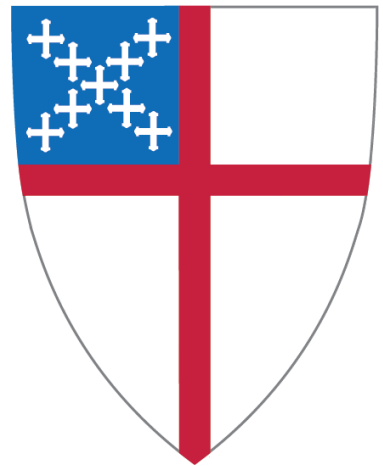


The Lessons Appointed for Use on the
The Eleventh Sunday
after Pentecost

Year A, RCL

August 9, 2026



(First Reading)

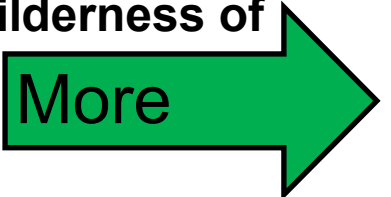
A Reading from the First Book of Kings

At Horeb, the mount of God, Elijah came to a cave, and spent the night there. Then the word of the LORD came to him, saying, “What are you doing here, Elijah?” He answered, “I have been very zealous for the LORD, the God of hosts; for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away.”

He said, “Go out and stand on the mountain before the LORD, for the LORD is about to pass by.” Now

there was a great wind, so strong that it was splitting mountains and breaking rocks in pieces before the LORD, but the LORD was not in the wind; and after the wind an earthquake, but the LORD was not in the earthquake; and after the earthquake a fire, but the LORD was not in the fire; and after the fire a sound of sheer silence. When Elijah heard it, he wrapped his face in his mantle and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave. Then there came a voice to him that said, “What are you doing here, Elijah?” He answered, “I have been very zealous for the LORD, the God of hosts; for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away.” Then the Lord said to him, “Go, return on your way to the wilderness of

More



Damascus; when you arrive, you shall anoint Hazael as king over Aram. Also you shall anoint Jehu son of Nimshi as king over Israel; and you shall anoint Elisha son of Shaphat of Abel-meholah as prophet in your place. Whoever escapes from the sword of Hazael, Jehu shall kill; and whoever escapes from the sword of Jehu, Elisha shall kill. Yet I will leave seven thousand in Israel, all the knees that have not bowed to Baal, and every mouth that has not kissed him.”

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

(People: Thanks be to God.)



(Psalm)

Psalm 85

Let's say it responsively by half verse.

I will listen to what the LORD God is saying, *

for he is speaking peace to his faithful people

and to those who turn their hearts to him.

Truly, his salvation is very near to those who fear him, *

that his glory may dwell in our land.

Mercy and truth have met together; *

righteousness and peace have kissed each other.

Truth shall spring up from the earth, *

and righteousness shall look down from heaven.

The LORD will indeed grant prosperity, *

and our land will yield its increase.

Righteousness shall go before him, *

and peace shall be a pathway for his feet.



(The Epistle Reading)

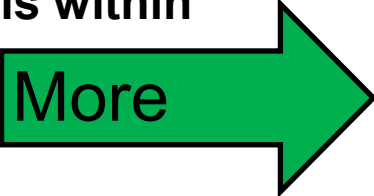
A Reading from Paul's Letter to the Romans

What then should we say? That the law is sin? By no means! Yet, if it had not been for the law, I would not have known sin. I would not have known what it is to covet if the law had not said, 'You shall not covet.' But sin, seizing an opportunity in the commandment, produced in me all kinds of covetousness. Apart from the law sin lies dead. I was once alive apart from the law, but when the commandment came, sin revived and I died, and the very commandment that promised life proved to be death to me. For sin, seizing an opportunity in the

commandment, deceived me and through it killed me. So the law is holy, and the commandment is holy and just and good.

Did what is good, then, bring death to me? By no means! It was sin, working death in me through what is good, in order that sin might be shown to be sin, and through the commandment might become sinful beyond measure.

For we know that the law is spiritual; but I am of the flesh, sold into slavery under sin. I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. Now if I do what I do not want, I agree that the law is good. But in fact it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within



More

me. For I know that nothing good dwells within me, that is, in my flesh. I can will what is right, but I cannot do it. For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I do. Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within me.

So I find it to be a law that when I want to do what is good, evil lies close at hand. For I delight in the law of God in my inmost self, but I see in my members another law at war with the law of my mind, making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members. Wretched man that I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death? Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!

**So then, with my mind I am a slave to the law of God,
but with my flesh I am a slave to the law of sin.**

Leader: **The Word of the Lord.**

(People: *Thanks be to God.*



Prayers of the People

You may stand, sit or kneel for the prayers

Intercessor: **In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.**

Silence

Intercessor: **For all people in their daily life and work;**

All: For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.

Intercessor: **For this community, the nation, and the world;**

All: For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.

Intercessor: **For the just and proper use of your creation;**

All: For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.

Intercessor: **For better stewardship.**

*All: That we may fulfill our responsibilities with love and diligence
so that our efforts may glorify God.*

Intercessor: **For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any
kind of trouble;**

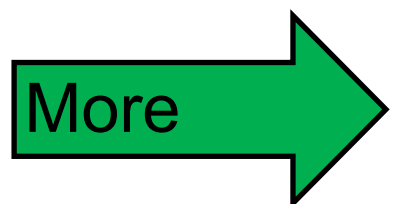
*All: For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, the
homeless, and the needy.*

Intercessor: **For the peace and unity of the Church of
God;**

All: For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.

Intercessor: **For Sean our Presiding Bishop; Jeffrey
and Laura our Bishops; Fr. Nate, our Priest-
in-Charge; and for all bishops and other
ministers;**

All: For all who serve God in his Church.



Intercessor: **For the special needs and concerns of
this congregation.**

The People may add their own petitions

Intercessor: **Hear us, Lord;**

All: For your mercy is great.

Intercessor: **We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings
of this life.**

The People may add their own thanksgivings

Intercessor: **We will exalt you, O God our King;**

All: And praise your Name for ever and ever.

Intercessor: **We pray for all who have died, that they
may have a place in your eternal kingdom.**

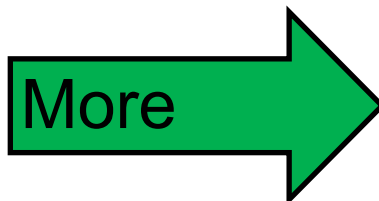
The People may add their own petitions

Intercessor: **Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon
them;**

All: Who put their trust in you.

Intercessor: **We pray to you also for the forgiveness
of our sins.**

Silence may be kept.



**Intercessor: Have mercy upon us, most merciful
Father;
in your compassion forgive us our sins,
known and unknown,
things done and left undone;
and so uphold us by your Spirit
that we may live and serve you in newness
of life,
to the honor and glory of your Name;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**



The Celebrant concludes with an absolution or a suitable Collect.