The prayers are prepared locally for each occasion. The following examples may be adapted or used as appropriate.

Set free from sin and death and nourished by the word of truth, we join in prayer for all of God's creation.

A brief silence

Holy One, for the gift of the church all who carry on the servant ministry of Jesus, we praise you. Send your Holy Spirit upon all who are discerning calls handed down through the ages and for to ministry in its many forms and equip them with your gifts. Hear us, O God. Your mercy is great.

creatures, we praise you. Provide healdant habitat you provide for all your tiles, wild horses, dolphins, and all living things flourish as you intend. Hear Creating One, for the lush and abuning for the earth so that waterfowl, repus, O God

Your mercy is great.

vant's heart, we praise you. Bring justice discrimination, hunger, poverty, and homelessness, and create places of ref-Suffering One, for all who work toward peace and who lead nations with a serfor all who suffer violence, persecution, uge for all people. Hear us, O God. Your mercy is great.

Merciful One, for all who do the work of healing in mind, body, and spirit, we praise you. Surround and comfort all who struggle with depression, anxiety, cancer, diabetes, dementia, or any illness (especially), that all may be healed. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Sustaining One, for all who volunteer for the vitality of this congregation, we greeters, ushers, office volunteers, bakers, counters, committee and group singers, builders, nurturers, and all who praise you. Strengthen and encourage eaders, teachers, students, evangelists, serve with generous hearts. Hear us,

Your mercy is great.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

your gospel. Through the witness of your saints (especially Ignatius, Bishop Risen One, we thank you for those who have shaped your church and shared of Antioch), continue to inspire us with hope until we all are gathered at your eternal feast. Hear us, O God.

we boldly place our prayers into your Confident that you hear us, O God, Your mercy is great.

hands; through Jesus Christ, our truth

and life.

Preparing for Next Week

Monday (Luke, Evangelist) Luke 1:1-4; 24:44-53, Tuesday 1 Samuel 10:17-25. Wednesday John 13:1-17, Thursday Psalm 126. Friday Hebrews 7:11-22. Saturday (commemoration of James of Jerusalem, martyr, c. 62) Mark 8:22-26. 22nd Sunday after Pentecost Jeremiah 31:7-9; Psalm 126; Hebrews 7:23-28; Mark 10:46-52

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Celebrate

21st Sunday after Pentecost

teaching his followers about God's take on importance and power. Here Jesus makes it explicit that the reversal of values in God's community is a direct challenge to the values of the dominant culture, where wielding power over others is what makes you great. When we pray "your kingdom come" we are praying for an end to tyranny and oppression. We pray this gathered Today's gospel starts with disciples obsessing over who will be closest to Jesus, leading to Jesus rround the cross, a sign of great shame transformed to be the sign of great honor and service.

Prayer of the Day

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.

First Reading

This reading is from the last of four passages in Isaiah that are often called "servant songs." Christians are probably most familiar with this servant song. In light of Christian faith, the

Isaiah 53:4-12

servant's healing ministry and redemptive suffering are understood to be fulfilled in the life

and death of Christ.

struck down by God, and afflicted. upon him was the punishment that Surely he has borne our infirmities yet we accounted him stricken, crushed for our iniquities; But he was wounded for our and carried our diseases; transgressions,

we have all turned to our own way, and by his bruises we are healed. ⁶All we like sheep have gone astray; and the Lord has laid on him made us whole, the iniquity of us all. 7He was oppressed, and he was afflicted, ⁸By a perversion of justice he was taken like a lamb that is led to the slaughter, yet he did not open his mouth; and like a sheep that before its so he did not open his mouth. shearers is silent,

For he was cut off from the land of the

stricken for the transgression of my people.

and there was no deceit in his mouth. ⁹They made his grave with the wicked although he had done no violence, and his tomb with the rich,

¹⁰Yet it was the will of the Lord to crush him with pain.

When you make his life an offering for sin,

he shall see his offspring, and shall prolong his days;

11 Out of his anguish he shall see light; through him the will of the Lord shall he shall find satisfaction through his prosper.

The righteous one, my servant, shall make many righteous knowledge.

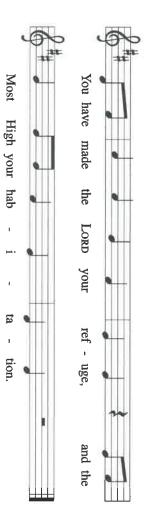
and he shall bear their iniquities.

Who could have imagined his future?

continued



Psalm 91:9-16; refrain, Ps. 91:9



Because you have made the LORD your refuge, and the Most High your habitation,

¹⁰no evil [|] will befall you, nor shall affliction com

nor shall affliction come 'near your dwelling.

"For God will give the angels charge 'over you,

to guard you in lall your ways.

12Upon their hands they will bear you up,
 lest you strike your foot a-1 gainst a stone.
 13 You will tread upon the lion I cub and viner.

You will tread upon the lion ¹ cub and viper; you will trample down the lion ¹ and the serpent ¹⁴I will deliver those who ¹ cling to me;

I will uphold them, because they know my name ¹⁵They will call me, and I will answer them;

I will be with them in trouble; I will rescue and I honor them.

¹⁶With long life will I | satisfy them, and show them | my salvation. R

1:9 First Reading, continued

12Therefore I will allot him a portion with the great, and he shall divide the spoil with the strong; because he poured out himself to death

and was numbered with the transgressors; yet he bore the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.

Second Reading

Using imagery from scripture and from Jewish worship practices, Jesus is presented as the great high priest who was obedient to God's saving plan. Through his suffering and death he has become the source of eternal salvation.

Hebrews 5:1-10

Every high priest chosen from among mortals is put in charge of things pertaining to God on their behalf, to offer gifts and sacrifices for sins. ²He is able to deal gently with the ignorant and wayward, since he himself is subject to weakness; ³and because of this he must offer sacrifice for his own sins as well as for those of the people. ⁴And one does not presume to take this honor, but takes it only when called by God, just as Aaron was.

⁵So also Christ did not glorify himself in becoming a high priest, but was appointed by the one who said to him,

"You are my Son, today I have begotten you";

bas he says also in another place,
"You are a priest forever,
according to the order of
Melchizedek."

In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. ⁸Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered; ⁹and having been made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him, ¹⁰having been designated by God a high priest according to the order of Melchizedek.

Gospel

Mark 10:35-45

On the way to Jerusalem the disciples ask fesus to grant them seats of honor. Jesus responds by announcing that he and his followers will "rule" through self-giving service.

at your left, in your glory." 38But Jesus ever we ask of you." 36And he said to tism with which I am baptized, you will I drink you will drink; and with the bapwith?" 39 They replied, "We are able." with the baptism that I am baptized the cup that I drink, or be baptized you are asking. Are you able to drink said to them, "You do not know what to sit, one at your right hand and one you?" ³⁷And they said to him, "Grant us them, "What is it you want me to do for "Teacher, we want you to do for us whatcame forward to him and said to him, James and John, the sons of Zebedee, Then Jesus said to them, "The cup that be baptized; ⁴⁰but to sit at my right hand

or at my left is not mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared."

41When the ten heard this, they began to be angry with James and John. 42So Jesus called them and said to them, "You know that among the Gentiles those whom they recognize as their rulers lord it over them, and their great ones are tyrants over them. 43But it is not so among you; but whoever wishes to become great among you must be your servant, 44 and whoever wishes to be first among you must be slave of all. 45 For the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many."