JUNE 28, 2026
FIFTH SUNDAY
AFTER PENTECOST

taking faith home

Freed by God's grace.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

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

Sunday	**Matthew 10:40-42**	**Receiving and serving others**
Monday	**Jeremiah 28:5-9**	**Hananiah opposes Jeremiah**
Tuesday	**Romans 6:12-23**	**Slaves of righteousness**
Wednesday	**Leviticus 25:35-43**	**The year of jubilee**
Thursday	**John 8:31-38**	**True disciples**
Friday	**Hebrews 6:1-12**	**Danger of falling away**
Saturday	**Psalm 89:1-4, 15-18**	**God's covenant with David**
Sunday	**Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30**	**Rest for the weary**

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

No longer present your members to sin as instruments of wickedness but present yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life, and present your members to God as instruments of righteousness.
Romans 6:13 (NRSV)

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:
Gracious God, your love is so complete that we cannot fully grasp it. Help us to enjoy life in your presence and extend your love, mercy, and peace, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:
Dear God, we thank you for this food, another example of your constant love and faithfulness, through Christ our Lord. Amen. (Psalm 89:2)

A Blessing to Give:
May God bless you with a holy life.

MILESTONES MINISTRY

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HYMN OF THE WEEK

God, We Gather as Your People

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:

- When have you been tempted to do something, you knew was wrong? What happened?
- How would you describe a life that is guided by Jesus Christ?

DEVOTIONS

Read: Romans 6:12-23.

Since the time Paul conveyed the radical message *"where sin increased, grace abounded all the more"* (Romans 5:20b), Christians and non-Christians alike have wondered if the Christian faith gave license to live immorally. If our sin leads to God's grace, should we help God out by sinning all the more so that God's grace will be extended all the more? Heavens, no, answers Paul. What then? Sin is not simply bad actions. For Paul, sin is a demonic power opposed to everything that is of God. Being baptized into Christ is to die to a life opposed to God. What do we do then? With everything in us, we live *"to God as instruments of righteousness"* (6:13). We gladly participate in God's saving activity in the world with our words, actions, thoughts, and hopes. A life ruled by Christ is not easy to comprehend. Paul writes, *"I am speaking in human terms because of your natural limitations"* (v. 19), so just go for it! Give it your all for the sake of all that is holy, just, and full of God's presence.

Discuss: Does knowing of God's grace give you a desire to do all you can to love and serve?

Pray: **Gracious God, give us the desire to serve in your kingdom as instruments of your goodness and mercy through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

SERVICE

Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Daily Bible Readings and theme for this week, what can you do to be hospitable and welcome someone into your home?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

Jesus said that anyone who welcomes one of his followers welcomes him, and in turn welcomes his Heavenly Father (Matthew 10:40). Extend a welcome to a new friend or new neighbor to join you for a meal in your home. Think of ways to make them feel welcome. Remember that in serving your visitors you are serving Christ himself!

Pray: **Lord, open our hearts to welcome you each day, and open our hands to serve others in love. Amen.**

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