

## *Good News Daily*

**Volume XVIII**

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**Number 36**

### **Sunday, September 9**

Psalm 98 *Sing a new song to the LORD, for he has done wonderful deeds. His right hand has won a mighty victory; his holy arm has shown his saving power.* (v.1 NLT)

Today's readings all weave a powerful message of our life in God. From Job's struggles to Jesus teaching his people their identity as "salt and light" (Matthew 5:13-14), and "the great choir" singing a "new song in front of the throne of God" (Revelation 14:3).

The words of Psalm 63 are like a bell ringing out the longing of David as he "earnestly searches" and "thirsts." David says, "my whole body longs for you" (v.1). That longing vibrates into the recognition that "The ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God" (Psalm 98:3b).

Each day I can begin with the expectation of the wonderful things He will highlight for me. Each evening I can end with thanksgiving for all the ways He has shown His love and power.

Job 25:1-6, 27:1-6; Psalm 63; Revelation 14:1-7, 13; Mathew 5:13-20

*ANGLICAN CYCLE:* PRAY for the Province of the Episcopal Church of South Sudan

*DIOCESAN CYCLE:* St. Stephen's Harrisburg, The Rev Timothy Goodman, Priest-in-Charge; Milambo Mission, Tanzania, Rev. Emmanuel Mabula; The Mission of The Holy Spirit, District of Independencia, Lima, Peru, The Rev. Esteban Zapata, Priest in Charge.

### **Monday, September 10**

John 10:19-30 *"My sheep listen to my voice; I know them and they follow me."* (v.27)

Two key words in life, both spiritual and secular—listen and follow. The Jews had doubts. Was Jesus really the long-awaited Messiah? They questioned Jesus. Jesus said, "I have already told you, and you don't believe me. The proof is the work I do in my Father's name" (v.25).

Over two thousand years later, some still question if Jesus is the Messiah? Or even more basically, is Jesus real, a myth, or just a teacher? In these days, we have the advantage of many records of testimonies of witnesses—a book full of them, in fact! John, an eye witness, shares his experiences at the side of Jesus. John heard Jesus say, "The proof is the work I do in my Father's name." John watched him work and recorded, that we might know who Jesus is.

It's a decision to be made by each of us—to listen to Jesus' voice, follow him, and be one of his flock.

Job 32:1-10, 19—33:1, 19-28; Psalms 41, 52; Acts 13:44-52

ANGLICAN CYCLE: Harare - (Central Africa) [The Rt Revd Chad Nicholas Gandiya](#); Luapula - [The Rt Revd Robert Mumbi](#)

DIOCESAN CYCLE: Look kindly on our world, and may the Light we have in Jesus illuminate and brighten the entire world.

## Tuesday, September 11

Job 29:1-20 *“When I was in my prime, God’s friendship was felt in my home.”* (v.4)

What an experience Job had to share! Could that be true of my home? What might that look and feel like? I look around my home. I do see evidence of God on my shelves and walls—Bibles, devotionals, a cross, a framed poster listing the names of God. Those are items that can be seen, but what is “felt” of “God’s friendship” when a friend, family member, or even a stranger visits my home?

What would God’s friendship feel like in one’s home? A glad to see you smile? A warm word of welcome? A gentle touch? Willingness to take the time for a guest—time to listen, to pray?

Lord, may Your friendship be felt in my home! Lead me, heal me, teach me that I may be Your vessel, a conduit for Your love and friendship.

Psalm 45; Acts 14:1-18; John 10:31-42

ANGLICAN CYCLE: Hawaii - (Province VIII, The Episcopal Church) [The Rt Revd Robert Fitzpatrick](#)

DIOCESAN CYCLE: O Lord God, your will is holy, loving and wise.

ST. MATTHEW’S: Jim Cooper’s birthday.

## Wednesday, September 12

Psalm 119:49-72 *I reflect at night on who you are, O LORD.* (v.55a)

Sometimes sleep comes slowly at night! I’ve found that reflecting on who God is provides that precious connection with Him—separating me from the tasks of the day. In the evening after dinner and all the cleanup involved is over—and perhaps an hour of TV—I love to settle in my special resting/prayer chair and reflect on “who you are, O LORD.” I sit sorting through the day, giving thanks, asking for truth and forgiveness, and reflecting on Who He is—a blessed way to end the day and head towards rest.

Who is He? Who is He to me? He is: Father, Almighty, Always There 24/7, Branch, Teacher, Healer, Cornerstone, Savior, Redeemer, Anchor. He is my Rock—firm and holding me accountable—and yet also tender, my safe place—soothing as my favorite fuzzy blanket. He is the Lamb and the Lion. The Way, the Truth, and the Life. I know He will be with me tomorrow—the Morning Star.

Job 29:1, 30:1-2, 16-31; Acts 14:19-28; John 11:1-16

*ANGLICAN CYCLE:* Hereford - (Canterbury, England) [The Rt Revd Richard Frith](#); Hereford - Ludlow - [The Rt Revd Alistair James Magowan](#)

*DIOCESAN CYCLE:* Lord Jesus Christ, teach us to walk in your way more trustfully.

*ST. MATTHEW'S:* Ray Durham's birthday.

### **Thursday, September 13**

Psalm 50 "*But giving thanks is a sacrifice that truly honors me.*" (v.23a)

Giving thanks...Do we think of thanksgiving as a sacrifice? As honoring? Perhaps if we did we would recognize the weight and value of being thankful and expressing thankfulness. Giving thanks has a much deeper meaning than speaking the words, "Thank you." It is a response—a recognition. Giving sincere thanks is an investment of time, attention, and appreciation. It is stopping a busy and perhaps self-focused life to give another person credit—in this case, the one who gives us life. We are the receivers of such generous love and giving thanks is our part of the relationship. It is giving recognition and honor to the one who gave all.

We give our thanks to God, and we receive the joy and safety of His everlasting attending to us and the hope of His plans for our future. "For I know the plans I have for you... plans not to harm you, but to prosper you, plans of hope and a future" (Jeremiah 29:11).

Job 29:1, 31:1-23; Acts 15:1-11; John 11:17-29

*ANGLICAN CYCLE:* Highveld - (Southern Africa) [The Rt Revd Charles Mthetheleli May](#)

*DIOCESAN CYCLE:* Diocesan Synod of Illinois ratified the establishment of the Diocese of Springfield, 1877; Holy Trinity, Danville, Admitted to the Diocese of Illinois, 1866.

### **Friday, September 14**

John 11:30-44 *Then Jesus wept.* (v.35)

Jesus experienced the loss of a good friend. When we suffer loss like Martha and Mary did, do we believe Jesus is weeping too? Are we open to receiving his presence and comfort, knowing he suffered great pain and losses during his life on earth?

For me it is incredibly comforting and strengthening to remember and know Jesus has "been there". He suffered as a human, like we do. He gets it. His comfort is not just a superficial pat on the shoulder of grief and fear, but a deep heart and spirit connection of empathy. We are truly not alone as we walk—and sometimes limp—through this life. Jesus weeps too!

We are so blessed to be able to open the Bible and find words to express the pain we cannot describe. As Psalm 40 teaches us, "He has given us a new song to

sing, a hymn of praise to our God” (v.3). Lord, give us a new song to sing—Your song!

Job 29:1, 31:24-40; Psalms 40, 54; Acts 15:12-21

*ANGLICAN CYCLE* Ho - (Ghana, West Africa) [The Rt Revd Matthias Mededues-Badohu](#)

*DIOCESAN CYCLE*: Holy Spirit, guide us in our work for the Church.

## **Saturday, September 15**

Job 38:1-17 “*Where were you when I laid the foundations of the earth?*” (v.4a)

No, Lord, I wasn’t there! But now I look at Your creation with awe and gratitude. My heart overflows as I soak in the beauty, the connection, the usefulness of Your creation. I am humbled with thanksgiving. You created that beauty and storehouse around me—sustaining and giving me life. I am humbled and blessed that You, Lord, laid the Cornerstone. (v.6)

Jesus, the Cornerstone: a foundation, holding us steady, firmly supported in forgiveness and eternity, love and truth. Lord Jesus, you are indeed the Cornerstone in my life—guiding, supporting, leading. Helping me both when I need to have a steady foundation and when I must turn the corners of life.

We lose the earthly glue of our lives when change comes. Friends or family move away or pass away, finances wobble, jobs wind up or down. We age, losing the energy or heart to do what we’ve always done. Jesus, my Cornerstone, lead me. Help me turn those corners.

Psalms 55; Acts 15:22-35; John 11:45-54

*ANGLICAN CYCLE*: Honduras - (Province XI, The Episcopal Church) [The Rt Revd Lloyd Allen](#)

*DIOCESAN CYCLE*: St. John’s, Centralia, Admitted to the Diocese of Illinois, 1859; St. Thomas’, Salem, Admitted to the Diocese of Illinois, 1859; Redeemer, Cairo, Admitted to the Diocese of Illinois, 1864.

*ST. MATTHEW’S*: Bella Levine’s birthday

*by Barbara Maybee*

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**Pray for** the sick and those in distress: Charlie, Jenna A., Mary, James T., Julie C., Valerie R., Barbara A., Bill B., Ms. Shayne, Diane B., Steve J., Carol D.

**Pray for** the Faithful Departed:

**Pray for** those living in nursing homes and other shut-ins: Dale B., Barb W., Daniel T., Ina R., and Margaret P.

**Pray for:** The Diocese of Tabora, Anglican Church of Tanzania, The Rt. Rev. Elias Chakupewa, the clergy and people. The Missionary Diocese of Peru, The Rt. Rev. Alejandro Mesco. Fr. Kari Marcelle, the clergy and people of Holy Trinity St. Vincent. Fr. Dave and all clergy, for whom we light the candle on the west side of the Altar