Lectionary 14

A

Zechariah 9:9-12
 Psalm 145:8-14 (8)
 Romans 7:15-25a
 Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30
Semicontinuous reading and psalm
 Genesis 24:34-38, 42-49,
 58-67
 Psalm 45:10-17 (7)
 or Song of Solomon 2:8-13 (10)

You are great, O God, and greatly to be praised. You have made us for yourself, and our hearts are restless until they rest in you. Grant that we may believe in you, call upon you, know you, and serve you, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

B

Ezekiel 2:1-5
 Psalm 123 (2)
 2 Corinthians 12:2-10
 Mark 6:1-13
Semicontinuous reading and psalm
 2 Samuel 5:1-5, 9-10
 Psalm 48 (1)

God of the covenant, in our baptism you call us to proclaim the coming of your kingdom. Give us the courage you gave the apostles, that we may faithfully witness to your love and peace in every circumstance of life, in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

C

Isaiah 66:10-14
 Psalm 66:1-9 (4)
 Galatians 6:[1-6] 7-16
 Luke 10:1-11, 16-20
Semicontinuous reading and psalm
 2 Kings 5:1-14
 Psalm 30 (2)

O God, the Father of our Lord Jesus, you are the city that shelters us, the mother who comforts us. With your Spirit accompany us on our life's journey, that we may spread your peace in all the world, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Sunday, July 10–16

Time after Pentecost—Lectionary 15

A
Isaiah 55:10-13
Psalm 65:[1-8] 9-13 (11)
Romans 8:1-11
Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

Almighty God, we thank you for planting in us the seed of your word. By your Holy Spirit help us to receive it with joy, live according to it, and grow in faith and hope and love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Semicontinuous reading and psalm

Genesis 25:19-34
Psalm 119:105-112 (105)

B
Amos 7:7-15
Psalm 85:8-13 (8)
Ephesians 1:3-14
Mark 6:14-29

O God, from you come all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works. Give to us, your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey your commandments; and also that we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may live in peace and quietness, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Semicontinuous reading and psalm

2 Samuel 6:1-5, 12b-19
Psalm 24 (7)

C
Deuteronomy 30:9-14
Psalm 25:1-10 (4)
Colossians 1:1-14
Luke 10:25-37

O Lord God, your mercy delights us, and the world longs for your loving care. Hear the cries of everyone in need, and turn our hearts to love our neighbors with the love of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Semicontinuous reading and psalm

Amos 7:7-17
Psalm 82 (8)

Sunday, July 17–23

Time after Pentecost—Lectionary 16

A
Isaiah 44:6-8
or Wisdom 12:13, 16-19
Psalm 86:11-17 (11)
Romans 8:12-25
Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

Faithful God, most merciful judge, you care for your children with firmness and compassion. By your Spirit nurture us who live in your kingdom, that we may be rooted in the way of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Semicontinuous reading and psalm

Genesis 28:10-19a
Psalm 139:1-12, 23-24 (1)

B
Jeremiah 23:1-6
Psalm 23 (1)
Ephesians 2:11-22
Mark 6:30-34, 53-56

O God, powerful and compassionate, you shepherd your people, faithfully feeding and protecting us. Heal each of us, and make us a whole people, that we may embody the justice and peace of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Semicontinuous reading and psalm

2 Samuel 7:1-14a
Psalm 89:20-37 (1)

C

Genesis 18:1-10a Eternal God, you draw near to us in Christ, and you make
Psalm 15 (1) yourself our guest. Amid the cares of our lives, make us
Colossians 1:15-28 attentive to your presence, that we may treasure your word
Luke 10:38-42 above all else, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Semicontinuous reading and psalm Amen.
Amos 8:1-12
Psalm 52 (8)

Sunday, July 24–30

Time after Pentecost—Lectionary 17

A

1 Kings 3:5-12 Beloved and sovereign God, through the death and resurrec-
Psalm 119:129-136 (130) tion of your Son you bring us into your kingdom of justice and
Romans 8:26-39 mercy. By your Spirit, give us your wisdom, that we may
Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52 treasure the life that comes from Jesus Christ, our Savior and
Semicontinuous reading and psalm Lord. Amen.
Genesis 29:15-28
Psalm 105:1-11, 45b (1, 45)
or Psalm 128 (1)

B

2 Kings 4:42-44 Gracious God, you have placed within the hearts of all your
Psalm 145:10-18 (16) children a longing for your word and a hunger for your truth.
Ephesians 3:14-21 Grant that we may know your Son to be the true bread of
John 6:1-21 heaven and share this bread with all the world, through Jesus
Semicontinuous reading and psalm Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.
2 Samuel 11:1-15
Psalm 14 (5)

C

Genesis 18:20-32 Almighty and ever-living God, you are always more ready to
Psalm 138 (8) hear than we are to pray, and you gladly give more than we
Colossians 2:6-15 [16-19] either desire or deserve. Pour upon us your abundant mercy.
Luke 11:1-13 Forgive us those things that weigh on our conscience, and give
Semicontinuous reading and psalm us those good things that come only through your Son, Jesus
Hosea 1:2-10 Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.
Psalm 85 (13)

Sunday, July 31–August 6

Time after Pentecost—Lectionary 18

A

Isaiah 55:1-5 Glorious God, your generosity waters the world with goodness,
Psalm 145:8-9, 14-21 (16) and you cover creation with abundance. Awaken in us a hunger
Romans 9:1-5 for the food that satisfies both body and spirit, and with this
Matthew 14:13-21 food fill all the starving world, through your Son, Jesus Christ,
Semicontinuous reading and psalm our Savior and Lord. Amen.
Genesis 32:22-31
Psalm 17:1-7, 15 (15)

B

Exodus 16:2-4, 9-15 O God, eternal goodness, immeasurable love, you place your gifts before us; we eat and are satisfied. Fill us and this world in
 Psalm 78:23-29 (24, 25) all its need with the life that comes only from you, through
 Ephesians 4:1-16 Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**
 John 6:24-35

Semicontinuous reading and psalm

2 Samuel 11:26—12:13a
 Psalm 51:1-12 (1)

C

Ecclesiastes 1:2, 12-14; Benevolent God, you are the source, the guide, and the goal of
 2:18-23 our lives. Teach us to love what is worth loving, to reject what is
 Psalm 49:1-12 (3) offensive to you, and to treasure what is precious in your sight,
 Colossians 3:1-11 through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Luke 12:13-21

Semicontinuous reading and psalm

Hosea 11:1-11
 Psalm 107:1-9, 43 (8)

Sunday, August 7–13

Time after Pentecost—Lectionary 19

A

1 Kings 19:9-18 O God our defender, storms rage around and within us and
 Psalm 85:8-13 (8) cause us to be afraid. Rescue your people from despair, deliver
 Romans 10:5-15 your sons and daughters from fear, and preserve us in the faith
 Matthew 14:22-33 of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Semicontinuous reading and psalm

Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28
 Psalm 105:1-6, 16-22, 45b (1, 45)

B

1 Kings 19:4-8 Gracious God, your blessed Son came down from heaven to be
 Psalm 34:1-8 (8) the true bread that gives life to the world. Give us this bread
 Ephesians 4:25—5:2 always, that he may live in us and we in him, and that, strength-
 John 6:35, 41-51 ened by this food, we may live as his body in the world, through
 Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Semicontinuous reading and psalm

2 Samuel 18:5-9, 15, 31-33
 Psalm 130 (1)

C

Genesis 15:1-6 Almighty God, you sent your Holy Spirit to be the life and light
 Psalm 33:12-22 (22) of your church. Open our hearts to the riches of your grace, that
 Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16 we may be ready to receive you wherever you appear, through
 Luke 12:32-40 Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Semicontinuous reading and psalm

Isaiah 1:1, 10-20
 Psalm 50:1-8, 22-23 (23)

Sunday, August 14–20

Time after Pentecost—Lectionary 20

A

Isaiah 56:1, 6-8

Psalm 67 (3)

Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32

Matthew 15:[10-20] 21-28

Semicontinuous reading and psalm

Genesis 45:1-15

Psalm 133 (1)

God of all peoples, your arms reach out to embrace all those who call upon you. Teach us as disciples of your Son to love the world with compassion and constancy, that your name may be known throughout the earth, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

B

Proverbs 9:1-6

Psalm 34:9-14 (10)

Ephesians 5:15-20

John 6:51-58

Semicontinuous reading and psalm

1 Kings 2:10-12; 3:3-14

Psalm 111 (10)

Ever-loving God, your Son gives himself as living bread for the life of the world. Fill us with such a knowledge of his presence that we may be strengthened and sustained by his risen life to serve you continually, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

C

Jeremiah 23:23-29

Psalm 82 (8)

Hebrews 11:29—12:2

Luke 12:49-56

Semicontinuous reading and psalm

Isaiah 5:1-7

Psalm 80:1-2, 8-19 (14, 15)

O God, judge eternal, you love justice and hate oppression, and you call us to share your zeal for truth. Give us courage to take our stand with all victims of bloodshed and greed, and, following your servants and prophets, to look to the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Sunday, August 21–27

Time after Pentecost—Lectionary 21

A

Isaiah 51:1-6

Psalm 138 (8)

Romans 12:1-8

Matthew 16:13-20

Semicontinuous reading and psalm

Exodus 1:8—2:10

Psalm 124 (7)

O God, with all your faithful followers of every age, we praise you, the rock of our life. Be our strong foundation and form us into the body of your Son, that we may gladly minister to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

B

Joshua 24:1-2a, 14-18

Psalm 34:15-22 (15)

Ephesians 6:10-20

John 6:56-69

Semicontinuous reading and psalm

1 Kings 8:[1, 6, 10-11] 22-30,
41-43

Psalm 84 (1)

Holy God, your word feeds your people with life that is eternal. Direct our choices and preserve us in your truth, that, renouncing what is false and evil, we may live in you, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

C

Isaiah 58:9b-14

Psalm 103:1-8 (4)

Hebrews 12:18-29

Luke 13:10-17

Semicontinuous reading and psalm

Jeremiah 1:4-10

Psalm 71:1-6 (6)

O God, mighty and immortal, you know that as fragile creatures surrounded by great dangers, we cannot by ourselves stand upright. Give us strength of mind and body, so that even when we suffer because of human sin, we may rise victorious through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Sunday, August 28–September 3

Time after Pentecost—Lectionary 22

A

Jeremiah 15:15-21

Psalm 26:1-8 (3)

Romans 12:9-21

Matthew 16:21-28

Semicontinuous reading and psalm

Exodus 3:1-15

Psalm 105:1-6, 23-26, 45b (1, 45)

O God, we thank you for your Son, who chose the path of suffering for the sake of the world. Humble us by his example, point us to the path of obedience, and give us strength to follow your commands, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

B

Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9

Psalm 15 (1)

James 1:17-27

Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

Semicontinuous reading and psalm

Song of Solomon 2:8-13

Psalm 45:1-2, 6-9 (7)

O God our strength, without you we are weak and wayward creatures. Protect us from all dangers that attack us from the outside, and cleanse us from all evil that arises from within ourselves, that we may be preserved through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

C

Proverbs 25:6-7

or Sirach 10:12-18

Psalm 112 (4)

Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16

Luke 14:1, 7-14

Semicontinuous reading and psalm

Jeremiah 2:4-13

Psalm 81:1, 10-16 (16)

O God, you resist those who are proud and give grace to those who are humble. Give us the humility of your Son, that we may embody the generosity of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Sunday, September 4–10

Time after Pentecost—Lectionary 23

A

Ezekiel 33:7-11

Psalm 119:33-40 (35)

Romans 13:8-14

Matthew 18:15-20

Semicontinuous reading and psalm

Exodus 12:1-14

Psalm 149 (1)

O Lord God, enliven and preserve your church with your perpetual mercy. Without your help, we mortals will fail; remove far from us everything that is harmful, and lead us toward all that gives life and salvation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

B

Isaiah 35:4-7a

Psalm 146 (2)

James 2:1-10 [11-13] 14-17

Mark 7:24-37

Semicontinuous reading and psalm

Proverbs 22:1-2, 8-9, 22-23

Psalm 125 (1)

Gracious God, throughout the ages you transform sickness into health and death into life. Open us to the power of your presence, and make us a people ready to proclaim your promises to the whole world, through Jesus Christ, our healer and Lord. **Amen.**

C

Deuteronomy 30:15-20

Psalm 1 (3)

Philemon 1-21

Luke 14:25-33

Semicontinuous reading and psalm

Jeremiah 18:1-11

Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18 (1)

Direct us, O Lord God, in all our doings with your continual help, that in all our works, begun, continued, and ended in you, we may glorify your holy name; and finally, by your mercy, bring us to everlasting life, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Sunday, September 11–17

Time after Pentecost—Lectionary 24

A

Genesis 50:15-21

Psalm 103:[1-7] 8-13 (8)

Romans 14:1-12

Matthew 18:21-35

Semicontinuous reading and psalm

Exodus 14:19-31

Psalm 114 (7)

or Exodus 15:1b-11, 20-21 (1)

O Lord God, merciful judge, you are the inexhaustible fountain of forgiveness. Replace our hearts of stone with hearts that love and adore you, that we may delight in doing your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

B

Isaiah 50:4-9a

Psalm 116:1-9 (9)

James 3:1-12

Mark 8:27-38

Semicontinuous reading and psalm

Proverbs 1:20-33

Psalm 19 (7)

or Wisdom 7:26—8:1 (28)

O God, through suffering and rejection you bring forth our salvation, and by the glory of the cross you transform our lives. Grant that for the sake of the gospel we may turn from the lure of evil, take up our cross, and follow your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

C

Exodus 32:7-14

Psalm 51:1-10 (1)

1 Timothy 1:12-17

Luke 15:1-10

Semicontinuous reading and psalm

Jeremiah 4:11-12, 22-28

Psalm 14 (2)

O God, overflowing with mercy and compassion, you lead back to yourself all those who go astray. Preserve your people in your loving care, that we may reject whatever is contrary to you and may follow all things that sustain our life in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Sunday, September 18–24

Time after Pentecost—Lectionary 25

A

Jonah 3:10—4:11

Psalm 145:1-8 (8)

Philippians 1:21-30

Matthew 20:1-16

Semicontinuous reading and psalm

Exodus 16:2-15

Psalm 105:1-6, 37-45 (1, 45)

Almighty and eternal God, you show perpetual lovingkindness to us your servants. Because we cannot rely on our own abilities, grant us your merciful judgment, and train us to embody the generosity of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

B

Jeremiah 11:18-20

or Wisdom 1:16—2:1, 12-22

Psalm 54 (4)

James 3:13—4:3, 7-8a

Mark 9:30-37

Semicontinuous reading and psalm

Proverbs 31:10-31

Psalm 1 (3)

O God, our teacher and guide, you draw us to yourself and welcome us as beloved children. Help us to lay aside all envy and selfish ambition, that we may walk in your ways of wisdom and understanding as servants of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

C

Amos 8:4-7

Psalm 113 (7)

1 Timothy 2:1-7

Luke 16:1-13

Semicontinuous reading and psalm

Jeremiah 8:18—9:1

Psalm 79:1-9 (9)

God among us, we gather in the name of your Son to learn love for one another. Keep our feet from evil paths. Turn our minds to your wisdom and our hearts to the grace revealed in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Sunday, September 25–October 1

Time after Pentecost—Lectionary 26

A

Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32

Psalm 25:1-9 (6)

Philippians 2:1-13

Matthew 21:23-32

Semicontinuous reading and psalm

Exodus 17:1-7

Psalm 78:1-4, 12-16 (4)

God of love, giver of life, you know our frailties and failings. Give us your grace to overcome them, keep us from those things that harm us, and guide us in the way of salvation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

B

Numbers 11:4-6, 10-16, 24-29

Psalm 19:7-14 (8)

James 5:13-20

Mark 9:38-50

Semicontinuous reading and psalm

Esther 7:1-6, 9-10; 9:20-22

Psalm 124 (7)

Generous God, your Son gave his life that we might come to peace with you. Give us a share of your Spirit, and in all we do empower us to bear the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

C

Amos 6:1a, 4-7

Psalm 146 (7)

1 Timothy 6:6-19

Luke 16:19-31

Semicontinuous reading and psalm

Jeremiah 32:1-3a, 6-15

Psalm 91:1-6, 14-16 (2)

O God, rich in mercy, you look with compassion on this troubled world. Feed us with your grace, and grant us the treasure that comes only from you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Sunday, October 2–8

Time after Pentecost—Lectionary 27

A

Isaiah 5:1-7

Psalm 80:7-15 (14, 15)

Philippians 3:4b-14

Matthew 21:33-46

Semicontinuous reading and psalm

Exodus 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20

Psalm 19 (8)

Beloved God, from you come all things that are good. Lead us by the inspiration of your Spirit to know those things that are right, and by your merciful guidance, help us to do them, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

B

Genesis 2:18-24

Psalm 8 (5)

Hebrews 1:1-4; 2:5-12

Mark 10:2-16

Semicontinuous reading and psalm

Job 1:1; 2:1-10

Psalm 26 (3)

Sovereign God, you have created us to live in loving community with one another. Form us for life that is faithful and steadfast, and teach us to trust like little children, that we may reflect the image of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

C

Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4

Psalm 37:1-9 (5)

2 Timothy 1:1-14

Luke 17:5-10

Semicontinuous reading and psalm

Lamentations 1:1-6

Lamentations 3:19-26 (23)

or Psalm 137 (7)

Benevolent, merciful God: When we are empty, fill us. When we are weak in faith, strengthen us. When we are cold in love, warm us, that with fervor we may love our neighbors and serve them for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Sunday, October 9–15

Time after Pentecost—Lectionary 28

A

Isaiah 25:1-9

Psalm 23 (5)

Philippians 4:1-9

Matthew 22:1-14

Semicontinuous reading and psalm

Exodus 32:1-14

Psalm 106:1-6, 19-23 (4)

Lord of the feast, you have prepared a table before all peoples and poured out your life with abundance. Call us again to your banquet. Strengthen us by what is honorable, just, and pure, and transform us into a people of righteousness and peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

B

Amos 5:6-7, 10-15

Psalm 90:12-17 (12)

Hebrews 4:12-16

Mark 10:17-31

Semicontinuous reading and psalm

Job 23:1-9, 16-17

Psalm 22:1-15 (1)

Almighty and ever-living God, increase in us your gift of faith, that, forsaking what lies behind and reaching out to what lies ahead, we may follow the way of your commandments and receive the crown of everlasting joy, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

C

2 Kings 5:1-3, 7-15c

Psalm 111 (1)

2 Timothy 2:8-15

Luke 17:11-19

Semicontinuous reading and psalm

Jeremiah 29:1, 4-7

Psalm 66:1-12 (9)

Almighty and most merciful God, your bountiful goodness fills all creation. Keep us safe from all that may hurt us, that, whole and well in body and spirit, we may with grateful hearts accomplish all that you would have us do, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Sunday, October 16–22

Time after Pentecost—Lectionary 29

A

Isaiah 45:1-7

Psalm 96:1-9 [10-13] (7)

1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

Matthew 22:15-22

Semicontinuous reading and psalm

Exodus 33:12-23

Psalm 99 (5)

Sovereign God, raise your throne in our hearts. Created by you, let us live in your image; created for you, let us act for your glory; redeemed by you, let us give you what is yours, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

B

Isaiah 53:4-12

Psalm 91:9-16 (9)

Hebrews 5:1-10

Mark 10:35-45

Semicontinuous reading and psalm

Job 38:1-7 [34-41]

Psalm 104:1-9, 24, 35b (24)

Sovereign God, you turn your greatness into goodness for all the peoples on earth. Shape us into willing servants of your kingdom, and make us desire always and only your will, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

C

Genesis 32:22-31

Psalm 121 (2)

2 Timothy 3:14—4:5

Luke 18:1-8

Semicontinuous reading and psalm

Jeremiah 31:27-34

Psalm 119:97-104 (103)

O Lord God, tireless guardian of your people, you are always ready to hear our cries. Teach us to rely day and night on your care. Inspire us to seek your enduring justice for all this suffering world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Sunday, October 23–29

Time after Pentecost—Lectionary 30

A

Leviticus 19:1-2, 15-18

Psalms 1 (2)

1 Thessalonians 2:1-8

Matthew 22:34-46

O Lord God, you are the holy lawgiver, you are the salvation of your people. By your Spirit renew us in your covenant of love, and train us to care tenderly for all our neighbors, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Semicontinuous reading and psalm

Deuteronomy 34:1-12

Psalms 90:1-6, 13-17 (16)

B

Jeremiah 31:7-9

Psalms 126 (5)

Hebrews 7:23-28

Mark 10:46-52

Eternal light, shine in our hearts. Eternal wisdom, scatter the darkness of our ignorance. Eternal compassion, have mercy on us. Turn us to seek your face, and enable us to reflect your goodness, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Semicontinuous reading and psalm

Job 42:1-6, 10-17

Psalms 34:1-8 [19-22] (8)

C

Jeremiah 14:7-10, 19-22

or Sirach 35:12-17

Psalms 84:1-7 (5)

2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18

Luke 18:9-14

Holy God, our righteous judge, daily your mercy surprises us with everlasting forgiveness. Strengthen our hope in you, and grant that all the peoples of the earth may find their glory in you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Semicontinuous reading and psalm

Joel 2:23-32

Psalms 65 (11)

Sunday, October 30–November 5

Time after Pentecost—Lectionary 31

A

Micah 3:5-12

Psalms 43 (3)

1 Thessalonians 2:9-13

Matthew 23:1-12

O God, generous and supreme, your loving Son lived among us, instructing us in the ways of humility and justice. Continue to ease our burdens, and lead us to serve alongside of him, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Semicontinuous reading and psalm

Joshua 3:7-17

Psalms 107:1-7, 33-37 (8)

B

Deuteronomy 6:1-9

Psalms 119:1-8 (2)

Hebrews 9:11-14

Mark 12:28-34

Almighty God, you have taught us in your Son that love fulfills the law. Inspire us to love you with all our heart, our soul, our mind, and our strength, and teach us how to love our neighbor as ourselves, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Semicontinuous reading and psalm

Ruth 1:1-18

Psalms 146 (8)

C

Isaiah 1:10-18

Psalm 32:1-7 (6)

2 Thessalonians 1:1-4, 11-12

Luke 19:1-10

Semicontinuous reading and psalm

Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4

Psalm 119:137-144 (144)

Merciful God, gracious and benevolent, through your Son you invite all the world to a meal of mercy. Grant that we may eagerly follow his call, and bring us with all your saints into your life of justice and joy, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Sunday, November 6–12

Time after Pentecost—Lectionary 32

A

Amos 5:18-24

or Wisdom 6:12-16

Psalm 70 (5)

or Wisdom 6:17-20 (17)

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

Matthew 25:1-13

Semicontinuous reading and psalm

Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25

Psalm 78:1-7 (4)

O God of justice and love, you illumine our way through life with the words of your Son. Give us the light we need, and awaken us to the needs of others, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

B

1 Kings 17:8-16

Psalm 146 (8)

Hebrews 9:24-28

Mark 12:38-44

Semicontinuous reading and psalm

Ruth 3:1-5; 4:13-17

Psalm 127 (3)

O God, you show forth your almighty power chiefly by reaching out to us in mercy. Grant us the fullness of your grace, strengthen our trust in your promises, and bring all the world to share in the treasures that come through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

C

Job 19:23-27a

Psalm 17:1-9 (8)

2 Thessalonians 2:1-5, 13-17

Luke 20:27-38

Semicontinuous reading and psalm

Haggai 1:15b—2:9

Psalm 145:1-5, 17-21 (3)

or Psalm 98 (9)

O God, our eternal redeemer, by the presence of your Spirit you renew and direct our hearts. Keep always in our mind the end of all things and the day of judgment. Inspire us for a holy life here, and bring us to the joy of the resurrection, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Sunday, November 13–19

Time after Pentecost—Lectionary 33

A

Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18

Psalm 90:1-8 [9-11] 12 (12)

1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

Matthew 25:14-30

Semicontinuous reading and psalm

Judges 4:1-7

Psalm 123 (2)

Righteous God, our merciful master, you own the earth and all its peoples, and you give us all that we have. Inspire us to serve you with justice and wisdom, and prepare us for the joy of the day of your coming, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

B
Daniel 12:1-3
Psalm 16 (9)
Hebrews 10:11-14 [15-18]
19-25
Mark 13:1-8

Semicontinuous reading and psalm

1 Samuel 1:4-20
1 Samuel 2:1-10 (1)

C
Malachi 4:1-2a
Psalm 98 (9)
2 Thessalonians 3:6-13
Luke 21:5-19

Semicontinuous reading and psalm

Isaiah 65:17-25
Isaiah 12:2-6 (6)

Almighty God, your sovereign purpose brings salvation to birth. Give us faith to be steadfast amid the tumults of this world, trusting that your kingdom comes and your will is done through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

O God, the protector of all who trust in you, without you nothing is strong, nothing is holy. Embrace us with your mercy, that with you as our ruler and guide, we may live through what is temporary without losing what is eternal, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Christ the King *Sunday, November 20–26*

Last Sunday after Pentecost—Lectionary 34

A
Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24
Psalm 95:1-7a (7)
Ephesians 1:15-23
Matthew 25:31-46

Semicontinuous reading and psalm

Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24
Psalm 100 (3)

O God of power and might, your Son shows us the way of service, and in him we inherit the riches of your grace. Give us the wisdom to know what is right and the strength to serve the world you have made, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

B
Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14
Psalm 93 (2)
Revelation 1:4b-8
John 18:33-37

Semicontinuous reading and psalm

2 Samuel 23:1-7
Psalm 132:1-12 [13-18] (9)

Almighty and ever-living God, you anointed your beloved Son to be priest and sovereign forever. Grant that all the people of the earth, now divided by the power of sin, may be united by the glorious and gentle rule of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

C
Jeremiah 23:1-6
Psalm 46 (10)
Colossians 1:11-20
Luke 23:33-43

Semicontinuous reading and psalm

Jeremiah 23:1-6
Luke 1:68-79 (69)

O God, our true life, to serve you is freedom, and to know you is unending joy. We worship you, we glorify you, we give thanks to you for your great glory. Abide with us, reign in us, and make this world into a fit habitation for your divine majesty, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Lesser Festivals, Commemorations, and Occasions

Lesser Festivals

Andrew, Apostle November 30

Ezekiel 3:16-21

Psalms 19:1-6 (4)

Romans 10:10-18

John 1:35-42

Almighty God, you gave your apostle Andrew the grace to obey the call of your Son and to bring his brother to Jesus. Give us also, who are called by your holy word, grace to follow Jesus without delay and to bring into his presence those who are near to us, for he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Stephen, Deacon and Martyr December 26

2 Chronicles 24:17-22

Psalms 17:1-9, 15 (6)

Acts 6:8—7:2a, 51-60

Matthew 23:34-39

We give you thanks, O Lord of glory, for the example of Stephen the first martyr, who looked to heaven and prayed for his persecutors. Grant that we also may pray for our enemies and seek forgiveness for those who hurt us, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

John, Apostle and Evangelist December 27

Genesis 1:1-5, 26-31

Psalms 116:12-19 (15)

1 John 1:1—2:2

John 21:20-25

Merciful God, through John the apostle and evangelist you have revealed the mysteries of your Word made flesh. Let the brightness of your light shine on your church, so that all your people, instructed in the holy gospel, may walk in the light of your truth and attain eternal life, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

The Holy Innocents, Martyrs December 28

Jeremiah 31:15-17

Psalms 124 (7)

1 Peter 4:12-19

Matthew 2:13-18

We remember today, O God, the slaughter of the innocent children of Bethlehem by order of King Herod. Receive into the arms of your mercy all innocent victims. By your great might frustrate the designs of evil tyrants and establish your rule of justice, love, and peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Name of Jesus January 1

Numbers 6:22-27

Psalms 8 (1)

Galatians 4:4-7

or Philippians 2:5-11

Luke 2:15-21

Eternal Father, you gave your incarnate Son the holy name of Jesus to be a sign of our salvation. Plant in every heart the love of the Savior of the world, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Confession of Peter January 18

Acts 4:8-13

Psalms 18:1-6, 16-19 (2,3)

1 Corinthians 10:1-5

Matthew 16:13-19

Almighty God, you inspired Simon Peter to confess Jesus as the Messiah and Son of the living God. Keep your church firm on the rock of this faith, so that in unity and peace it may proclaim one truth and follow one Lord, your Son, Jesus Christ our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Conversion of Paul January 25

Acts 9:1-22

Psalms 67 (3)

Galatians 1:11-24

Luke 21:10-19

O God, by the preaching of your apostle Paul you have caused the light of the gospel to shine throughout the world. Grant that we may follow his example and be witnesses to the truth of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Presentation of Our Lord February 2

Malachi 3:1-4

Psalms 84 (1)

or Psalms 24:7-10 (7)

Hebrews 2:14-18

Luke 2:22-40

Almighty and ever-living God, your only-begotten Son was presented this day in the temple. May we be presented to you with clean and pure hearts by the same Jesus Christ, our great high priest, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Joseph, Guardian of Jesus March 19

2 Samuel 7:4, 8-16

Psalms 89:1-29 (2)

Romans 4:13-18

Matthew 1:16, 18-21, 24a

O God, from the family of your servant David you raised up Joseph to be the guardian of your incarnate Son and the husband of his blessed mother. Give us grace to imitate his uprightness of life and his obedience to your commands, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Annunciation of Our Lord March 25

Isaiah 7:10-14

Psalms 45 (17)

or Psalms 40:5-10 (8)

Hebrews 10:4-10

Luke 1:26-38

Pour your grace into our hearts, O God, that we who have known the incarnation of your Son, Jesus Christ, announced by an angel, may by his cross and passion be brought to the glory of his resurrection; for he lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Mark, Evangelist April 25

Isaiah 52:7-10

Psalms 57 (9)

2 Timothy 4:6-11, 18

Mark 1:1-15

Almighty God, you have enriched your church with Mark's proclamation of the gospel. Give us grace to believe firmly in the good news of salvation and to walk daily in accord with it, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Philip and James, Apostles May 1

Isaiah 30:18-21

Psalms 44:1-3, 20-26 (26)

2 Corinthians 4:1-6

John 14:8-14

Almighty God, you gave to your apostles Philip and James grace and strength to bear witness to your Son. Grant that we, remembering their victory of faith, may glorify in life and death the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Matthias, Apostle May 14

Isaiah 66:1-2

Psalm 56 (12)

Acts 1:15-26

Luke 6:12-16

Almighty God, you chose your faithful servant Matthias to be numbered among the twelve. Grant that your church may always be taught and guided by faithful and true pastors, through Jesus Christ our shepherd, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Visit of Mary to Elizabeth May 31

1 Samuel 2:1-10

Psalm 113 (2)

Romans 12:9-16b

Luke 1:39-57

Mighty God, by whose grace Elizabeth rejoiced with Mary and greeted her as the mother of the Lord: look with favor on your lowly servants that, with Mary, we may magnify your holy name and rejoice to acclaim her Son as our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Barnabas, Apostle June 11

Isaiah 42:5-12

Psalm 112 (1)

Acts 11:19-30; 13:1-3

Matthew 10:7-16

We praise you, O God, for the life of your faithful servant Barnabas, who, seeking not his own renown but the well-being of your church, gave generously of his life and possessions for the relief of the poor and the spread of the gospel. Grant that we may follow his example and by our actions give glory to you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

John the Baptist June 24

Malachi 3:1-4

Psalm 141 (8)

Acts 13:13-26

Luke 1:57-67 [68-80]

Almighty God, by your gracious providence your servant John the Baptist was born to Elizabeth and Zechariah. Grant to your people the wisdom to see your purpose and the openness to hear your will, that the light of Christ may increase in us, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Peter and Paul, Apostles June 29

Acts 12:1-11

Psalm 87:1-3, 5-7 (3)

2 Timothy 4:6-8, 17-18

John 21:15-19

Almighty God, we praise you that your blessed apostles Peter and Paul glorified you by their martyrdoms. Grant that your church throughout the world may always be instructed by their teaching and example, be knit together in unity by your Spirit, and ever stand firm upon the one foundation who is Jesus Christ our Lord, for he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Thomas, Apostle July 3

Judges 6:36-40

Psalm 136:1-4, 23-26 (1)

Ephesians 4:11-16

John 14:1-7

Ever-living God, you strengthened your apostle Thomas with firm and certain faith in the resurrection of your Son. Grant that we too may confess our faith in Jesus Christ, our Lord and our God, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Mary Magdalene, Apostle July 22

Ruth 1:6-18

or Exodus 2:1-10

Psalms 73:23-28 (28)

Acts 13:26-33a

John 20:1-2, 11-18

Almighty God, your Son first entrusted the apostle Mary Magdalene with the joyful news of his resurrection. Following the example of her witness, may we proclaim Christ as our living Lord and one day see him in glory, for he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

James, Apostle July 25

1 Kings 19:9-18

Psalms 7:1-10 (10)

Acts 11:27—12:3a

Mark 10:35-45

Gracious God, we remember before you today your servant and apostle James, the first among the twelve to be martyred for the name of Jesus Christ. Pour out on the leaders of your church that spirit of self-denying service which is the true mark of authority among your people, through Jesus Christ our servant, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Mary, Mother of Our Lord August 15

Isaiah 61:7-11

Psalms 34:1-9 (3)

Galatians 4:4-7

Luke 1:46-55

Almighty God, in choosing the virgin Mary to be the mother of your Son, you made known your gracious regard for the poor, the lowly, and the despised. Grant us grace to receive your word in humility, and so to be made one with your Son, Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Bartholomew, Apostle August 24

Exodus 19:1-6

Psalms 12 (6)

1 Corinthians 12:27-31a

John 1:43-51

Almighty and everlasting God, you gave to your apostle Bartholomew grace truly to believe and courageously to preach your word. Grant that your church may proclaim the good news to the ends of the earth, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Holy Cross Day September 14

Numbers 21:4b-9

Psalms 98:1-4 (1)

or Psalms 78:1-2, 34-38 (35)

1 Corinthians 1:18-24

John 3:13-17

Almighty God, your Son Jesus Christ was lifted high upon the cross so that he might draw the whole world to himself. To those who look upon the cross, grant your wisdom, healing, and eternal life, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Matthew, Apostle and Evangelist September 21

Ezekiel 2:8—3:11

Psalms 119:33-40 (33)

Ephesians 2:4-10

Matthew 9:9-13

Almighty God, your Son our Savior called a despised tax collector to become one of his apostles. Help us, like Matthew, to respond to the transforming call of Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Michael and All Angels September 29

Daniel 10:10-14; 12:1-3

Psalm 103:1-5, 20-22 (20, 21)

Revelation 12:7-12

Luke 10:17-20

Everlasting God, you have wonderfully established the ministries of angels and mortals. Mercifully grant that as Michael and the angels contend against the cosmic forces of evil, so by your direction they may help and defend us here on earth, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God whom we worship and praise with angels and archangels and all the company of heaven, now and forever. **Amen.**

Luke, Evangelist October 18

Isaiah 43:8-13

or Isaiah 35:5-8

Psalm 124 (8)

2 Timothy 4:5-11

Luke 1:1-4; 24:44-53

Almighty God, you inspired your servant Luke to reveal in his gospel the love and healing power of your Son. Give your church the same love and power to heal, and to proclaim your salvation among the nations to the glory of your name, through Jesus Christ, your Son, our healer, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Simon and Jude, Apostles October 28

Jeremiah 26:[1-6] 7-16

Psalm 11 (1)

1 John 4:1-6

John 14:21-27

O God, we thank you for the glorious company of the apostles, and especially on this day for Simon and Jude. We pray that, as they were faithful and zealous in your mission, so we may with ardent devotion make known the love and mercy of our Savior Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Reformation Day October 31

Jeremiah 31:31-34

Psalm 46 (7)

Romans 3:19-28

John 8:31-36

Almighty God, gracious Lord, we thank you that your Holy Spirit renews the church in every age. Pour out your Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep them steadfast in your word, protect and comfort them in times of trial, defend them against all enemies of the gospel, and bestow on the church your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

OR

Gracious Father, we pray for your holy catholic church. Fill it with all truth and peace. Where it is corrupt, purify it; where it is in error, direct it; where in anything it is amiss, reform it; where it is right, strengthen it; where it is in need, provide for it; where it is divided, reunite it; for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

All Saints Day November 1

A

Revelation 7:9-17

Psalms 34:1-10, 22 (9)

1 John 3:1-3

Matthew 5:1-12

B

Isaiah 25:6-9

or Wisdom 3:1-9

Psalms 24 (5)

Revelation 21:1-6a

John 11:32-44

C

Daniel 7:1-3, 15-18

Psalms 149 (1)

Ephesians 1:11-23

Luke 6:20-31

A, B, C

Almighty God, you have knit your people together in one communion in the mystical body of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Grant us grace to follow your blessed saints in lives of faith and commitment, and to know the inexpressible joys you have prepared for those who love you, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Commemorations

Saints

Micah 6:6-8

Psalms 9:1-10 (10)

1 Corinthians 1:26-31

Luke 6:20-23

Lord God, you have surrounded us with so great a cloud of witnesses. Grant that we [*encouraged by the example of your servant/s* name/s] may persevere in the course that is set before us and, at the last, share in your eternal joy with all the saints in light, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Martyrs

Ezekiel 20:40-42

Psalms 5 (11)

Revelation 6:9-11

Mark 8:34-38

Gracious God, in every age you have sent men and women who have given their lives in witness to your love and truth. Inspire us with the memory of name, whose faithfulness led to the way of the cross, and give us courage to bear full witness with our lives to your Son's victory over sin and death, for he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Missionaries

Isaiah 62:1-7

Psalms 48 (10)

Romans 10:11-17

Luke 24:44-53

God of grace and glory, we praise you for your servant/s name/s, who made the good news known [*in* place of missionary work]. Raise up, we pray, in every country, heralds of the gospel, so that the world may know the immeasurable riches of your love, and be drawn to worship you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Renewers of the Church

Jeremiah 1:4-10

Psalms 46 (7)

1 Corinthians 3:11-23

Mark 10:35-45

Almighty God, we praise you for your servant/s name/s, through whom you have called the church to its tasks and renewed its life. Raise up in our own day teachers and prophets inspired by your Spirit, whose voices will give strength to your church and proclaim the reality of your reign, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Renewers of Society

Hosea 2:18-23

Psalms 94:1-15 (14)

Romans 12:9-21

Luke 6:20-36

O God, your Son came among us to serve and not to be served, and to give his life for the life of the world. Lead us by his love to serve all those to whom the world offers no comfort and little help. Through us give hope to the hopeless, love to the unloved, peace to the troubled, and rest to the weary, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

OR

Holy and righteous God, you created us in your image. Grant us grace to contend fearlessly against evil and to make no peace with oppression. Help us, like your servant name, to work for justice among people and nations, to the glory of your name, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Pastors and Bishops

Ezekiel 34:11-16

or Acts 20:17-35

Psalms 84 (2)

1 Peter 5:1-4

or Ephesians 3:14-21

John 21:15-17

or Matthew 24:42-47

Heavenly Father, shepherd of your people, we thank you for your servant name, who was faithful in the care and nurture of your flock. We pray that, following *her/his* example and the teaching of *her/his* holy life, we may by your grace attain our full maturity in Christ, through the same Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

OR

Almighty God, you have raised up faithful bishops of your church, including your servant name. May the memory of *her/his* life be a source of joy for us and a bulwark of our faith, so that we may serve and confess your name before the world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Theologians and Teachers

Proverbs 3:1-7

or Wisdom 7:7-14

Psalms 119:89-104 (103)

1 Corinthians 2:6-10, 13-16

or 1 Corinthians 3:5-11

John 17:18-23

or Matthew 13:47-52

Almighty God, your Holy Spirit gives to one the word of knowledge, and to another the insight of wisdom, and to another the steadfastness of faith. We praise you for the gifts of grace imparted to your servant name, and we pray that by *her/his* teaching we may be led to a fuller knowledge of the truth we have seen in your Son Jesus, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Artists and Scientists

Isaiah 28:5-6

or Hosea 14:5-8

or 2 Chronicles 20:20-21

Psalms 96 (9)

Philippians 4:8-9

or Ephesians 5:18b-20

Matthew 13:44-52

Almighty God, beautiful in majesty, majestic in holiness: You have shown us the splendor of creation in the work of your servant/s name/s. Teach us to drive from the world all chaos and disorder, that our eyes may behold your glory, and that at last everyone may know the inexhaustible richness of your new creation in Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Occasions

Day of Thanksgiving

A

Deuteronomy 8:7-18

Psalms 65 (11)

2 Corinthians 9:6-15

Luke 17:11-19

A, B, C

Almighty God our Father, your generous goodness comes to us new every day. By the work of your Spirit lead us to acknowledge your goodness, give thanks for your benefits, and serve you in willing obedience, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

B

Joel 2:21-27

Psalms 126 (3)

1 Timothy 2:1-7

Matthew 6:25-33

C

Deuteronomy 26:1-11

Psalms 100 (4)

Philippians 4:4-9

John 6:25-35

Christian Unity

Isaiah 2:2-4

Psalms 133 (1)

Ephesians 4:1-6

John 17:15-23

God our Father, your Son Jesus prayed that his followers might be one. Make all Christians one with him as he is one with you, so that in peace and concord we may carry to the world the message of your love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Dedication or Anniversary of a Church

1 Kings 8:22-30

Psalms 84 (1)

1 Peter 2:1-9

John 10:22-30

Most High God, whom the heavens cannot contain, we give you thanks for the gifts of those who have built this house of prayer to your glory; we praise you for the fellowship of those who by their use *will make it / have made it* holy; and we pray that all who seek you here may find you and be filled with joy and peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

OR

O God, you have promised through your Son to be with your church forever. We give you thanks for those who founded this community of believers and for the signs of your presence in our congregation. Increase in us the spirit of faith and love, and make our fellowship an example to all believers and to all nations. We pray through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Harvest

Deuteronomy 26:1-11

Psalms 65 (11)

2 Corinthians 9:6-15

Matthew 13:24-30 [36-43]

O Lord, maker of all things, you open your hand and satisfy the desire of every living creature. We praise you for crowning the fields with your blessings and enabling us once more to gather in the fruits of the earth. Teach us to use your gifts carefully, that our land may continue to yield its increase, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Day of Penitence

Nehemiah 1:4-11a

Psalms 6 (2)

1 John 1:5—2:2

Luke 15:11-32

Lord God, accept our humble confession of the wrongs we have done, the injustice to which we have been party, and the countless denials of your mercy we have expressed. Turn us toward the love offered in your Son, and cleanse us by your grace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

OR

Almighty God, in penitence we come before you, acknowledging the sin that is within us. We share the guilt of all those who, bearing the name Christian, slay their fellow human beings because of race or faith or nation. Forgive us and change us by your love, that your word of hope may be heard clearly throughout the world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Day of Mourning

Jonah 3:10—4:5, 11

Psalms 140 (7)

Ephesians 2:1-7 [8-10]

Luke 10:25-37

O God, strength of those who believe in you, give comfort and clarity of vision to us in this time of need. Open our ears to hear your voice and obey your will; open our hearts that true justice and wisdom may abound; and open our hands that violent resolution of conflict may cease, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

OR

Merciful God, you teach us in your holy word that you do not willingly afflict or grieve your children. Look with pity on us in our time of sorrow. Remember us in mercy. Strengthen us in patience, comfort us with the memory of your goodness, let your presence shine on us, and give us peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

National Holiday

Jeremiah 29:4-14
Psalm 20 (6)
Romans 13:1-10
Mark 12:13-17

Lord of all the worlds, guide this nation by your Spirit to go forward in justice and freedom. Give to all our people the blessings of well-being and harmony, but above all things give us faith in you, that our nation may bring glory to your name and blessings to all peoples, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Peace

Micah 4:1-5
Psalm 85 (10)
Ephesians 2:13-18
John 15:9-12

Almighty God, all thoughts of truth and peace come from you. Kindle in the hearts of all your children the love of peace, and guide with your wisdom the leaders of the nations, so that your kingdom will go forth in peace and the earth will be filled with the knowledge of your love, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Stewardship of Creation

Job 38:1-11, 16-18
Psalm 104:1, 13-23 (24)
or Psalm 104:24-35 (24)
1 Timothy 6:6-10, 17-19
Luke 12:13-21

Almighty God, Lord of heaven and earth, we humbly pray that your gracious providence may give and preserve to our use the fruitfulness of the land and the seas, and may prosper all who labor therein; that we, who are constantly receiving good things from your hand, may always give you thanks, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

OR

Merciful Creator, your hand is open wide to satisfy the needs of every living creature. Make us always thankful for your loving providence; and grant that we, remembering the account that we must one day give, may be faithful stewards of your good gifts, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

New Year's Eve

Ecclesiastes 3:1-13
Psalm 8 (1)
Revelation 21:1-6a
Matthew 25:31-46

Eternal God, you have placed us in a world of space and time, and through the events of our lives you bless us with your love. Grant that in the new year we may know your presence, see your love at work, and live in the light of the event that gives us joy forever—the coming of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**



Prayers for Worship

Offering Prayer

Advent

God of abundance, we bring before you the precious fruits of your creation, and with them our very lives. Teach us patience and hope as we care for all those in need until the coming of your Son, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Christmas

Good and loving God, we rejoice in the birth of Jesus, who came among the poor to bring the riches of your grace. As you have blessed us with your gifts, let them be blessing for others. With the trees of the field, with all earth and heaven, we shout for joy at the coming of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Lent

God our provider, you have not fed us with bread alone, but with words of grace and life. Bless us and these your gifts, which we receive from your bounty, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Easter

Blessed are you, O God, ruler of heaven and earth. Day by day you shower us with blessings. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise you and to respond to those in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

General

God of mercy and grace, the eyes of all wait upon you, and you open your hand in blessing. Fill us with good things at your table, that we may come to the help of all in need, through Jesus Christ, our redeemer and Lord. **Amen.**

General

Merciful God, as grains of wheat scattered upon the hills were gathered together to become one bread, so let your church be gathered together from the ends of the earth into your kingdom, for yours is the glory through Jesus Christ, now and forever. **Amen.**

Prayer after Communion

Advent

God for whom we wait, in this meal you give us a foretaste of that day when the hungry will be fed with good things. Send us forth to make known your deeds and to proclaim the greatness of your name, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Christmas

Radiant God, with our eyes we have seen your salvation, and in this meal we have feasted on your grace. May your Word take flesh in us, that we may be your holy people, revealing your glory made known to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Lent

Compassionate God, you have fed us with the bread of heaven. Sustain us in our Lenten pilgrimage: may our fasting be hunger for justice; our alms, a making of peace; and our prayer, the song of grateful hearts, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Easter

Life-giving God, in the mystery of Christ's resurrection you send light to conquer darkness, water to give new life, and the bread of life to nourish your people. Send us forth as witnesses to your Son's resurrection, that we may show your glory to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord. **Amen.**

General

Gracious God, in this meal you have drawn us to your heart, and nourished us at your table with food and drink, the body and blood of Christ. Now send us forth to be your people in the world, and to proclaim your truth this day and evermore, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

General

O God, our life, our strength, our food, we give you thanks for sustaining us with the body and blood of your Son. By your Holy Spirit, enliven us to be his body in the world, that more and more we will give you praise and serve your earth and its many peoples, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Thanksgiving at the Table

Forms I–IV are in Settings One and Two of Holy Communion.

V

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory.

In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who reached out to heal the sick and suffering, who preached good news to the poor, and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension, we await his coming in glory.

Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food, the body and blood of Jesus Christ our Lord; to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all glory and honor, now and forever.

Amen.

VI

Holy God, mighty Lord, gracious Father: Endless is your mercy and eternal your reign. You have filled all creation with light and life; heaven and earth are full of your glory.

We praise you for the grace shown to your people in every age: the promise to Israel, the rescue from Egypt, the gift of the promised land, the words of the prophets; and, at this end of all the ages, the gift of your Son, who proclaimed the good news in word and deed and was obedient to your will, even to giving his life.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Therefore, O God, with this bread and cup we remember the life our Lord offered for us. And, believing the witness of his resurrection, we await his coming in power to share with us the great and promised feast.

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Send now, we pray, your Holy Spirit, that we who share in Christ's body and blood may live to the praise of your glory and receive our inheritance with all your saints in light.

Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.

Join our prayers with those of your servants of every time and every place, and unite them with the ceaseless petitions of our great high priest until he comes as victorious Lord of all. Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours, almighty Father, now and forever.

Amen.

VII

Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal: you we praise and glorify, you we worship and adore. You formed the earth from chaos; you encircled the globe with air; you created fire for warmth and light; you nourish the lands with water. You molded us in your image, and with mercy higher than the mountains, with grace deeper than the seas, you blessed the Israelites and cherished them as your own. That also we, estranged and dying, might be adopted to live in your Spirit, you called to us through the life and death of Jesus.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Together as the body of Christ, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.
Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

With this bread and cup we remember your Son, the first-born of your new creation. We remember his life lived for others, and his death and resurrection, which renews the face of the earth. We await his coming, when, with the world made perfect through your wisdom, all our sins and sorrows will be no more.

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Holy God, holy and merciful, holy and compassionate, send upon us and this meal your Holy Spirit, whose breath revives us for life, whose fire rouses us to love. Enfold in your arms all who share this holy food. Nurture in us the fruits of the Spirit, that we may be a living tree, sharing your bounty with all the world.

Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.

Holy and benevolent God, receive our praise and petitions, as Jesus received the cry of the needy, and fill us with your blessing, until, needy no longer and bound to you in love, we feast forever in the triumph of the Lamb: through whom all glory and honor is yours, O God, O Living One, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy church, now and forever.

Amen.

VIII

God of our weary years, God of our silent tears, you have brought us this far along the way. In times of bitterness you did not abandon us, but guided us into the path of love and light. In every age you sent prophets to make known your loving will for all humanity. The cry of the poor has become your own cry; our hunger and thirst for justice is your own desire. In the fullness of time, you sent your chosen servant to preach good news to the afflicted, to break bread with the outcast and despised, and to ransom those in bondage to prejudice and sin.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Remembering, therefore, his death and resurrection, we await the day when Jesus shall return to free all the earth from the bonds of slavery and death. Come, Lord Jesus! And let the church say, Amen.

Amen.

Send your Holy Spirit, our advocate, to fill the hearts of all who share this bread and cup with courage and wisdom to pursue love and justice in all the world. Come, Spirit of freedom! And let the church say, Amen.

Amen.

Join our prayers and praise with your prophets and martyrs of every age, that, rejoicing in the hope of the resurrection, we might live in the freedom and hope of your Son. Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours, almighty Father, now and forever.

Amen.

IX

Holy God, you alone are holy, you alone are God. The universe declares your praise: beyond the stars; beneath the sea; within each cell; with every breath.

We praise you, O God.

Generations bless your faithfulness: through the water; by night and day; across the wilderness; out of exile; into the future.

We bless you, O God.

We give you thanks for your dear Son: at the heart of human life; near to those who suffer; beside the sinner; among the poor; with us now.

We thank you, O God.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering his love for us on the way, at the table, and to the end, we proclaim the mystery of faith.

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

We pray for the gift of your Spirit: in our gathering; within this meal; among your people; throughout the world.

Blessing, praise, and thanks to you, holy God, through Christ Jesus, by your Spirit, in your church, without end.

Amen.

X

O God most mighty, O God most merciful, O God our rock and our salvation, hear us as we praise, call us to your table, grant us your life.

When the world was a formless void, you formed order and beauty. When Abraham and Sarah were barren, you sent them a child. When the Israelites were enslaved, you led them to freedom. Ruth faced starvation, David fought Goliath, and the psalmists cried out for healing, and full of compassion, you granted the people your life.

You entered our sorrows in Jesus our brother. He was born among the poor, he lived under oppression, he wept over the city. With infinite love, he granted the people your life.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering his death, we cry out Amen. [**Amen.**]

Celebrating his resurrection, we shout Amen. [**Amen.**]

Trusting his presence in every time and place, we plead Amen. [**Amen.**]

O God, you are Breath: send your Spirit on this meal. O God, you are Bread: feed us with yourself. O God, you are Wine: warm our hearts and make us one. O God, you are Fire: transform us with hope.

O God most majestic, O God most motherly, O God our strength and our song, you show us a vision of a tree of life with fruits for all and leaves that heal the nations. Grant us such life, the life of the Father to the Son, the life of the Spirit of our risen Savior, life in you, now and forever.

Amen.

XI

We give you thanks, Father, through Jesus Christ, your beloved Son, whom you sent in this end of the ages to save and redeem us and to proclaim to us your will.

He is your Word, inseparable from you, through whom you created all things, and in whom you take delight. He is your Word, sent from heaven to a virgin's womb. He there took on our nature and our lot and was shown forth as your Son, born of the Holy Spirit and of the virgin Mary. He, our Lord Jesus, fulfilled all your will and won for you a holy people; he stretched out his hands in suffering in order to free from suffering those who trust you.

He is the one who, handed over to a death he freely accepted, in order to destroy death, to break the bonds of the evil one, to crush hell underfoot, to give light to the righteous, to establish his covenant, and to show forth the resurrection, taking bread and giving thanks to you, said: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

In the same way he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, then, his death and resurrection, we take this bread and cup, giving you thanks that you have made us worthy to stand before you and to serve you as your priestly people.

Send your Spirit upon these gifts of your church; gather into one all who share this bread and wine; fill us with your Holy Spirit to establish our faith in truth, that we may praise and glorify you through your Son Jesus Christ; through whom all glory and honor are yours, almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy church, both now and forever.

Amen.

Thanksgiving at the Font

Thanksgiving I is in the order of Holy Baptism.

II

Blessed are you, O God, maker and ruler of all things. Your voice thundered over the waters at creation. You water the mountains and send springs into the valleys to refresh and satisfy all living things.

Through the waters of the flood you carried those in the ark to safety. Through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery to freedom. In the wilderness you nourished them with water from the rock, and you brought them across the river Jordan to the promised land.

By the baptism of his death and resurrection, your Son Jesus has carried us to safety and freedom. The floods shall not overwhelm us, and the deep shall not swallow us up, for Christ has brought us over to the land of promise. He sends us to make disciples, baptizing in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Pour out your Holy Spirit; wash away sin in this cleansing water; clothe the baptized with Christ; and claim your daughters and sons, no longer slave and free, no longer male and female, but one with all the baptized in Christ Jesus, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

III

Blessed are you, holy God. You are the creator of the waters of the earth. You are the fire of rebirth. You poured out your Spirit on your people Israel. You breathe life into our dry bones. Your Son Jesus promised to send the Spirit to us that the world may know your peace and truth.

Pour out your Holy Spirit, and breathe new life into those who are here baptized. By your Spirit adopt us all as your children, through our Savior Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

IV

Holy God, mighty Lord, gracious Father: We give you thanks, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and you created heaven and earth. By the gift of water you nourish and sustain us and all living things.

Blessed be God now and forever.

By the waters of the flood you condemned the wicked and saved those whom you had chosen, Noah and his family. You led Israel by the pillar of cloud and fire through the sea, out of slavery into the freedom of the promised land.

Blessed be God now and forever.

In the waters of the Jordan your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Spirit. By the baptism of his own death and resurrection your beloved Son has set us free from the bondage to sin and death, and has opened the way to the joy and freedom of everlasting life. He made water a sign of the kingdom and of cleansing and rebirth. In obedience to his command, we make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Blessed be God now and forever.

Pour out your Holy Spirit, so that those who are here baptized may be given new life. Wash away the sin of all those who are cleansed by this water and bring them forth as inheritors of your glorious kingdom.

To you be given praise and honor and worship through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

Amen.

V

Holy God, holy and merciful, holy and mighty, you are the river of life, you are the everlasting wellspring, you are the fire of rebirth.

Glory to you for oceans and lakes, for rivers and streams. Honor to you for cloud and rain, for dew and snow. Your waters are below us, around us, above us: our life is born in you. You are the fountain of resurrection.

Praise to you for your saving waters: Noah and the animals survive the flood, Hagar discovers your well. The Israelites escape through the sea, and they drink from your gushing rock. Naaman washes his leprosy away, and the Samaritan woman will never be thirsty again.

At this font, holy God, we pray: Praise to you for the water of baptism and for your Word that saves us in this water. Breathe your Spirit into all who are gathered here and into all creation. Illumine our days. Enliven our bones. Dry our tears. Wash away the sin within us, and drown the evil around us.

Satisfy all our thirst with your living water, Jesus Christ, our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.



Additional Prayers

Worship

Before worship

God of grace, you have given us minds to know you, hearts to love you, and voices to sing your praise. Fill us with your Spirit, that we may celebrate your glory and worship you in spirit and truth, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Grace to receive the word

Blessed Lord God, you have caused the holy scriptures to be written for the nourishment of your people. Grant that we may hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that, comforted by your promises, we may embrace and forever hold fast to the hope of eternal life, which you have given us in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Before holy communion

Merciful God, we do not presume to come to your table trusting in our own righteousness, but in your abundant mercy. Grant us, therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat and drink the body and blood of your dear Son, Jesus Christ, that we may live in him and he in us, now and forever. Amen.

After holy communion

Almighty God, you provide the true bread from heaven, your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Grant that we who have received the sacrament of his body and blood may abide in him and he in us, that we may be filled with the power of his endless life, now and forever. Amen.

Sending of communion to the sick and homebound

Gracious God, loving all your family with a mother's tender care: As you sent the angel to feed Elijah with heavenly bread, assist us in this ministry on which we set forth. In your love and care, nourish and strengthen those to whom we bring this sacrament, that through the body and blood of your Son we all may know the comfort of your abiding presence. Amen.

After worship

Almighty God, grant that your holy word which has been proclaimed this day may enter into our hearts through your grace, that it may produce in us the fruit of the Spirit for witness and service in the world and to the praise and honor of your name, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

After worship

Grant, O Lord Jesus, that the ears which have heard the voice of your songs may be closed to the voice of dispute; that the eyes which have seen your great love may also behold your blessed hope; that the tongues which have sung your praise may speak the truth in love; that the feet which have walked in your courts may walk in the region of light; and that the bodies which have received your living body may be restored in newness of life. Glory to you for your inexpressible gift; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

The Church

The church

Gracious Father, we pray for your holy catholic church. Fill it with all truth and peace. Where it is corrupt, purify it; where it is in error, direct it; where in anything it is amiss, reform it; where it is right, strengthen it; where it is in need, provide for it; where it is divided, reunite it; for the sake of Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord. Amen.

Church unity

Most high and holy God, pour out upon us your one and unifying Spirit, and awaken in every confession of the whole church a holy hunger and thirst for unity in you; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

The saints

We thank you, O God, for all your servants and witnesses of times past: for Abraham and Sarah, Moses and Miriam, Deborah and Gideon, Samuel and Hannah; for Isaiah and the prophets; for Mary, mother of our Lord; for Mary Magdalene, Peter, Paul, and for all the apostles, for Stephen and Phoebe, and for all the martyrs and saints in every time and in every land. In your mercy, give us, as you gave them, the hope of salvation and the promise of eternal life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Pastors and bishops

Ever-living God, strengthen and sustain pastors and bishops [*especially* name/s], that with patience and understanding they may love and care for your people. Grant that together they may follow in the way of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Associates in ministry

God of unity and peace, you give each of us grace through the gift of Christ. We give you thanks for associates in ministry [*especially* name/s], through whom your people are equipped for the work of ministry and for building up the body of Christ. With your Holy Spirit empower your servants in their calling, so that together we come to the unity of the faith and to the measure of the full stature of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Diaconal ministry

God of compassion, your Son came among us not to be served but to serve. We give you thanks for the women and men whom you have called to the diaconal ministry of word and service [*especially* name/s]. Give them faith to serve you with gladness; sustain them with a living hope, especially in the time of despair; and kindle in them your love, so that they see in every neighbor the face of Jesus Christ our Lord, in whose name we pray. Amen.

Lay professional leaders

Gracious God, as you have called workers to varied tasks in the world and in your church, so you have called these servants to this ministry of service. Grant them joy and a spirit of bold trust, that their work may stir up each of us to a life of fruitful service; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Church musicians

O God of majesty, whom saints and angels delight to worship: Pour out your Spirit on your servants who, with the gifts of music, enliven our praises and proclaim your word with power. Through this ministry give us new awareness of your beauty and grace, and join our voices with all the choirs of heaven, both now and forever; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Church artists

God of glory, we long to see your face, yet our vision is clouded by brokenness and sin. Breathe your creating Spirit into the hearts and hands of those who, through their work in the visual arts, desire to serve you. Through this ministry draw us to your truth and beauty, and bring us to the perfect fulfillment of standing in your unveiled glory, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Teachers

O God of wisdom, in your goodness you provide faithful teachers for your church. By your Holy Spirit give all teachers insight into your holy word, lives that are examples to us all, and the courage to know and do the truth; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Seminaries

We give you thanks, O God, for all of life and for our common calling as your servants, for the work of your church and for the ministries of word, sacrament, and service. We give you thanks for women and men whom you call to be leaders in your church and for teachers who form them for service. Through the witness and mission of our seminaries may the church join courageously in your work of compassion, mercy, justice, and peace; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

General thanksgiving

Almighty God, Father of all mercies, we humbly thank you for your goodness to us and to all that you have made. We praise you for your creation, for keeping us and all things in your care, and for all the blessings of life. Above all we bless you for your immeasurable love in redeeming the world by our Lord Jesus Christ, for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory. And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies that with thankful hearts we praise you, not only with our lips but in our lives, by giving ourselves to your service and by living in your gifts of holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all worship and praise, now and forever. Amen.

General intercession

Keep watch, dear Lord, with those who work or watch or weep, and give your angels charge over those who sleep. Tend the sick, give rest to the weary, bless the dying, soothe the suffering, comfort the afflicted, shield the joyous; and all for your love's sake. Amen.

Congregational Life

Those preparing for baptism

Merciful and most high God, creator and giver of life, you have called all people from darkness into light, from error into truth, from death into life. Grant grace to name/s and bless *them*. Raise *them* by your Spirit. Revive *them* by your word. Form *them* by your hand. Bring *them* to the water of life and to the bread and cup of blessing, that with all your people *they* may bear witness to your grace and praise you forever, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

New members

Almighty God, by the love of Jesus Christ you draw people to yourself and welcome them into the household of faith. May we show your joy by embracing new brothers and sisters as we bear your creative and redeeming word to all the world. Keep us close together in your Spirit, in the breaking of bread and the prayers, and in service to others, following the example of Jesus Christ, our servant and Lord. Amen.

Farewell and Godspeed

Eternal God, we thank you for name/s and for our life together in this congregation and community. As *they have* been a blessing to us, so now send *them* forth to be a blessing to others; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Founders and previous leaders of a congregation

We thank you, Lord God, for brave and believing people who planted your message in this place. We praise you for the gift of your Holy Spirit, who worked in them to gather and give order to this community, and who still sustains it. Remembering all those who have gone before us, we pray that we may follow as they followed, in the way, the truth, and the life, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Mission

Spread of the gospel

By your word, eternal God, your creation sprang forth, and we were given the breath of life. By your word, eternal God, death is overcome, Christ is raised from the tomb, and we are given new life in the power of your Spirit. May we boldly proclaim this good news in our words and our deeds, rejoicing always in your powerful presence; through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord. Amen.

Global mission

Almighty God, you sent your Son Jesus Christ to reconcile the world to yourself. We praise and bless you for those whom you have sent in the power of the Spirit to preach the gospel to all nations. We thank you that in all parts of the earth a community of love has been gathered together by their prayers and labors, and that in every place your servants call upon your name; for the kingdom and the power and the glory are yours forever. Amen.

The mission of the church

Draw your church together, O God, into one great company of disciples, together following our teacher Jesus Christ into every walk of life, together serving in Christ's mission to the world, and together witnessing to your love wherever you will send us; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Congregational ministries

Almighty God, your Holy Spirit equips the church with a rich variety of gifts. Grant that we may use them to bear witness to Christ in lives that are built on faith and love. Make us ready to live the gospel and eager to do your will, so that we may share with all your church in the joys of eternal life; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Those seeking deeper knowledge of God

Gracious and holy God, give us diligence to seek you, wisdom to perceive you, and patience to wait for you. Grant us, O God, a mind to meditate on you; eyes to behold you; ears to listen for your word; a heart to love you; and a life to proclaim you; through the power of the Spirit of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Civic Life, Government, Nations

Peace

O God, it is your will to hold both heaven and earth in a single peace. Let the design of your great love shine on the waste of our wraths and sorrows, and give peace to your church, peace among nations, peace in our homes, and peace in our hearts; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Peace

Gracious and holy God, lead us from death to life, from falsehood to truth. Lead us from despair to hope, from fear to trust. Lead us from hate to love, from war to peace. Let peace fill our hearts, our world, our universe; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Peace among the nations

Gracious God, grant peace among nations. Cleanse from our own hearts the seeds of strife: greed and envy, harsh misunderstandings and ill will, fear and desire for revenge. Make us quick to welcome ventures in cooperation among the peoples of the world, so that there may be woven the fabric of a common good too strong to be torn by the evil hands of war. In the time of opportunity, make us be diligent; and in the time of peril, let not our courage fail; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

National distress

Eternal God, amid all the turmoil and changes of the world your love is steadfast and your strength never fails. In this time of danger and trouble, be to us a sure guardian and rock of defense. Guide the leaders of our nation with your wisdom, comfort those in distress, and grant us courage and hope to face the future; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Time of conflict, crisis, disaster

God, our refuge and strength, you have bound us together in a common life. In all our conflicts, help us to confront one another without hatred or bitterness, to listen for your voice amid competing claims, and to work together with mutual forbearance and respect; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Time of conflict, crisis, disaster

O God, where hearts are fearful and constricted, grant courage and hope. Where anxiety is infectious and widening, grant peace and reassurance. Where impossibilities close every door and window, grant imagination and resistance. Where distrust twists our thinking, grant healing and illumination. Where spirits are daunted and weakened, grant soaring wings and strengthened dreams. All these things we ask in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Time of civic mourning

God our creator, through whose providing care we enjoy all goodness and life, turn our eyes to your mercy in this time of confusion and loss. Comfort this nation as we mourn; shine your light on those whose only companion is darkness; and teach us all so to number our days that we may apply our hearts to your wisdom; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

The nation

Almighty God, you have given us this good land as our heritage. Make us always remember your generosity and constantly do your will. Bless our land with honesty in the workplace, truth in education, and honor in daily life. Save us from violence, discord, and confusion; from pride and arrogance; and from every evil course of action. When times are prosperous, let our hearts be thankful; and, in troubled times, do not let our trust in you fail. We pray in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The nation

Holy Trinity, one God, you show us the splendor of diversity and the beauty of unity in your own divine life. Make us, who came from many nations with many languages, a united people that delights in our many different gifts. Defend our liberties, and give those whom we have entrusted with authority the spirit of wisdom, that there might be justice and peace in our land. We pray in the name of Jesus Christ, our sovereign and our Savior. Amen.

State, provincial, local governments

Almighty God, we lift before you all who govern this *state/province/city/town* _____. May those who hold power understand that it is a trust from you to be used, not for personal glory or profit, but for the service of the people. Drive from us cynicism, selfishness, and corruption; grant in your mercy just and honest government; and give us grace to live together in unity and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Responsible citizenship

Lord God, you call your people to honor those in authority. Help us elect trustworthy leaders, participate in wise decisions for our common life, and serve our neighbors in local communities. Bless the leaders of our land, that we may be at peace among ourselves and a blessing to other nations of the earth; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Those in civil authority

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, bless the public servants in the government of this *state/province/city/town* _____, that they may do their work in a spirit of wisdom, charity, and justice. Help them use their authority to serve faithfully and to promote our common life; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Courts of justice

Lord of all, you have declared what is right: to seek justice, to love kindness, and to walk humbly with you. Bless judges and courts, juries and law officers throughout our land. Guard them from retribution and from corruption. Give them the spirit of wisdom, that they may perceive the truth and administer the law impartially as instruments of your divine will. We pray in the name of the one who will come to be our judge, your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Those in the armed forces

Almighty God, we commend to your gracious care and keeping all the men and women of our armed forces at home and abroad. Defend them day by day with your heavenly grace; strengthen them in their trials and temptations; give them courage to face the perils that surround them; and grant them a sense of your abiding presence wherever they may be; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Cities

Gracious God, bless our cities and make them places of safety for all people, rich and poor. Give us grace to work for cities where neighborhoods remain vibrant and whole, where the lost and forgotten in society are supported, and where the arts flourish. Make the diverse fabric of the city a delight to all who live and visit there and a strong bond uniting people around common goals for the good of all; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

The gifts of agriculture

God our creator, you have ordered seedtime and harvest, sunshine and rain. Give to all who work the land fair compensation for the work of their hands. Grant that the people of this and every nation may give thanks to you for food, drink, and all that sustains life; may use with care the land and water from which these good things come; and may honor the laborers who produce them; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The neighborhood

God our creator, by your holy prophet Jeremiah you taught your ancient people to seek the welfare of the cities in which they lived. We commend our neighborhood to your care, that it might be kept free from social strife and decay. Give us strength of purpose and concern for others, that we may create here a community of justice and peace where your will may be done; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Schools

O God, source of all goodness: We give you thanks for the gift of reason and the opportunity for education. Bless our schools, that they may be places of learning and safety where teachers challenge the minds and nurture the hearts of students. Grant that teachers and students may work together in mutual respect and find joy in the challenges of academic life; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Schools

Eternal God, bless all schools, colleges, and universities [*especially* _____], that they may be lively places for sound learning, new discovery, and the pursuit of wisdom; and grant that those who teach and those who learn may find you to be the source of all truth; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Teachers

God of wisdom, your Son came among us as a teacher. Send your blessing on all who are engaged in the work of education: give them clearness of vision and freshness of thought, and enable them so to train the hearts and minds of their students that they may grow in wisdom and be prepared to face the challenges of life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Commerce and labor

Almighty God, your Son Jesus Christ dignified our labor by sharing our toil. Guide us with your justice in the workplace, so that we may never value things above people, or surrender honor to love of gain or lust for power. Prosper all efforts to put an end to work that brings no joy, and teach us how to govern the ways of business to the harm of none and for the sake of the common good; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Social Ministry

The human family

O God of all, with wonderful diversity of languages and cultures you created all people in your image. Free us from prejudice and fear, that we may see your face in the faces of people around the world; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

The human family

O God, you made us in your own image and redeemed us through Jesus your Son. Look with compassion on the whole human family; take away the arrogance and hatred that infect our hearts; break down the walls that separate us; unite us in bonds of love; and, through our struggle and confusion, work to accomplish your purposes on earth; so that, in your good time, every people and nation may serve you in harmony around your heavenly throne; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Social justice

Grant, O God, that your holy and life-giving Spirit may move every human heart; that the barriers dividing us may crumble, suspicions disappear, and hatreds cease; and that, with our divisions healed, we might live in justice and peace; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The unemployed

God of justice, we remember before you those who suffer want and anxiety from lack of work. Guide the people of this land so to use our wealth and resources that all people may find suitable and fulfilling employment and receive just payment for their labor; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The neglected

Almighty and most merciful God, we call to mind before you all whom it is easy to forget: those who are homeless, destitute, sick, isolated, and all who have no one to care for them. May we bring help and healing to those who are broken in body or spirit, that they may have comfort in sorrow, company in loneliness, and a place of safety and warmth; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The poor

God of compassion, whose Son became poor for our sake: Help us to see the face of Christ in those who are poor, and in serving them to serve you. Give us generous hearts so that those living in poverty may have adequate food, clothing, and shelter. By your Spirit move us to affirm the dignity of all people and to work for just laws that protect the most vulnerable in society; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

The oppressed

Look with mercy, gracious God, upon people everywhere who live with injustice, terror, disease, and death as their constant companions. Rouse us from our complacency and help us to eliminate cruelty wherever it is found. Strengthen those who seek equality for all. Grant that everyone may enjoy a fair portion of the abundance of the earth; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Prisons and correctional institutions

God of justice, for our sake your Son was condemned as a criminal. Visit our jails and prisons with your judgment and mercy. Remember all prisoners; bring the guilty to repentance and amendment of life according to your will; and give hope for the future. When any are held unjustly, raise up for them advocates to bring them release, and give us the wisdom to improve our system of justice. Watch over those who work in these institutions; give them strength and compassion, and keep them from becoming brutal or callous. Lead us to do for those in prison what we would do for Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.

Those who suffer for the sake of conscience

God of faithfulness, you bless those who are persecuted. Strengthen those who suffer for the sake of conscience. When they are accused, save them from speaking in hate; when they are rejected, save them from bitterness; when they are imprisoned, save them from despair. Give us grace to respect their witness and to discern the truth, that our society may be cleansed and strengthened; for the sake of our merciful and righteous judge, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Our enemies

Gracious God, your Son called on you to forgive his enemies while he was suffering shame and death. Lead our enemies and us from prejudice to truth; deliver them and us from hatred, cruelty, and revenge; and in your good time enable us all to stand reconciled before you; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Stewardship

Stewardship of natural resources

Almighty God, in giving us dominion over things on earth, you made us coworkers in your creation. Give us wisdom and reverence to use the resources of nature so that no one may suffer from our abuse of them, and that generations yet to come may continue to praise you for your bounty; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Renewal of mind and body

O God, we thank you for times of refreshment and peace in the course of this busy life. Grant that we may so use our leisure for the renewal of our bodies and minds that our spirits may be opened to the goodness of your creation; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

The proper use of wealth

O God, in your love you have given the people of this land gifts of abundance beyond what our forebears knew or could imagine. Mercifully grant that we may not be so occupied with material things that we forget spiritual gifts, and thus, even though we have gained the whole world, lose our souls; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

The proper use of wealth

God of abundance, you have poured out a large measure of earthly blessings: our table is richly furnished, our cup overflows, and we live in safety and security. Teach us to set our hearts on you and not these material blessings. Keep us from becoming captivated by prosperity, and grant us in wisdom to use your blessings to your glory and to the service of humankind; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Creation

Agriculture

Abundant God, we give you thanks for the fruitful earth, which produces what is needed for life. Bless those who work in the fields; grant favorable weather to all engaged in agriculture; and help us to ensure that all people share the fruits of the earth, rejoicing in your goodness; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Thanks for the harvest

Most gracious God, according to your wisdom the deep waters are opened up and clouds drop gentle moisture. We praise you for the return of planting and harvest seasons, for the fertility of the soil, for the harvesting of the crops, and for all other blessings that you in your generosity pour out on all people. Give us a full understanding of your mercy, that our lives may show respect and care for your creation; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

In time of scarce rainfall

O God, giver and sustainer of life, in this time of need send us the gift of rain, so that we may receive the fruits of the earth for our benefit and for your praise; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Creation and new creation

Sovereign of the universe, your first covenant of mercy was with every living creature. When your beloved Son came among us, the waters of the river welcomed him, the heavens opened to greet his arrival, the animals of the wilderness drew near as his companions. With all the world's people, may we who are washed into new life through baptism seek the way of your new creation, the way of justice and care, mercy and peace; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Creation's praise

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, who in your self-emptying love gathered up and reconciled all creation to the Father. Innumerable galaxies of the heavens worship you. Creatures that grace the earth rejoice in you. All those in the deepest seas bow to you in adoration. As with them we give you praise, grant that we may cherish the earth, our home, and live in harmony with this good creation, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Life Passages

Birth of a child

O Lord our God, creator of all that exists, we thank you for the joy of watching new life begin and for the privilege of sharing with you in your continuing creation. In your mercy grant that these blessings may continue to us and even to our children's children, that generations yet unborn may bless your holy name; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Adoption of a child

Merciful God, because of your love for us in Jesus Christ we have become brothers and sisters, daughters and sons in your family, the church. We thank you for the love which welcomes child's name into this household. As you have blessed name/s of parent/s with this child, give *them* the joy of caring for *her/him*, and increase our joy as members of your family in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Remembrance of the faithful departed

Eternal God, your love is stronger than death, and your passion more fierce than the grave. We rejoice in the lives of those whom you have drawn into your eternal embrace. Keep us in joyful communion with them until we join the saints of every people and nation gathered before your throne in your ceaseless praise, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Those preparing for marriage

We praise you, O God, that your children names have been drawn together in love for one another. Strengthen their hearts, so that they will keep faith with each other, please you in all things, and come to the joy of celebrating their marriage; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Marriage

Eternal God, without your grace no promise is sure. Strengthen names with patience, kindness, gentleness, and all other gifts of your Spirit, so that they may fulfill the vows they have made. Keep them faithful to each other and to you. Fill them with such love and joy that they may build a home of peace and welcome. Guide them by your word to serve you all their days; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Those whose marriage has ended

God of compassion and grace, in your steadfast love accompany name/s. As you ever work to restore and renew your people, overcome bitterness with your joy, hatred with your love, brokenness with your life; and give us hope through the death and resurrection of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Those entering retirement

Gracious God, we thank you for the work and witness of your servant name, who has enriched this community and brought gladness to friends and family. Now bless and preserve *her/him* at this time of transition. Day by day, guide *her/him* and give *her/him* what is needed, friends to cheer *her/his* way, and a clear vision of that to which you are now calling *her/him*. By your Holy Spirit be present in *her/his* pilgrimage, that *she/he* may travel with the one who is the way, the truth, and the life, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Daily Life

Vocation in daily life

O God, give us grace to set a good example to all among whom we live, to be just and true in all our dealings, to be strict and conscientious in the discharge of every duty; pure and temperate in all enjoyment, gracious and generous and courteous toward all; so that the mind of Jesus Christ may be formed in us and all may know that we are his disciples; in whose name we pray. Amen.

The care of children

Almighty God, with a mother's love and a father's care you have blessed us with the joy and responsibility of children. As we bring them up, give us gracious love, calm strength, and patient wisdom, that we may teach them to love whatever is just and true and good, following the example of Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

Young persons

God of all good gifts, your Son gathered children into his arms and blessed them. Help us to understand our youth as they grow in years and in knowledge of your world. Give us compassion when they face temptations and experience failures. Teach us to encourage their search for truth and value in their lives. Help us to appreciate their ideals and sympathize with their frustrations; that with them we may look for a better world than either we or they have known; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Young persons

Lord God of our ancestors, we thank you for what you have done and will continue to do with our daughters and sons. Walk with them in life, and keep the evil one from obstructing their path. You see all; you know where the water is deep. Keep them from danger. Order their steps and guide their feet while they run the race of faith. May the good work that you have begun in them be brought to completion at the day of Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.

Families

Triune God, whose will it is that humans live in community, bless family life everywhere and fill all homes with respect, joy, laughter, and prayer. Strengthen the commitment of husbands and wives to one another, that they may mirror your covenant faithfulness; pour out your Spirit on parents, that through them their children may taste your unconditional love; and empower all family members to live in your grace and forgiveness; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Those who live alone

Gracious God, none who trust in your Son can be separated from your love. Give to those who live alone peace and contentment in their solitude, hope and fulfillment in their love of you, and joy and companionship in their relations with others; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The elders of the community

Blessed are you, O Lord our God, maker of heaven and earth. From everlasting you are God, our dwelling place in all generations. You are the source of holy wisdom, and the fountain of all truth. We give thanks to you for the elders among us. We are graced by their wisdom and seasoning. We are touched by their knowledge and faith. Bless them, O God, as they are a blessing to us. Pour out your Spirit, that our elders may continue to dream dreams and testify to the Light of their salvation, Jesus Christ. May we find inspiration in their years of faithfulness. May we follow their example by serving you with steadfastness and singleness of heart; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Affirmation of Christian Vocation

Within the sending rite of the service, this affirmation may be made by individuals or groups, and may be introduced by a description of the area of service to be affirmed. Or, the affirmation may be made by the whole assembly.

The presiding minister addresses those affirming Christian vocation.

[Sisters and brothers]/[name/s], both your work and your rest are in God. Will you endeavor to pattern your life on the Lord Jesus Christ, in gratitude to God and in service to others, at morning and evening, at work and at play, all the days of your life?

Response: I will, and I ask God to help me.

The presiding minister continues.

Almighty God, by the power of the Spirit you have knit these your servants into the one body of your Son, Jesus Christ. Look with favor upon them in their commitment to serve in Christ's name. Give them courage, patience, and vision; and strengthen us all in our Christian vocation of witness to the world and of service to others; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The service concludes with the blessing and dismissal.

Healing

Health of body and soul

By your power, great God, our Lord Jesus healed the sick and gave new hope to the hopeless. Though we cannot command or possess your power, we pray for those who want to be healed. Mend their wounds, soothe the fevered brows, and make broken people whole again. Help us to welcome every healing as a sign that, though death is against us, you are for us, and have promised renewed and risen life in Jesus Christ the Lord. Amen.

Those in affliction

Lord Christ, you came into the world as one of us, and suffered as we do. As we go through the trials of life, help us to realize that you are with us at all times and in all things; that we have no secrets from you; and that your loving grace enfolds us for eternity. In the security of your embrace we pray. Amen.

Those in emotional distress

Merciful God, you give us the grace that helps in time of need. Surround name with your steadfast love and lighten *her/his* burden. By the power of your Spirit, free *her/him* from distress and give *her/him* a new mind and heart made whole in the name of the risen Christ. Amen.

Those who suffer abuse and violence

Holy One, you do not distance yourself from the pain of your people, but in Jesus you bear that pain with all who suffer at others' hands. With your cleansing love bring healing and strength to name ; and by your justice, lift *her/him* up, that in body, mind, and spirit, *she/he* may again rejoice. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Those in trouble or bereavement

Almighty God, your love never fails, and you can turn the shadow of death into daybreak. Help us to receive your word with believing hearts, so that, confident in your promises, we may have hope and be lifted out of sorrow into the joy and peace of your presence; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Those suffering from addiction

O blessed Jesus, you ministered to all who came to you. Look with compassion upon all who through addiction have lost their health and freedom. Restore to them the assurance of your unfailing mercy; remove the fears that attack them; strengthen those who are engaged in the work of recovery; and to those who care for them, give honesty, understanding, and persevering love; for your mercy's sake. Amen.

The chronically ill and those who support them

Loving God, your heart overflows with compassion for your whole creation. Pour out your Spirit on all people living with illness for which there is no cure, as well as their families and loved ones. Help them to know that you claim them as your own and deliver them from fear and pain; for the sake of Jesus Christ, our healer and Lord. Amen.

Caregivers and others who support the sick

God, our refuge and strength, our present help in time of trouble, care for those who tend the needs of [the sick]/[name/s]. Strengthen them in body and spirit. Refresh them when weary; console them when anxious; comfort them in grief; and hearten them in discouragement. Be with us all, and give us peace at all times and in every way; through Christ our peace. Amen.

Health care providers

Merciful God, your healing power is everywhere about us. Strengthen those who work among the sick; give them courage and confidence in all they do. Encourage them when their efforts seem futile or when death prevails. Increase their trust in your power even to overcome death and pain and crying. May they be thankful for every sign of health you give, and humble before the mystery of your healing grace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Emergency workers

God of earth and air, water and fire, height and depth, we pray for those who work in danger, who rush in to bring hope and help and comfort when others flee to safety, whose mission is to seek and save, serve and protect, and whose presence embodies the protection of the Good Shepherd. Give them caution and concern for one another, so that in safety they may do what must be done, under your watchful eye. Support them in their courage and dedication that they may continue to save lives, ease pain, and mend the torn fabric of lives and social order; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Recovery from sickness

Almighty and merciful God, you are the only source of health and healing; you alone can bring calmness and peace. Grant to us, your children, an awareness of your presence and a strong confidence in you. In our pain, our weariness, and our anxiety, surround us with your care, protect us by your loving might, and permit us once more to enjoy health and strength and peace; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Restoration of health

O Lord, your compassions never fail and your mercies are new every morning. We give you thanks for giving our sister/brother [name] both relief from pain and hope of health renewed. Continue in *her/him* the good work you have begun; that *she/he*, daily increasing in bodily strength and rejoicing in your goodness, may so order *her/his* life and conduct that *she/he* may always think and do those things that please you; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Spiritual Life

Daily renewal

Almighty God, by our baptism into the death and resurrection of your Son, Jesus Christ, you turn us from the old life of sin. Grant that we who are reborn to new life in him may live in righteousness and holiness all our days, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Enlightenment of the Holy Spirit

God Almighty, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: Grant us, we pray, to be grounded and settled in your truth by the coming of the Holy Spirit into our hearts. That which we know not, reveal; that which is wanting in us, fill up; that which we know, confirm; and keep us blameless in your service; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Commitment

Into your hands, almighty God, we place ourselves: our minds to know you, our hearts to love you, our wills to serve you, for we are yours. Into your hands, incarnate Savior, we place ourselves: receive us and draw us after you, that we may follow your steps; abide in us and enliven us by the power of your indwelling. Into your hands, O hovering Spirit, we place ourselves: take us and fashion us after your image; let your comfort strengthen, your grace renew, and your fire cleanse us, soul and body, in life and in death, in this world of shadows and in your changeless world of light eternal, now and forever. Amen.

Commitment

Almighty and eternal God, so draw our hearts to you, so guide our minds, so fill our imaginations, so control our wills, that we may be wholly yours, utterly dedicated to you; and then use us, we pray, as you will, but always to your glory and the welfare of your people, through our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.

Answer to prayer

Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time to make our common prayer to you, and you have promised through your Son that where two or three are gathered together in his name, you will be in the midst of them. Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us, granting us, in this world, knowledge of your truth and, in the age to come, life everlasting. Amen.

Guidance

Direct us, Lord God, in all our doings with your most gracious favor, and extend to us your continual help; that in all our works begun, continued, and ended in you, we may glorify your holy name; and finally, by your mercy, bring us to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Protection through life

O God, full of compassion, we commit and commend ourselves to you, in whom we live and move and have our being. Be the goal of our pilgrimage, and our rest by the way. Give us refuge from the turmoil of worldly distractions beneath the shadow of your wings. Let our hearts, so often a sea of restless waves, find peace in you, O God; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

For a peaceful night

Dear Jesus, as a hen covers her chicks with her wings to keep them safe, protect us this night under your golden wings; for your mercy's sake. Amen.

A prayer of Augustine of Hippo

O loving God, to turn away from you is to fall, to turn toward you is to rise, and to stand before you is to abide forever. Grant us, dear God, in all our duties your help; in all our uncertainties your guidance; in all our dangers your protection; and in all our sorrows your peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

A prayer attributed to Francis of Assisi

Lord, make us instruments of your peace. Where there is hatred, let us sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is discord, union; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; where there is sadness, joy. Grant that we may not so much seek to be consoled as to console; to be understood as to understand; to be loved as to love. For it is in giving that we receive; it is in pardoning that we are pardoned; and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. Amen.

A prayer of Catherine of Siena

Power of the eternal Father, help me. Wisdom of the Son, enlighten the eye of my understanding. Tender mercy of the Holy Spirit, unite my heart to yourself. Eternal God, restore health to the sick and life to the dead. Give us a voice, your own voice, to cry out to you for mercy for the world. You, light, give us light. You, wisdom, give us wisdom. You, supreme strength, strengthen us. Amen.

A prayer of Julian of Norwich

In you, Father all-mighty, we have our preservation and our bliss. In you, Christ, we have our restoring and our saving. You are our mother, brother, and savior. In you, our Lord the Holy Spirit, is marvelous and plenteous grace. You are our clothing; for love you wrap us and embrace us. You are our maker, our lover, our keeper. Teach us to believe that by your grace all shall be well, and all shall be well, and all manner of things shall be well. Amen.

A prayer of Martin Luther

Behold, Lord, an empty vessel that needs to be filled. My Lord, fill it. I am weak in the faith; strengthen me. I am cold in love; warm me and make me fervent, that my love may go out to my neighbor. I do not have a strong and firm faith; at times I doubt and am unable to trust you altogether. O Lord, help me. Strengthen my faith and trust in you. In you I have sealed the treasure of all I have. I am poor; you are rich and came to be merciful to the poor. I am a sinner; you are upright. With me, there is an abundance of sin; in you is the fullness of righteousness. Therefore I will remain with you, of whom I can receive, but to whom I may not give. Amen.

A prayer of Mother Teresa of Calcutta

Make us worthy, Lord, to serve our fellow human beings throughout the world who live and die in poverty and hunger. Give them through our hands this day their daily bread, and by our understanding love, give peace and joy. Amen.

