

Season after Pentecost, Year B, Proper 18

(Sunday between September 4 and September 10 inclusive)

Color: Green

Scriptures: [Scripture linked to NRSV at [Oremus Bible Browser](#)]

[Proverbs 22:1-2, 8-9, 22-23](#) (*A good name is to be chosen rather than great riches*)

[Psalm 125](#) (*Do good, O Lord, to those who are good, and to those who are upright in heart*)

[James 2:1-10, \(11-13\), 14-17](#) (*Faith, by itself is dead without works*)

[Mark 7:24-37](#) (*Jesus heals the little girl and the deaf man*)

Alternate First Reading and Psalm:

[Isaiah 35:4-7a](#) (*Be strong, do not fear! God will come and save you*)

[Psalm 146](#) (*The Lord sets the prisoners free, opens the eyes of the blind*)

Themes: Integrity, Social Justice, Faith, Healing, Salvation

HYMN SUGGESTIONS

Hymn Suggestions link to [Hymnary.org](#), a searchable resource with a wealth of information. The tunes listed here are the ones most commonly associated with the texts, and the biblical/thematic references suggest the hymn's association with the scriptures or themes of this service.

For Everyone Born (<i>FOR EVERYONE BORN</i>)	James
Give Thanks (<i>GIVE THANKS</i>)	Isaiah, Psalm 146
Heal Me, Hands of Jesus (<i>TAYLOR; CAROL STREAM; SUTTON COMMON</i>)	Mark
I'll Praise My Maker (<i>OLD 113TH</i>)	Isaiah, Psalm 146
In Christ There Is No East or West (<i>MCKEE; ST. PETER</i>)	James, Mark
Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us With Your Love (<i>CHEREPONI</i>).....	James
The Kingdom of God Is Justice and Joy (<i>HANOVER; LAUDATE DOMINUM</i>)	Isaiah
Let Your Heart Be Broken (<i>WYE VALLEY</i>).....	James
Lord, Whose Love Through Humble Service (<i>BEACH SPRING; JOYFUL SINGING</i>).....	Proverbs, James, Mark
O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing (<i>AZMON; BLESSED NAME</i>).....	Mark
Open My Eyes, That I May See (<i>SCOTT</i>)	Psalm 146, Mark
There Is a Longing In Our Hearts (<i>LONGING</i>)	Proverbs, Psalm 125, Isaiah
When the Poor Ones [Cuando el Pobre] (<i>EL CAMINO</i>).....	Proverbs, James, Mark
Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life (<i>GERMANY</i>).....	James

ANTHEMS

E = Easy, M = Moderate, MD = Moderately Difficult

Ain't Got Time to Die – M Mark
Hall Johnson
© 1955, G. Schirmer, No. 10301
SATB and Tenor solo, a cappella

All Are Welcome – E James
TWO OAKS/Marty Haugen
© 1994, GIA Publications, G-4166
Unison/SATB, Keyboard, opt. 2 C-Instruments, Brass

Be Strong, Fear Not – ME Isaiah
Thomas Keesecker
© 1992, Concordia Publishing, 98-3044
SATB, Keyboard, opt. Guitar, Congregation

For Everyone Born – M Psalm 146, James
Brian Mann/Tom Trenney, arr.
© 2016, MorningStar Music, 50-5011
SATB, Piano, Cello

I'll Praise My Maker – M Isaiah, Psalm 146
OLD 113TH/Lloyd Pfautsch, arr.
© 1960, 1982, Hope Publishing, APM-110
SATB, Organ, opt. Brass

King of Glory, King of Peace – ME Psalm 146
Gerald Near
© 1989, Aureole Editions, AE 11
SATB, Organ

Praise the Lord – ME Psalm 146
G.F. Handel/Hal Hopson, arr. ("Judas Maccabeus")
© 1974, 1976, H. Flammer, A 5714
SATB, Keyboard (also available SAB, 2-Part Mixed)

Praise the Lord – E Psalm 146
Traditional Cameroon/Ralph Johnson, arr.
earthsongs, S-45
SATB, Percussion, a cappella

Song of Community – M James
(The Church of Christ in Every Age)
WAREHAM/John Ferguson, arr.
© 2006, MorningStar Music, 50-6516
SATB, Organ, Handbells, opt. Congregation

Song of Hope – E Psalm 146
Traditional Argentine, Robert Hobby, arr.
© 2000, MorningStar Music, 50-8112
Unison, 2-Part or 4-part, Keyboard, Percussion

We Cannot Measure How You Heal – E Mark
Malcolm Archer
© 2003, RSCM/GIA Publications, GIA-6128
SATB (or Unison), Organ, opt. C-Instrument

– CHILDREN and YOUTH CHOIRS –

Best of All Friends – E Mark
K. Lee Scott
© 1987, MorningStar Music, 50-9003
2-Part, Piano

Loving Friend of Everyone – E James, Mark
Larry Schultz
© 2004, Choristers Guild, CGA 1026
Unison (or 2-Part), Piano

ADDITIONAL MATERIAL (Prayers, Poems, Quotes & Liturgies)

*Every time we get in touch with the truth source we
carry within, there is net moral gain for all concerned.*

– PARKER PALMER, *A Hidden Wholeness*, 2004

*To experience 'salvation' is to be enlarged, to enter wide open spaces of freedom, to
have the spaciousness and resource to struggle with those who oppress, to fight lovingly
with your enemies, in the hope that, one day, they may be embraced as friends.*

– JIM COTTER, *Waymarks*, 2010

CALL TO WORSHIP

Praise God, who surrounds us like a mountain shield,
The Maker of us all.

Praise God, who defends the defenseless,
And calls us to mercy and justice.

Praise God, who pleads the cause of the poor,
And calls us to generous hearts.

Praise God who is good and does good,
May we rest in God's goodness this hour.

— Dalen C. Jackson*

What we give the poor, we lend to the Lord.

— SOJOURNER TRUTH (1797-1883)

*We have no mission but to serve
in full obedience to our Lord,
to care for all, without reserve,
and spread his liberating word.*

— FRED PRATT GREEN, 1969,
from "The Church of Christ In Every Age"

RESPONSIVE READING

(based on Mark 7:24-30, Romans 1:17, Habakkuk 2:4)

Leader: The woman heard about Jesus;

People: He didn't want to be found.

Leader: Her daughter had an unclean spirit;

People: He didn't want to be found.

Leader: She was a Gentile foreigner;

People: He was the king of the Jews.

Leader: She begged Jesus for mercy;

People: He clutched his wondrous mercy close.

Leader: Nevertheless, she persisted.

People: Nevertheless, she persisted.

Leader: She found the child, lying on the bed;

People: Her lovely daughter, the demon gone.

Leader: The righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith

All: And the just shall live by faith.

To get into heaven, you needed a letter of recommendation from the poor.

— ANNE LAMOTT, *Hallelujah Anyway*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Most merciful God, we confess that our good works do not always live up to the faith we profess. We often love those who are easy to love, while we live with indifference, and judgment, and sometimes even contempt toward people made in your very image. We ask for your forgiveness and mercy. By your grace, may we find both the courage and the vision to love our neighbors from every walk of life in thought, in word, and in deed.

Lord, grant me a simple,
kind, open, believing,
loving and generous heart,
worthy of being
Your dwelling-place. Amen.

—JOHN SERGIEFF (1829–1908)

BENEDICTION

May the God of mercy and love
surround and protect us,
astound and awake us,
to works of faith
and faith that works,
in the name of Christ
and the power of the Spirit.
Amen.

*Thanks to Dalen C. Jackson for contributions to this week's liturgy and prayers.

Warren Howell, editor