

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

In gratitude and humility, let us join together in prayer on behalf of all of God's creation.

A brief silence.

Gracious God, we give you thanks for bishops, pastors, and deacons (*church leaders may be named*). Inspire leaders of the church to proclaim your mighty deeds, that your saving faith may be known to all. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Majestic God, we give you thanks for land and water, seedtime and harvest. Break down boundaries we construct between ourselves and the rest of your creation. Bring renewal and restoration to places affected by pollution and deforestation. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Mighty God, we give you thanks for those in our community, nation, and world who work for justice and peace. Guide those who govern to act on behalf of those marginalized by race, ethnicity, or religion. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

## Preparing for Next Week

**Monday** (Day of Thanksgiving [Canada]) Psalm 61. **Tuesday** Ephesians 6:10-20. **Wednesday** Matthew 10:5-15. **Thursday** Psalm 121. **Friday** 2 Timothy 2:14-26. **Saturday** (commemoration of Teresa of Avila, teacher, renewer of the church, 1582) Mark 10:46-52. **19th Sunday after Pentecost** Genesis 32:22-31; Psalm 121; 2 Timothy 3:14—4:5; Luke 18:1-8.

CELEBRATE October 9, 2022 (Lectionary 28)

Volume 53, Number 4

CELEBRATE (ISSN 1083-3242, USPS 763-460) is published quarterly by Augsburg Fortress, 411 Washington Avenue North, Third Floor, Minneapolis, MN, 55401. Periodicals postage paid in St. Paul, MN and additional mailing offices. Postmaster: Send address changes to Celebrate, Augsburg Fortress Publishers, P.O. Box 1553, Minneapolis, MN 55440-8730. Printed in U.S.A. Price per weekly part \$4.90 per 100 copies; price in Canada subject to exchange rates. Minimum order 50 copies of each issue; all orders must be in multiples of 50. Copyright © 2022 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. May not be reproduced. Revised Common Lectionary © 1992 Consultation on Common Texts. Readings from New Revised Standard Version Bible with Apocrypha © 1989 Division of Christian Education of the National Council of Churches of Christ in the U.S.A. Prayer of the day, psalm, and readings during the week from *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* © 2006, admin. Augsburg Fortress. Refrain music by Dorothy Christopherson. Refrain accompaniment is in *Psalter for Worship, Year C* (Augsburg Fortress, 2006). Please visit our website at [augsburgfortress.org](http://augsburgfortress.org). Lectionary year C. 8 of 14  
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# Celebrate

Sunday, October 9, 2022  
18th Sunday after Pentecost

*It's a miracle! Multiple miracles! The waters of holy baptism have healed us. The body and blood of Jesus in holy communion have made us clean. We have died with Christ and been raised with him. For all this we have returned to offer thanks. From this place we are sent on our way rejoicing to share the good news.*

## Prayer of the Day

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.**

## First Reading

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

*Naaman, a Syrian general, suffers from leprosy. In this passage Elisha miraculously cures his illness, but only after Naaman realizes, with the help of his servants, that he also needs healing for his pride. This foreign general then acknowledges the sovereignty of the God of Israel.*

Naaman, commander of the army of the king of Aram, was a great man and in high favor with his master, because by him the LORD had given victory to Aram. The man, though a mighty warrior, suffered from leprosy. <sup>2</sup>Now the Arameans on one of their raids had taken a young girl captive from the land of Israel, and she served Naaman's wife. <sup>3</sup>She said to her mistress, "If only my lord were with the prophet who is in Samaria! He would cure him of his leprosy."

<sup>7</sup>When the king of Israel read the letter, he tore his clothes and said, "Am I God, to give death or life, that this man sends word to me to cure a man of his leprosy? Just look and see how he is trying to pick a quarrel with me."

<sup>8</sup>But when Elisha the man of God heard that the king of Israel had torn his clothes, he sent a message to the king, "Why have you torn your

clothes? Let him come to me, that he may learn that there is a prophet in Israel." <sup>9</sup>So Naaman came with his horses and chariots, and halted at the entrance of Elisha's house. <sup>10</sup>Elisha sent a messenger to him, saying, "Go, wash in the Jordan seven times, and your flesh shall be restored and you shall be clean." <sup>11</sup>But Naaman became angry and went away, saying, "I thought that for me he would surely come out, and stand and call on the name of the LORD his God, and would wave his hand over the spot, and cure the leprosy! <sup>12</sup>Are not Abana and Pharpar, the rivers of Damascus, better than all the waters of Israel? Could I not wash in them, and be clean?" He turned and went away in a rage. <sup>13</sup>But his servants approached and said to him, "Father, if the prophet had commanded you to do something difficult, would you not have

continued

I will give thanks, I will give thanks, I will give thanks, to the LORD with my whole heart.

Hallelujah! I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart, in the assembly of the upright, in the congregation.

**2**Great are your works, O LORD, pondered by all who delight in them. **R**

**3**Majesty and splendor mark your deeds, and your righteousness endures forever.

**4**You cause your wonders to be remembered; you are gracious and full of compassion.

**5**You give food to those who fear you, remembering forever your covenant.

**6**You have shown your people the power of your works in giving them the lands of the nations. **R**

**7**The works of your hands are faithful-ness and justice; all of your precepts are sure.

**8**They stand fast forever and ever, because they are done in truth and equity.

**9**You sent redemption to your people and commanded your covenant forever;

holy and awesome is your name.

**10**The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom; all who practice this have a good understanding. **R**

God's praise endures forever. **R**

done it? How much more, when all he said to you was, "Wash, and be clean?" **14**So he went down and immersed himself seven times in the Jordan, and stood before him and said, "Now I know that there is no God in all the earth except in Israel."

2 Timothy 2:8-15

*Though Paul is chained as a prisoner, the word of God is never shackled or confined. Timothy is encouraged to proclaim that word of freedom in an honest and upright life as well as in his teaching and preaching.*

Second Reading

**13**If we are faithless, he remains faithful— for he cannot deny himself. **14**Remind them of this, and warn them before God that they are to avoid wrangling over words, which does no good but only ruins those who are listening. **15**Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved by elect, so that they may also obtain the eternal glory. **11**The saying is sure: If we have died with him, we will also live with him; if we endure, we will also reign with him; if we deny him, he will also deny us;

Gospel

*Jesus' mission includes making people clean again. Unexpectedly, a Samaritan healed of leprosy becomes a model for those who would praise and worship God and give thanks for God's mercy.*

On the way to Jerusalem Jesus was going through the region between Samaria and Galilee. **12**As he entered a village, ten lepers approached him. Keeping their distance, **13**they called out, saying, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!" **14**When he saw them, he said to them, "Go and show yourselves to the priests." And as they went, they were made clean. **15**Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice. **16**He prostrated himself at Jesus' feet and thanked him. And he was a Samaritan. **17**Then Jesus asked, "Were not ten made clean? But the other nine, where are they?" **18**Was none of them found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?" **19**Then he said to him, "Get up and go on your way; your faith has made you well."

Luke 17:11-19