

PRAYER OF THE DAY

**P** God of compassion, you have opened the way for us and brought us to yourself. Pour your love into our hearts, that, overflowing with joy, we may freely share the blessings of your realm and faithfully proclaim the good news of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.  
**C Amen**

↓ **FIRST READING: Exodus 19:2-8a**

**A** A READING FROM EXODUS THE 19<sup>th</sup> CHAPTER

<sup>2</sup>[The Israelites] had journeyed from Rephidim, entered the wilderness of Sinai, and camped in the wilderness; Israel camped there in front of the mountain.<sup>3</sup>Then Moses went up to God; the LORD called to him from the mountain, saying, “Thus you shall say to the house of Jacob, and tell the Israelites: <sup>4</sup>You have seen what I did to the Egyptians, and how I bore you on eagles’ wings and brought you to myself. <sup>5</sup>Now therefore, if you obey my voice and keep my covenant, you shall be my treasured possession out of all the peoples. Indeed, the whole earth is mine, <sup>6</sup>but you shall be for me a priestly kingdom and a holy nation. These are the words that you shall speak to the Israelites.”  
<sup>7</sup>So Moses came, summoned the elders of the people, and set before them all these words that the LORD had commanded him. <sup>8a</sup>The people all answered as one: “Everything that the LORD has spoken we will do.”  
**A** THE WORD OF THE LORD. **C Thanks be to God**

↓ **SECOND READING: Romans 5:1-8**

**A** A READING FROM ROMANS THE 5<sup>th</sup> CHAPTER

<sup>1</sup>Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>2</sup>through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. <sup>3</sup>And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, <sup>4</sup>and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, <sup>5</sup>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.  
<sup>6</sup>For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. <sup>7</sup>Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. <sup>8</sup>But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us.  
**A** THE WORD OF THE LORD. **C Thanks be to God**

↑ **GOSPEL: Matthew 9: 35-10.8**

**P** THE HOLY GOSPEL ACCORDING TO ST. MATTHEW THE 9<sup>TH</sup> CHAPTER  
**C Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>35</sup>Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom, and curing every disease and every sickness. <sup>36</sup>When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. <sup>37</sup>Then he said to his disciples, “The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; <sup>38</sup>therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest.”  
<sup>10:1</sup>Then Jesus summoned his twelve disciples and gave them authority over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to cure every disease and every sickness. <sup>2</sup>These are the names of the twelve apostles: first, Simon, also known as Peter, and his brother Andrew; James son of Zebedee, and his brother John; <sup>3</sup>Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas and Matthew the tax collector; James son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus; <sup>4</sup>Simon the Cananaean, and Judas Iscariot, the one who betrayed him.  
<sup>5</sup>These twelve Jesus sent out with the following instructions: “Go nowhere among the Gentiles, and enter no town of the Samaritans, <sup>6</sup>but go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. <sup>7</sup>As you go, proclaim the good news, ‘The kingdom of heaven has come near.’ <sup>8</sup>Cure the sick, raise the dead, cleanse the lepers, cast out demons. You received without payment; give without payment.  
**P** THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD. **C Praise to you, O Christ.**



THE PRAYERS

**A** Trusting in God’s abundant mercy, let us offer our prayers for a world in need.

*A brief silence.*

**A** For the church here and around the world, we pray. Seek out disciples and send them out with authority to proclaim good news, bring healing where there is pain, and counter the forces of evil. God, in your mercy,

**C** Hear our prayer.

**A** For the earth and all its creatures, we pray. Equip farmers, farm workers, and all who labor on the land to produce a harvest. Nourish crops with ample rainfall and abundant sunshine. Restore lands ruined by pollution or misuse. God, in your mercy,

**C** Hear our prayer.

**A** For those who govern, we pray. Empower those who seek peaceful solutions to conflict and embolden those who advocate for all who are oppressed. Work through systems of government to establish justice throughout the world. God, in your mercy,

**C** Hear our prayer

**A** For those who suffer, we pray. Accompany those who feel helpless, alone, or abandoned. Embrace any who long for successful treatment for mental illness or freedom from addiction. Heal those who are sick (*especially*) **Russell Dawson, Emily Freely, Joanne Paras, Dick Peterson, Mabel Rapp, Carl Swenson and Carolyn Swenson** and those we name aloud, and in our hearts (*pause*). We also pray today, Lord for our homebound members and our military personnel those persons facing abuse. God, in your mercy,

**C** Hear our prayer.

**A** For fathers and father figures, we pray. Console all who long to be fathers, children estranged from their fathers, anyone grieving the death of a father, and fathers who have lost a child. Draw near to all for whom this day stirs up difficult emotions. God, in your mercy,

**C** Hear our prayer.

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

**P** For all the saints, we give thanks. Receive into your eternal care all those who have died and fill us with hope that does not disappoint. God, in your mercy,

**C** Hear our prayer.

**P** Receive our prayers and answer us, O God, in the name of Jesus Christ.

**C** Amen.

↑ SENDING HYMN

“Drawn to the Light”

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