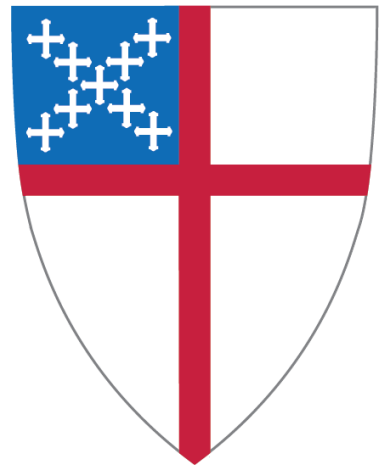


The Lessons Appointed for Use on the
The Fifteenth Sunday
after Pentecost

Year A, RCL

September 6, 2026



(First Reading)

A Reading from the Prophet Ezekiel

You, mortal, I have made a sentinel for the house of Israel; whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me. If I say to the wicked, “O wicked ones, you shall surely die,” and you do not speak to warn the wicked to turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but their blood I will require at your hand. But if you warn the wicked to turn from their ways, and they do not turn from their ways, the wicked shall die in their iniquity, but you will have saved your life.

Now you, mortal, say to the house of Israel, Thus you have said: “Our transgressions and our sins weigh upon us, and we waste away because of them; how then can we live?” Say to them, As I live, says the Lord God, I have no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from their ways and live; turn back, turn back from your evil ways; for why will you die, O house of Israel?

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

(People: Thanks be to God.)



(Psalm)

Psalm 119

Let's say it responsively by half verse.

Teach me, O LORD, the way of your statutes, *

and I shall keep it to the end.

Give me understanding, and I shall keep your law; *

I shall keep it with all my heart.

Make me go in the path of your commandments, *

for that is my desire.

Incline my heart to your decrees *

and not to unjust gain.

Turn my eyes from watching what is worthless; *

give me life in your ways.

Fulfill your promise to your servant, *

which you make to those who fear you.

Turn away the reproach which I dread, *

because your judgments are good.

Behold, I long for your commandments; *

in your righteousness preserve my life.



(The Epistle Reading)

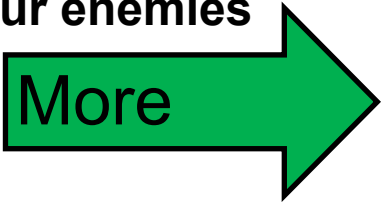
A Reading from Paul's Letter to the Romans

I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, on the basis of God's mercy, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your reasonable act of worship. Do not be conformed to this age, but be transformed by the renewing of the mind, so that you may discern what is the will of God - what is good and acceptable and perfect.

Let love be genuine; hate what is evil; hold fast to what is good; love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. Do not lag in

zeal; be ardent in spirit; serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope; be patient in affliction; persevere in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints; pursue hospitality to strangers.

Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. Rejoice with those who rejoice; weep with those who weep. Live in harmony with one another; do not be arrogant, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God, for it is written, “Vengeance is mine; I will repay, says the Lord.” Instead, “if your enemies



More

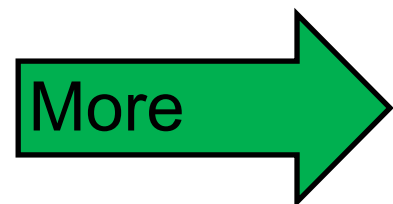
are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink, for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads.” Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

Owe no one anything, except to love one another, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. The commandments, “You shall not commit adultery; you shall not murder; you shall not steal; you shall not covet,” and any other commandment, are summed up in this word, “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law.

Welcome those who are weak in faith but not for the purpose of quarreling over opinions. Some believe in

eating anything, while the weak eat only vegetables. Those who eat must not despise those who abstain, and those who abstain must not pass judgment on those who eat, for God has welcomed them. Who are you to pass judgment on slaves of another? It is before their own lord that they stand or fall. And they will be upheld, for the Lord is able to make them stand.

Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God. For it is written,



**“As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bow to
me,**

and every tongue shall give praise to God.”

So then, each one of us will be held accountable.

**Let us therefore no longer pass judgment on one
another, but resolve instead never to put a stumbling
block or hindrance in the way of a brother or sister.**

Leader: **The Word of the Lord.**

(People: *Thanks be to God.*



Prayers of the People

You may stand, sit or kneel for the prayers

Celebrant: Beloved in Christ, God has appointed us to be watchful for one another, attentive to the needs of our neighbors, and faithful in proclaiming the hope of life. With confidence in God's mercy and love, let us pray for the Church, the world, and all those in need.

Intercessor: For the Church throughout the world; for Sean our Presiding Bishop, Jeffrey & Laura our Bishops, for Fr. Nate our Priest-in-Charge, for all bishops, priests, deacons, and lay ministers, and for this congregation. May we listen for your wisdom, speak the truth in love, welcome correction, and seek reconciliation whenever we are divided.

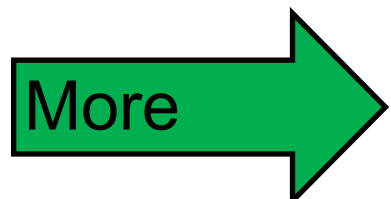
All: Lord, hear us and make us instruments of your peace.

Intercessor: **For the nations of the world and all who exercise authority. Make leaders attentive to the cries of the oppressed, protect those who defend human rights, and turn the hearts of nations from violence toward justice and peace.**

All: *God of every nation, guide us in the way of love.*

Intercessor: **For all who labor: farmers and farmworkers, teachers, caregivers, health-care workers, first responders, public servants, tradespeople, artists, office workers, and all whose work sustains our common life. We thank you for their gifts and ask your blessing upon their efforts.**

All: **Creator of all, bless the work of our hands.**



Intercessor: **For those whose labor is unseen, undervalued, or insecure; for domestic workers, migrants, the unemployed, the underemployed, and all who struggle to provide for themselves and their families. Give them dignity, safety, fair wages, and hope for a better future.**

All: *God of justice, uphold those who work and those who seek work.*

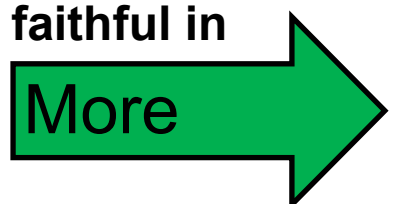
Intercessor: **For employers, business owners, unions, civic leaders, and all who shape working conditions. Give them wisdom and compassion, that they may pursue fairness, honor the dignity of every person, and provide workplaces marked by safety, respect, and mutual care.**

All: Lord of compassion, teach us to love our neighbors as ourselves.

***Intercessor:* For this community and for all who live in conflict with one another. Give us courage to address wrongdoing with humility and gentleness, patience to listen, and grace to forgive. Help us welcome those whose convictions or circumstances differ from our own.**

All: Christ our reconciler, unite us in your love.

***Intercessor:* For the grace to offer our whole lives to you: to love sincerely, rejoice in hope, persevere in suffering, practice hospitality, overcome evil with good, and refrain from judging one another. Keep us faithful in**



**doing what makes for peace and builds up
your people.**

All: Holy Spirit, transform us and renew us.

***Intercessor:* For those who suffer in body, mind, or
spirit; for those who are lonely, grieving,
anxious, imprisoned, displaced, or without
shelter; and for all whose needs are known
only to you. Bring them healing, comfort,
companionship, and the practical help they
need. We pray for those in need as we
remember those who have asked for our
prayers**

*(Please add your own intercessions or thanksgivings out loud or in the
silence of your heart.)*

***Intercessor:* For those who have died, and for all
who have completed their earthly labor.
Receive them into your eternal rest and
strengthen all who mourn with the hope of
resurrection.**

***All:* God of life, grant them light perpetual and peace eternal.**

The Celebrant concludes the Prayers:

