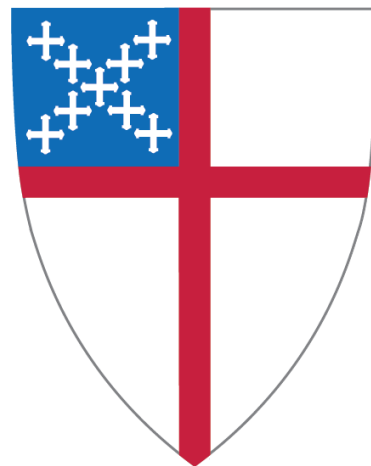


The Lessons Appointed for Use on the

**The Ninth Sunday
after Pentecost**

Year A, RCL

July 26, 2026



(First Reading)

A Reading from the First Book of Kings

At Gibeon the LORD appeared to Solomon in a dream by night; and God said, “Ask what I should give you.” And Solomon said, “You have shown great and steadfast love to your servant my father David, because he walked before you in faithfulness, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart toward you; and you have kept for him this great and steadfast love, and have given him a son to sit on his throne today. And now, O LORD my God, you have made your servant king in place of my father David, although I am only a little child; I do not know how to go out or come in. And your servant is in the midst of

the people whom you have chosen, a great people, so numerous they cannot be numbered or counted.

Give your servant therefore an understanding mind to govern your people, able to discern between good and evil; for who can govern this your great people?”

It pleased the LORD that Solomon had asked this.

God said to him, “Because you have asked this, and have not asked for yourself long life or riches, or for the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, I now do according to your word. Indeed I give you a wise and discerning mind; no one like you has been before you and no one like you shall arise after you.”

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

(People: Thanks be to God.)



(Psalm)

Psalm 119

Let's say it responsively by half verse.

Your decrees are wonderful; *

therefore I obey them with all my heart.

When your word goes forth it gives light; *

it gives understanding to the simple.

I open my mouth and pant; *

I long for your commandments.

Turn to me in mercy, *

as you always do to those who love your Name.

Steady my footsteps in your word; *

let no iniquity have dominion over me.

Rescue me from those who oppress me, *

and I will keep your commandments.

Let your countenance shine upon your servant *

and teach me your statutes.

My eyes shed streams of tears, *

because people do not keep your law.



(The Epistle Reading)

A Reading from Paul's Letter to the Romans

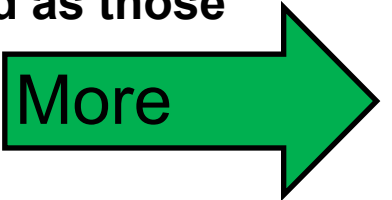
What then are we to say? Should we continue in sin in order that grace may abound? By no means! How can we who died to sin go on living in it? Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? Therefore we have been buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life.

For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a

resurrection like his. We know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be destroyed, and we might no longer be enslaved to sin. For whoever has died is freed from sin. But if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. The death he died, he died to sin, once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God. So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

Do not let sin exercise dominion in your mortal bodies, to make you obey their passions. No longer present your members to sin as instruments of wickedness, but present yourselves to God as those

More



**who have been brought from death to life, and
present your members to God as instruments of
righteousness. For sin will have no dominion over
you, since you are not under law but under grace.**

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: Let us pray for the Church and for the world, trusting the God who gives wisdom, light, new life, and the treasure of the kingdom.

Intercessor: Gracious God, you invited Solomon to ask for what he most needed, and you granted him a wise and discerning heart. Give your Church the same gift: wisdom that listens, discernment that loves truth, and understanding that reflects your kingdom.

All: Lord, give us hearts that discern your ways.

Intercessor: Your statutes are wonderful, O Lord, and your word gives light. Strengthen all who proclaim the Gospel, that your teaching may

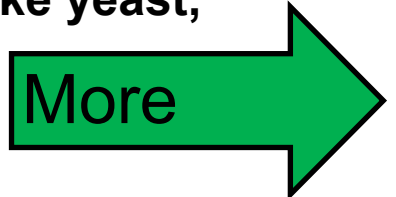
open minds, guide hearts, and turn us from every injustice. Bless Sean our Presiding Bishop, Jeffrey and Laura our Bishops, Fr. Nate our Priest-in-Charge, and all who minister in your name.

All: Lord, let your word illumine our path and heal our world.

Intercessor: **You call us to walk in newness of life, freed from the dominion of sin and death. Empower this parish and all your people to live as those raised with Christ - courageous in goodness, steadfast in hope, and generous in love.**

All: Lord, make us alive to righteousness and alive to you.

Intercessor: **Your kingdom is like a mustard seed, growing beyond our imagining; like yeast,**



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**working unseen until all is transformed; like
treasure and pearl, worth everything we have.
Guide the nations of the world to seek what
is truly precious: justice, mercy, and peace.
Bless those who govern, and inspire them
with wisdom that serves the common good.**

All: Lord, let your kingdom grow in us and among us.

Intercessor: **We thank you for the hidden graces of
daily life, for the small beginnings of your
kingdom among us, and for all who reveal
your love. Give us eyes to see your treasure,
hearts to seek your will, and joy in following
Christ.**

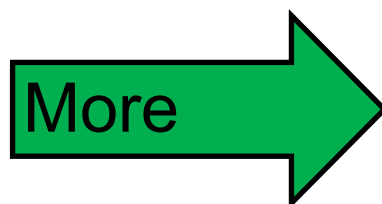
All: Lord, make us joyful stewards of your kingdom gift.

Intercessor: **Look with compassion on this world you love. Where sorrow flows like rivers, bring relief; where injustice grieves your heart, bring righteousness; where people suffer in body, mind, or spirit, bring healing. We remember now for our own needs and those of others.**

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

Intercessor: **Lord, in your mercy,**

All: *Lord, let your healing and justice take root.*



Intercessor: **We commend to your mercy all who have
died, trusting that nothing can separate us
from the love of God in Christ Jesus our
Lord.**

All: *Lord, welcome them into the joy of your kingdom.*



The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

