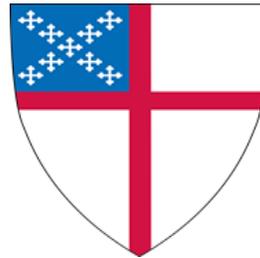


Holy Trinity Episcopal Church Prayer List & Newsletter



June 14, 2020

LESSONS FOR 2nd SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

- 1. Psalm 116: 1, 10-17**
- 2. Genesis 18: 1-15**
- 3. Romans 5: 1-8**
- 4. Matthew 9: 35- Matthew 10: 8**



Psalm 116

Thanksgiving for Recovery from Illness

1 I love the Lord, because he has heard my voice and my supplications.

Psalm 116:10-17 New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)

10 I kept my faith, even when I said, "I am greatly afflicted";

11 I said in my consternation, "Everyone is a liar."

12 What shall I return to the Lord for all his bounty to me?

13 I will lift up the cup of salvation and call on the name of the Lord,

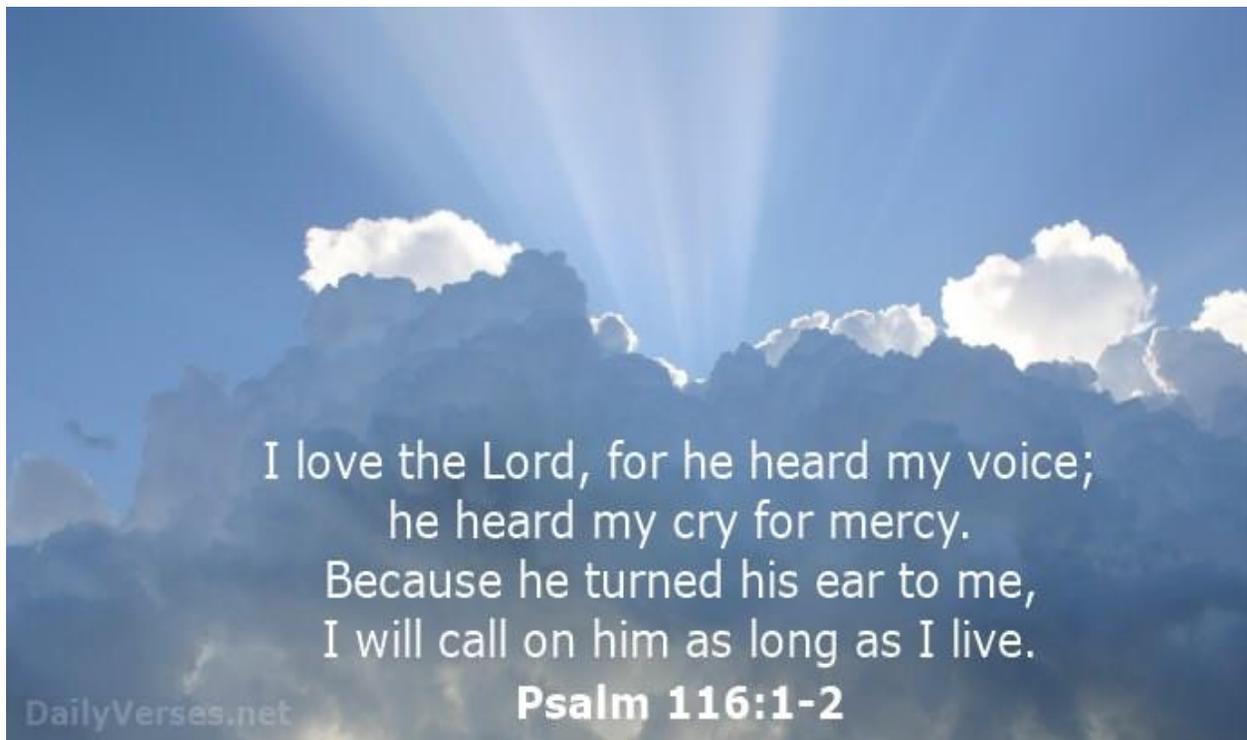
14 I will pay my vows to the Lord in the presence of all his people.

15 Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his faithful ones.

16 O Lord, I am your servant; I am your servant, the child of your serving girl.

You have loosed my bonds.

17 I will offer to you a thanksgiving sacrifice and call on the name of the Lord.



Genesis 18:1-15 New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)

A Son Promised to Abraham and Sarah

18 The Lord appeared to Abraham[a] by the oaks[b] of Mamre, as he sat at the entrance of his tent in the heat of the day. 2 He looked up and saw three men standing near him. When he saw them, he ran from the tent entrance to meet them, and bowed down to the ground. 3 He said, “My lord, if I find favor with you, do not pass by your servant. 4 Let a little water be brought, and wash your feet, and rest yourselves under the tree. 5 Let me bring a little bread, that you may refresh yourselves, and after that you may pass on—since you have come to your servant.” So they said, “Do as you have said.” 6 And Abraham hastened into the tent to Sarah, and said, “Make ready quickly three measures[c] of choice flour, knead it, and make cakes.” 7 Abraham ran to the herd, and took a calf, tender and good, and gave it to the servant, who hastened to prepare it. 8 Then he took curds and milk and the calf that he had prepared, and set it before them; and he stood by them under the tree while they ate. 9 They said to him, “Where is your wife Sarah?” And he said, “There, in the tent.” 10 Then one said, “I will surely return to you in due season, and your wife Sarah shall have a son.” And Sarah was listening at the tent entrance behind him. 11 Now Abraham and Sarah were old, advanced in age; it had ceased to be with Sarah after the manner of women. 12 So Sarah laughed to herself, saying, “After I have grown old, and my husband is old, shall I have pleasure?” 13 The Lord said to Abraham, “Why did Sarah laugh, and say, ‘Shall I indeed bear a child, now that I am old?’ 14 Is anything too wonderful for the Lord? At the set time I will return to you, in due season, and Sarah shall have a son.” 15 But Sarah denied, saying, “I did not laugh”; for she was afraid. He said, “Oh yes, you did laugh.”

***“Is anything too hard
for the LORD?”***

Genesis 18:14



Romans 5:1-8 New Revised Standard Version (NRSV)

Results of Justification

5 Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we[a] have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, 2 through whom we have obtained access[b] to this grace in which we stand; and we[c] boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. 3 And not only that, but we[d] also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, 4 and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, 5 and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us. 6 For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. 7 Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. 8 But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us.

Prayer for the Sick

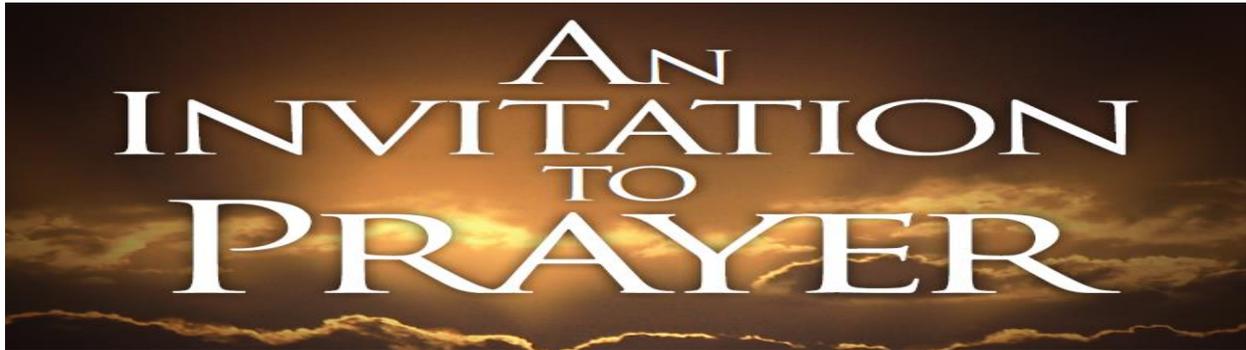
***Father of goodness and love,
Hear our prayers for the sick members of our community
and for all who are in need.
Amid mental and physical suffering may they find
consolation in your healing presence.
Show your mercy as you close wounds, cure illness, make
broken bodies whole and free downcast spirits.
May these special people find lasting health and
deliverance, and so join us in thanking you for all your gifts.
We ask this through the Lord Jesus who healed those who
believed.
Amen.***

JesusPlus.org

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**Special Prayers Requested for:
Silvio and Valerie Qualich**

My Parish Family & Friends Prayer List



George & Marilyn Bacon Karen & Victor Sarah, Selina

Marsha Baldwin

Carl Bucking Scott Bucking

Mary Cranmore

Theresa Dowd John Dowd

Desmond Foster Anthony

Carmen Grant

Flo Hayward Nicole, Adam & Justin

Edwin Hilbrandt

Ellen James Hillman Jennifer, Catherine & Louie, Oliver

Anne Hogan

James Ifill

Bob Imbriani Robert & Samantha, Dylan, Kate, Reid

Doreen Imbriani Brian & Heather, Violet, Noah

Debra Jacobs

Diane Jacobs

Evelyn Jacobs

Anthony & Ngozi Kanu Chudi, Ike, Uzo

Paul & Susan Kaszubski John, Jaclyn

Lizette Kendrick Timia Moore

Dorothy McGlynn

Carol & Donald Russer David & Family

Karen Russer

Andrea Sabbatini,

Betty Sabbatini Beth & Family

Joann Schneiderman Cheryl Lesley, Robert & Gabriella Lesley Robbie

Amy & Lisa, William, Shane, Corey Schmidlin

Lynn Shortell Billy Gun

Annmarie & Randy Thomson Joshua, Logan

Renee Tolliver

Paul Taylor

Arlene Vrede

Lorraine & Everest Campbell Andrew Ryan Shawn

Susan & Michael Breidenbach Michael, Christopher, Matthew

Joyce & Hugh Butler Kim & Craig Paul, Grace, Julie Heather, Thomas & Joanne, Sam

Beth & Chris Lent Zander, Tina

Oddie & Karla McLaughlin Cody, Shyla

Margaret Moorhead

Ifeoma & Godwin Onyeikl Chi Chi, Collins, Christian, Envi, Esther & Nwamaka

Robert & Emily Ring

Lexia & Shain Reece Shannon, Samara

Desiree Giddings

Ola Akinyemi

John Akinyemi

Toyin Akinyemi

Yolanda Ochiobi

Megan & Jimmy Dascoli

Renee Giddings

FORGIVENESS AND THE PRISON OF HATRED

“Darkness cannot drive out darkness; only light can do that. Hate cannot drive out hate; only love can do that.” Martin Luther King, Jr. (1929-1968)

Hatred, when cultivated over a long period of time, results in the slow motion assassination of the soul. We are living through an extraordinary period of social and political division, and the temptation to demonize those with whom we disagree is almost too powerful to resist. Evidence of racism, xenophobia and religious intolerance are everywhere around us, and are expressed with a virulence and intensity that would have seemed unimaginable a few short years ago. We are called upon as followers of Christ to practice kindness, tolerance and patience, even in the face of brutal and unrelenting opposition. But in the pursuit of justice, we must be careful not to transform ourselves into the psychic equivalent of the oppressors we are duty bound to resist. This passage from 1 John 2; 16-17 makes that warning explicit:

“For everything in the world- the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life- comes not from the Father but from the world. The world and its desires pass away, but whoever does the will of God lives forever.”

The stark truth of the current time is that those who attempt to spread the message of peace and reconciliation become attractive targets for a wide degree of verbal and physical abuse. Zealots for or against the prevailing status quo transform their detractors rather quickly into mortal enemies. It is a shameful recipe for imminent violence, and we are kidding ourselves if we refuse to see the present environment is a perfect incubator for spreading this terrible disease.

Addressing injustice without becoming the unintentional purveyors of tyranny is a difficult feat to achieve. The last century is littered with the corpses of genocidal tragedy, brought about because those in power deluded themselves into thinking that utopia on earth could only be achieved by eliminating certain classes of “undesirable” people. The arrogance of substituting our personal judgment for God's in determining who gets to live or die has always represented the tragic apex of human depravity. Saint Augustine's observation about the necessary path of moral rectitude is quite powerful:

“Forgiveness is the remission of sins. For it is by this that what has been lost, and what is found, is saved from being lost again.”

The perfect sacrifice of Christ on the Cross is our redemption from the darkness of sin, and our eternal reconciliation to His undying love for us through the Passion and Resurrection of His only begotten son. Facing turmoil in multiple forms can erode and discourage the hardest and most resilient soul. This reminder from Luke 6:37 should serve us well as we navigate the bumpy roads ahead:

Judge not, and you will not be judged; condemn not, and you will not be condemned; forgive, and you will be forgiven.”

All of us, to one degree or another, contain the potential to harness or great evil from the depths of our souls. Choices that we make now will resonate far beyond our lifetimes, and change the course of history for generations yet to come. The philosopher Hannah Arendt noted that “forgiveness is the key to action and freedom.” If we are to realize those ideals in a badly broken world, we must work forward from the intractable beauty of our own imperfection. It is upon this foundation that the noblest expressions of human compassion, guided by God's unconditional love, can ever hope to banish the bitter darkness of the present age.

God's Peace, Carl Bucking June 2020