

JULY 13, 2025
FIFTH SUNDAY
AFTER PENTECOST



Showing care to a stranger.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

These passages are related to the Lectionary texts for this Sunday.

Sunday	Luke 10:25-37	The good Samaritan
Monday	Deuteronomy 30:9-14	Choose life, not death
Tuesday	Colossians 1:1-14	A prayer of thanks
Wednesday	Genesis 39:6-23	God protects Joseph
Thursday	James 2:1-13	Warning against favorites
Friday	Leviticus 19:17-34	Living a holy life
Saturday	Psalms 25:1-10	A prayer for guidance
Sunday	Luke 10:38-42	Only one thing needed

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

Which of these three, do you think, was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of the robbers? He [a lawyer] said, "The one who showed him mercy." Jesus said to him, "Go and do likewise."

Luke 10:36-37 (NRSV)

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

Merciful God, it is your will to show steadfast love and faithfulness; give us faith to show your love and mercy to others for the sake of Christ our Lord. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Dear God, you feed all through your loving kindness; we thank you for feeding us today and for showing us how to be kind to others. In Christ Jesus we pray. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May God bless you to have mercy for all.



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HYMN OF THE WEEK
When the Poor Ones



WEEKLY MILESTONES

Take a moment to tell or think about a recent mountain high and/or valley low in your life.

CARING CONVERSATIONS



Discuss in your home, small group, or use for personal reflections:

- How would you describe a good neighbor?
- When someone is called a good Samaritan, what does that mean to you?

DEVOTIONS



Read: Luke 10:25-37.

A lawyer tried to trick Jesus by asking him, "Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?" (v. 25b). Jesus turned the tables and answered the lawyer with a question about what was written in the law. The lawyer gave a good answer that included the importance of loving "your neighbor as yourself" (v. 27). The lawyer fell into his own trap by asking another question: "And who is my neighbor?" (v. 29). He wanted to know who his neighbor was so he could identify who to care for. Jesus told the lawyer the parable of the Good Samaritan. In the story, the Samaritan, a foreigner, was the one who cared for the person in need. Ironically, for the lawyer, it was the foreigner who showed what it means to be a good neighbor. Instead of looking good in the exchange with Jesus, the lawyer looked ridiculous. The Samaritan showed that anyone who needs care is a good candidate to be one's neighbor.

Discuss: When have you shown care for someone who was not a family member, friend or acquaintance?

Pray: **Life-giving God, help us to be compassionate in our actions towards others that we may enjoy our life together and trust in your goodness through Christ our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

SERVICE



Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Daily Bible Readings and theme for this week, how can you show kindness to a stranger?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS



Psalms 25 guides us in understanding how to live in a relationship with God, one that is filled with promises. Faith practices we do in our homes strengthen our relationships with one another and with God. One faith practice is to read scripture daily. Read Psalm 25 and circle those words or phrases that guide you to a personal, trusted relationship with God. Write the words from Psalm 25:4, "Make me to know your ways, O Lord; teach me your paths" on a paper. Place it beside your bed and recite the words each morning or night.



In addition to *Taking Faith Home*, celebrate milestones in your daily life as an effective faith formation tool. Go to: www.milestonesministry.org