

THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST – PROPER 8

June 29, 2025

Year C, Revised Common Lectionary

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THE MAN AT THE PLOUGH

James Tissot, Brooklyn Museum, between 1886 and 1894.

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He picked up the mantle of Elijah that had fallen from him and went back and stood on the bank of the Jordan. He took the mantle of Elijah that had fallen from him and struck the water. He said, “Where is the LORD, the God of Elijah? Where is he?” He struck the water again, and the water was parted to the one side and to the other, and Elisha crossed over.

Psalm 77:1-2, 11-20

- ✘ I cry aloud to God, aloud to God, that he may hear me.
- ✘ In the day of my trouble I seek the LORD; in the night my hand is stretched out without wearying; my soul refuses to be comforted.
- ✘ I will call to mind the deeds of the LORD; I will remember your wonders of old.
- ✘ I will meditate on all your work and muse on your mighty deeds. Your way, O God, is holy.
- ✘ What god is so great as our God? You are the God who works wonders;
- ✘ you have displayed your might among the peoples.
- ✘ With your strong arm you redeemed your people, the descendants of Jacob and Joseph. Selah
- ✘ When the waters saw you, O God, when the waters saw you, they were afraid; the very deep trembled.
- ✘ The clouds poured out water; the skies thundered; your arrows flashed on every side.
- ✘ The crash of your thunder was in the whirlwind; your lightnings lit up the world; the earth trembled and shook.
- ✘ Your way was through the sea, your path through the mighty waters, yet your footprints were unseen.
- ✘ You led your people like a flock by the hand of Moses and Aaron.

Galatians 5:1, 13-25 For freedom Christ has set us free. Stand firm, therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery. For you were called to freedom, brothers and sisters, only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for self-indulgence, but through love become enslaved to one another. For the whole law is summed up in a single commandment, “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” If, however, you bite and devour one another, take care that you are not consumed by one another. Live by the Spirit, I say, and do not gratify the desires of the flesh. For what the flesh desires is opposed to the Spirit, and what the Spirit desires is opposed to the flesh, for these are opposed to each other, to prevent you from doing what you want. But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not subject to the law. Now the works of the flesh are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity, debauchery, idolatry, sorcery, enmities, strife, jealousy, anger, quarrels, dissensions,

factions, envy, drunkenness, carousing, and things like these. I am warning you, as I warned you before: those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God. By contrast, the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against such things. And those who belong to Christ have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. If we live by the Spirit, let us also be guided by the Spirit.

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Psalm 16

- ✘ Protect me, O God, for in you I take refuge.
- ✘ I say to the LORD, “You are my LORD; I have no good apart from you.”
- ✘ As for the holy ones in the land, they are the noble ones in whom is all my delight.
- ✘ Those who choose another god multiply their sorrows; their drink offerings of blood I will not pour out or take their names upon my lips.

- ✘ The LORD is my chosen portion and my cup; you hold my lot.
- ✘ The boundary lines have fallen for me in pleasant places; I have a goodly heritage.
- ✘ I bless the LORD, who gives me counsel; in the night also my heart instructs me.
- ✘ I keep the LORD always before me; because he is at my right hand, I shall not be moved.
- ✘ Therefore my heart is glad, and my soul rejoices; my body also rests secure.
- ✘ For you do not give me up to Sheol or let your faithful one see the Pit.
- ✘ You show me the path of life.
- ✘ In your presence there is fullness of joy; in your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

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Texts in gray: Alternate first reading and Psalm

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June 29, 2025

Year C, Revised Common Lectionary

1 Kings 19:15-16, 19-21 Then the LORD said to him, “Go, return on your way to the wilderness of Damascus; when you arrive, you shall anoint Hazeel 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. So he set out from there and found Elisha son of Shaphat, who was plowing. There were twelve yoke of oxen ahead of him, and he was with the twelfth. Elijah passed by him and threw his mantle over him. He left the oxen, ran after Elijah, and said, “Let me kiss my father and my mother, and then I will follow you.” Then Elijah said to him, “Go back again, for what have I done to you?” He returned from following him, took the yoke of oxen, and slaughtered them; using the equipment from the oxen, he boiled their flesh and gave it to the people, and they ate. Then he set out and followed Elijah and became his servant.

Psalms 16 Protect me, O God, for in you I take refuge. I say to the LORD, “You are my LORD; I have no good apart from you.” As for the holy ones in the land, they are the noble ones in whom is all my delight. Those who choose another god multiply their sorrows; their drink offerings of blood I will not pour out or take their names upon my lips. The LORD is my chosen portion and my cup; you hold my lot. The boundary lines have fallen for me in pleasant places; I have a goodly heritage. I bless the LORD, who gives me counsel; in the night also my heart instructs me. I keep the LORD always before me; because he is at my right hand, I shall not be moved. Therefore my heart is glad, and my soul rejoices; my body also rests secure. For you do not give me up to Sheol or let your faithful one see the Pit. You show me the path of life. In your presence there is fullness of joy; in your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

Galatians 5:1, 13-25 For freedom Christ has set us free. Stand firm, therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery. For you were called to freedom, brothers and sisters, only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for self-indulgence, but through love become enslaved to one another. For the whole law is summed up in a single commandment, “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” If, however, you bite and devour one another, take care that you are not consumed by one another. Live by the Spirit, I say, and do not gratify the desires of the flesh. For what the flesh desires is opposed to the Spirit, and what the Spirit desires is opposed to the flesh, for these are opposed to each other, to prevent you from doing what you want. But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not subject to the law. Now the works of the flesh are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity, debauchery, idolatry, sorcery, enmities, strife, jealousy, anger, quarrels,

dissensions, factions, envy, drunkenness, carousing, and things like these. I am warning you, as I warned you before: those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God. By contrast, the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against such things. And those who belong to Christ have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. If we live by the Spirit, let us also be guided by the Spirit.

Luke 9:51-62 When the days drew near for him to be taken up, he set his face to go to Jerusalem. And he sent messengers ahead of him. On their way they entered a village of the Samaritans to prepare for his arrival, but they did not receive him because his face was set toward Jerusalem. When his disciples James and John saw this, they said, “Lord, do you want us to command fire to come down from heaven and consume them?” But he turned and rebuked them. Then they went on to another village. As they were going along the road, someone said to him, “I will follow you wherever you go.” And Jesus said to him, “Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head.” To another he said, “Follow me.” But he said, “Lord, first let me go and bury my father.” And Jesus said to him, “Let the dead bury their own dead, but as for you, go and proclaim the kingdom of God.” Another said, “I will follow you, Lord, but let me first say farewell to those at my home.” And Jesus said to him, “No one who puts a hand to the plow and looks back is fit for the kingdom of God.”

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