

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

United in Christ and guided by the Spirit, we pray for the church, the creation, and all in need.

A brief silence.

God of faithfulness, set the face of your church firmly on you. Rooted in your self-giving love, may the church find freedom in loving our neighbors. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

God of gentleness, strengthen the earth's ability to heal. Where there are dangerous storms, bring calm. Where there are destructive fires, bring rain. Protect homes, habitats, and livelihoods threatened by climate disasters. God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

God of peace, guide all who govern, that they place the good of their citizens above self-promotion. Anoint leaders of nations with your Spirit of neighborly love. Protect refugees and all who live under tyranny or conflict (*especially*). God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

## Preparing for Next Week

**Monday** (commemoration of Cyril, Bishop of Alexandria, 444) Psalm 140. **Tuesday** (commemoration of Irenaeus, Bishop of Lyons, c. 202) Jeremiah 3:15-18. **Wednesday** (Peter and Paul, Apostles) John 21:15-19. **Thursday** Psalm 66:1-9. **Friday** (commemoration of Catherine Winkworth, 1878; John Mason Neale, 1866; hymn translators) Jeremiah 51:47-58. **Saturday** Zechariah 14:10-21. **4th Sunday after Pentecost** Isaiah 66:10-14; Psalm 66:1-9; Galatians 6:[1-6] 7-16; Luke 10:1-11, 16-20.

CELEBRATE June 26, 2022 (Lectionary 13)

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Tracks 1 and 2



# Celebrate

Sunday, June 26, 2022  
3rd Sunday after Pentecost

*We have no good apart from God. That makes Jesus' call to follow him an invitation to freedom. This is freedom to revel in the Spirit's fruit: love, joy, peace, and patience. This is freedom to not be imprisoned by anything that would keep us from the fullness of the life God has given us. This is the path of life.*

## Prayer of the Day

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.**

## First Reading

1 Kings 19:15-16, 19-21

*In the story preceding today's reading, the prophet Elijah flees for his life to the security of God's mountain. There God reveals to Elijah that there are still other faithful people in Israel and commissions him to anoint new leaders, including his own successor, Elisha.*

Then the LORD said to [Elijah], "Go, return on your way to the wilderness of Damascus; when you arrive, you shall anoint Hazael as king over Aram. <sup>16</sup>Also you shall anoint Jehu son of Nimshi as king over Israel; and you shall anoint Elisha son of Shaphat of Abel-meholah as prophet in your place."

<sup>19</sup>So he set out from there, and found Elisha son of Shaphat, who was plowing. There were twelve yoke of oxen ahead of him, and he was with the twelfth. Elijah passed by him and

threw his mantle over him. <sup>20</sup>He left the oxen, ran after Elijah, and said, "Let me kiss my father and my mother, and then I will follow you." Then Elijah said to him, "Go back again; for what have I done to you?" <sup>21</sup>He returned from following him, took the yoke of oxen, and slaughtered them; using the equipment from the oxen, he boiled their flesh, and gave it to the people, and they ate. Then he set out and followed Elijah, and became his servant.

*For Paul, the freedom Christ gives is not permission to do whatever we want. It is the invitation to be what we could not be otherwise. The power and guidance of Christ's Holy Spirit produce a different kind of life, one marked by the fruit of this Holy Spirit.*

you are led by the Spirit, you are not subject to the law.<sup>19</sup> Now the works of the flesh are obvious: fornication, impurity, licentiousness,<sup>20</sup> idolatry, sorcery, enmities, strife, jealousy, anger, quarrels, dissensions, factions,<sup>21</sup> envy, drunkenness, carousing, and things like these. I am warning you, as I warned you before: those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.<sup>22</sup> By contrast, the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness,<sup>23</sup> gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against such things.<sup>24</sup> And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires.<sup>25</sup> If we live by the Spirit, let us also be guided by the Spirit.

## Luke 9:51-62

*Jesus is unwavering in his commitment to his mission in Jerusalem and will not be swayed by pettiness. In a series of striking cases in point, he calls his disciples to a similar single-mindedness.*

When the days drew near for [Jesus] to be taken up, he set his face to go to Jerusalem.<sup>52</sup> And he sent messengers ahead of him. On their way they entered a village of the Samaritans to make ready for him;<sup>53</sup> but they did not receive him, because his face was set toward Jerusalem.<sup>54</sup> When his disciples James and John saw it, they said, "Lord, do you want us to come and consume them?"<sup>55</sup> But he turned and rebuked them.<sup>56</sup> Then they went on to another village.<sup>57</sup> As they were going along the road, someone said to him, "I will follow you wherever you go."<sup>58</sup> And Jesus said to him, "Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests; but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head."<sup>59</sup> To another he said, "Follow me." But he said, "Lord, first let me go and bury my father."<sup>60</sup> But Jesus said to him, "Let the dead bury their own dead; but as for you, go and proclaim the kingdom of God."<sup>61</sup> Another said, "I will follow you, Lord; but let me first say farewell to those at my home."<sup>62</sup> Jesus said to him, "No one who puts a hand to the plow and looks back is fit for the kingdom of God."



I have set the LORD al-ways be-fore me.

Protect me, O God, for I take refuge in you; I have said to the LORD,

<sup>2</sup>All my delight is in the godly that are in the land, upon those who are noble among the people.

<sup>3</sup>But those who run after other gods shall have their troubles multiplied. <sup>4</sup>I will not pour out drink offerings to such gods, I never take their names up on my lips. <sup>5</sup>O LORD, you are my portion and my cup; it is you who up-hold my lot.

<sup>6</sup>My boundaries enclose a pleasant land; indeed, I have a rich inheritance.

<sup>7</sup>I will bless the LORD who gives me counsel; my heart teaches me right after night.

<sup>8</sup>I have set the LORD al-ways before me; because God is at my right hand, I shall not be shaken. **R**

<sup>9</sup>My heart, therefore, is glad, and my spirit rejoices; my body also shall rest in hope.

<sup>10</sup>For you will not abandon me to the grave, nor let your holy one see the pit.

<sup>11</sup>You will show me the path of life; in your presence there is fullness of joy,

and in your right hand are pleasures forevermore. **R**