



**Prayer Readings, Revised Common Lectionary
(Year A)**

August 2023

Tues. August 15, 2023
Morning Prayer

Thur. August 17, 2023
Centering Prayer

Psalm 67
May God be merciful to us and bless us;
may the light of God's face shine upon us.
Let your way be known upon earth,
your saving health among all nations.
Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you.
Let the nations be glad and sing for joy,
for you judge the peoples with equity
and guide all the nations on earth.
Let the peoples praise you, O God;
let all the peoples praise you.
The earth has brought forth its increase;
God, our own God, has blessed us.
May God give us blessing,
and may all the ends of the earth stand in awe.
From Evangelical Lutheran Worship

Psalm 67
Bless us, O God—
whisper in our hearts and light our times.
Help us to understand your love and your law
and bring them to bear on the world's ills.
Let all the people of the earth praise you
with all their diverse voices.
Let them call out the ten thousand names.
Let all nations praise you with the best of their ways.
Let us all enjoy each other's wisdom.
Let the peoples of the earth bless the earth
and heal her together.
Bless us, O God, with your presence in our hearts,
And in the soul of our nation.
[BY CHRISTINE ROBINSON](#)

Wed. August 16, 2023
Lectio Divina

Matthew 15:22, 25, 28 NRSV
Just then a Canaanite woman ... came
out and started shouting,
"Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of
David; my daughter is tormented by a demon."
... she came and knelt before him,
saying, "Lord, help me."

... Jesus answered her, "Woman, great
is your faith! Let it be done for you as
you wish." And her daughter was healed instantly.

<p>Tues. August 22, 2023 Morning Prayer</p> <p>Thur. August 24, 2023 Centering Prayer</p>	<p>Pslam 138 (Thanksgiving to a Faithful God) I thank you, Lord, with all my heart, you have heard the words of my mouth. In the presence of the angels I will bless you. I will adore before your holy temple. I thank you for your faithfulness and love which excel all we ever knew of you. On the day I called, you answered; you increased the strength of my soul. All earth's kings shall thank you when they hear the words of your mouth. They shall sing of the Lord's ways: "How great is the glory of the Lord!" The Lord is high yet looks on the lowly and the haughty God knows from afar. Though I walk in the midst of affliction, you give me life and frustrate my foes. You stretch out your hand and save me, your hand will do all things for me. Your love, O Lord, is eternal, discard not the work of your hands. From The Pslams: A New Translation</p>	<p>Pslam 138 I give thanks to you, O God, with my whole heart. Wherever I find you, I sing your praise. I notice nature's intricacy, I ponder your stirrings in my heart. I see your Way lure the world towards peace, justice, and love. You care for the lowly You keep me safe when I walk through troubles and turmoil. I live your Way, for your love endures forever. BY CHRISTINE ROBINSON</p>
<p>Wed. August 23, 2023 Lectio Divina</p>	<p>Matthew 16:13-18 NRSV Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" And they said, "Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God." And Jesus answered him ... "And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church ..."</p>	
<p>Tues. August 29, 2023 Morning Prayer</p> <p>Thur. August 31, 2023 Centering Prayer</p>	<p>Psalm 84 How lovely is your dwelling place, Lord, God of hosts! My soul is longing and yearning is yearning for the courts of the Lord. My heart and my soul ring out their joy to God, the living God. The sparrow herself finds a home and the swallow a nest for her brood;</p>	<p>Psalm 84 How glorious is your dwelling place, O Blessed Architect of the universe! My soul longs, yes, aches for the abode of the Beloved; All that is within me sings for joy to the living Heart of Love! Even as the sparrow finds a home, and the swallow a nesting place,</p>

	<p>she lays her young by your altars... They are happy, who dwell in your house, forever singing your praise. They are happy, whose strength is in you, in whose hearts are set on the pilgrims' way. As they go through the Bitter Valley they make it a place of springs, the early rain covers it with blessings. They walk with ever growing strength, they will see the God of gods in Zion. O Lord, God of hosts, hear my prayer; give ear, O God of Jacob. Turn your eyes, O God, our shield, look on the face of your anointed. One day within your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere. The threshold of the house of God I prefer to the dwellings of the wicked. For the Lord God is both sun and shield, bestowing grace and glory. No good thing will the Lord withhold from those who walk with integrity. Lord, God of hosts, happy are they who put their trust in you! From The Psalms: A New Translation</p>	<p>where its young are raised within your majestic creation, You invite us to dwell within your Heart. Blessed are they who put their strength in You, who choose to share the joy and sorrows of the world. They do not give way to fear or doubt; they are quickened by Divine Light and Power; they dwell within the peace of the Most High. They go from strength to strength and live with integrity. From Psalms for Praying, Nan C. Merrill</p>
<p>Wed. August 30, 2023 Lectio Divina</p>	<p>Matthew 16:21-22, 24-25 NRSV From that time on, Jesus began to show his disciples that he must ... undergo great suffering ... and be killed, and on the third day be raised.</p> <p>And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, "God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you."</p> <p>Jesus told his disciples, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it."</p>	