

OCTOBER 13, 2024  
TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY  
AFTER PENTECOST



OCTOBER 13, 2024

HYMN OF THE WEEK



*O Master, Let Me  
Walk with You*



WEEKLY MILESTONES



Take a moment to tell or think about a recent mountain high and/or valley low in your life.

*Following Jesus trusts the goodness of God.*

### DAILY BIBLE READINGS

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

Sunday	Mark 10:17-31	A rich man goes away sad
Monday	Amos 5:6-7, 10-15	Seek good and not evil
Tuesday	Hebrews 4:12-16	Jesus is the great high priest
Wednesday	Matthew 6:24-34	Do not worry
Thursday	Ecclesiastes 3:1-8	Everything has its time
Friday	Proverbs 3:1-6	Trust and honor God
Saturday	Psalms 90:12-17	Teach us wisdom
Sunday	Mark 10:35-45	The Son of Man came to save

### SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

*Jesus looked at them [his disciples] and said, "For mortals it is impossible, but not for God; for God all things are possible." Mark 10:27 (NRSV)*

### PRAYERS AND BLESSING

#### A Prayer for the Week:

Wise and compassionate God, may we see in Jesus the way of life that trusts your goodness and serves others with compassion and generosity. Amen.

#### Mealtime Prayer:

Dear God, may the gift of this food and the kingdom you bring us in Jesus, give us wise hearts and the strength to care for others. Amen. (Psalm 90:12, 17)

#### A Blessing to Give:

May the love of Christ free you to love others.

### CARING CONVERSATIONS



Discuss in your home, small group, or use for personal reflections:

- Could you easily give away all your possessions? Why or why not?
- Does knowing that for God all things are possible make life easy or difficult? Explain.

### DEVOTIONS



Read: Mark 10:17-31.

This passage can make our heads spin with good news, then bad, and then good again. Jesus is addressed as a "good teacher" (v. 17) by a rich man. But that leads to Jesus telling him, "No one is good but God alone" (v. 18). Jesus then lists the commandments as how to live, and the rich man says he has kept them all. But then Jesus asks for more of the rich man: sell all his possessions and give the money to the poor, then follow Jesus. Jesus says that it is hard for the wealthy to enter the kingdom of God. In fact, it is hard for anyone! When all hope seems to be lost, Jesus says, "for God all things are possible" (v. 27). In frustration Peter points out how the disciples have already given up so much. Jesus counters that the losses will be made up with huge benefits of dwellings and families, yet persecutions will remain. Standards for achievement and the good life are all challenged because "many who are first will be last, and the last will be first" (v. 31). Following Jesus is a letting go of our own standards to trust in God. Discuss: What have you had to let go of to follow Jesus?

Pray: **Almighty God, help us to let go of any contentment with ourselves to be open to the work of your kingdom for the sake of humility and love in Jesus' name. Amen.**

### SERVICE



Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Daily Bible Readings and theme for this week, what possessions can you donate for others to use?

### RITUALS AND TRADITIONS



Hebrews 4:12 says that the word of God is "living and active." Gather various translations of the Bible or find them online. Biblegateway.com is a good online resource. During devotion time, choose one of the *Daily Bible Readings* and look them up in different Bible translations. Make notes of what is similar and what is different. (The CEV, ICB, and NIV are good translations when reading with children and youth.) Then think or talk about how the scripture is living and active in your life. Place a Bible in a visible place in your home as a reminder of the central place of God's word in your life.