

OCTOBER 25, 2026
TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY
AFTER PENTECOST

taking† faith home

Showing love for God by loving others.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

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

Sunday	Matthew 22:34-46	Loving God and neighbor
Monday	Leviticus 19:1-18	Love your neighbor as yourself
Tuesday	1 Thessalonians 2:1-8	Paul's life and work
Wednesday	1 Corinthians 12:12-31	One body with many members
Thursday	Romans 15:1-6	Please others, not yourselves
Friday	Hebrews 10:19-25	Encourage one another
Saturday	Psalms 1	The way to happiness
Sunday	Matthew 23:1-12	Humble yourselves

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

So deeply do we care for you that we are determined to share with you not only the gospel of God, but also our own selves, because you have become very dear to us. 1 Thessalonians 2:8 (NRSV)

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

Merciful God, you call us to love you and our neighbor. Give us courage to see beyond our own needs so we can see the needs of others through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Dear God, just as you feed us with your living word, we thank you for feeding us with this gift of food. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May God watch over you and keep you safe.



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HYMN OF THE WEEK

Behold, How Pleasant

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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 is a time you were in need of help and someone showed care for you?
- What does it mean to love your neighbor as yourself?

DEVOTIONS

Read: 1 Thessalonians 2:1-8.

Paul cares deeply for the church in Thessalonica. He says that Silvanus, Timothy, and he care for the people *“like a nurse tenderly caring for her own children”* (v. 7). Later he would add the metaphor of a father caring for his children. Paul and his missionary friends model a way of life for the church that deeply cares for the people. It reflects part of Jesus' Great Commandment that states, *“You shall love your neighbor as yourself”* (Matthew 22:39). The heart of a biblical and Christian way of life is seen in the Great Commandment and in the way Paul and his friends model that love through an intimate care of others. Today different forms of small group ministries in the church seek to live in a caring community through prayer, caring, and supportive conversations (including correcting one another—see Leviticus 19:17). Serving the needs of one another and celebrating life together provides the opportunity for a variety of rich and meaningful Christian traditions.

Discuss: What acts of serving and caring have you experienced in the church?

Pray: **Loving God, we thank you for your parental care that feeds and protects us. Give us the faith to care for and feed others with your love 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, how can you show love and care for others by being part of a caring community?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

In Matthew 22:34-46, the Pharisees asked Jesus difficult questions, and he posed hard questions back to them. Asking questions and wondering about the Christian faith is important. Think or talk about what questions you have about the Christian faith. Write them down on a sheet of paper. Then think or talk about where or who you might ask for help with answering your questions.

Pray: **Dear God, help us to take delight in your word so that we may be like trees planted by streams of water that will not wither but prosper and produce the fruit of righteousness filled with love for you and for our neighbor.** (Psalm 1)

