

Season after Pentecost, Proper 18A

(Sunday between September 4 and September 10 inclusive)

Color: Green

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

[Exodus 12:1-14](#) (*The Passover of the Lord*)

[Psalm 149](#) (*Let Israel be glad in its Maker, the children of Zion rejoice*)

[Romans 13:8-14](#) (*Love is the heart of the law; Stay alert: salvation is near*)

[Matthew 18:15-20](#) (*Reconciliation in the community of faith*)

Alternate First Reading and Psalm

[Ezekiel 33:7-11](#) (*The watchful prophet warns; the faithful among the people heed*)

[Psalm 119:33-40](#) (*Following in the way of God's statutes*)

Themes: God's Promises, Praise, Faithfulness, Compassion, Cross, Discipleship

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 morning's scriptures or themes.

Arise, Your Light Is Come (<i>FESTAL SONG</i>).....	Romans
Blest Be the Tie That Binds (<i>DENNIS</i>).....	Romans
Brethren, We Have Met to Worship (<i>HOLY MANNA</i>)	Romans, Matthew
Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive (<i>DETROIT; MORNING SONG</i>).....	Matthew
The Gift of Love (<i>O WALY WALY</i>).....	Romans, Matthew
Sing Praise to the Lord (<i>HANOVER; LAUDATE DOMINUM</i>)	Psalm 149
Guide My Feet (<i>GUIDE MY FEET</i>)	Psalm 119
I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say (<i>KINGSFOLD; VOX DILECTI</i>)	Ezekiel
I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light (<i>HOUSTON</i>)	Romans
Lord, I Want to Be a Christian (<i>I WANT TO BE A CHRISTIAN</i>)	Romans, Matthew
Lord, Speak to Me that I May Speak (<i>CANONBURY</i>)	Ezekiel, Psalm 119
Love Divine, All Loves Excelling (<i>BEECHER; HYRFYDOL</i>)	Romans, Matthew
Standing In the Need of Prayer (<i>NOT MY BROTHER, NOT MY SISTER [PENITENT]</i>)	Ezekiel
Teach Me Your Way (<i>CAMACHA</i>)	Psalm 119
There Is a Redeemer (<i>THERE IS A REDEEMER</i>).....	Exodus
Where Charity and Love Prevail (<i>CHESHIRE; TWENTY-FOURTH; ST. PETER</i>)	Romans, Matthew

ANTHEMS

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

Followers of the Lamb - M..... Exodus, Psalm 149
Shaker Song/Philip Dietterich, arr.
© 1977, Hope Publishing, AG7223
SATB, a cappella, Tambourine

Guide My Feet - E..... Psalm 119
Negro Spiritual/Avis D. Graves, arr.
© 2002, GIA Publications, G-5952
SATB, Piano

I Will Arise and Go to Jesus - E..... Matthew
RESTORATION/Austin Lovelace, arr.
© 1990, Hope Publishing, PP 118
2-Part Mixed, Keyboard

Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love - MERom, Matt
CHEREPONI/Lloyd Larson, arr.
© 2002, Hope Publishing, C5176
SATB, Piano

Keep Me Faithfully in Thy Paths - M..... Psalm 119
G. F. Handel/Richard Proulx, arr.
© 1980, GIA Publications, G-2355
2-Part Mixed, Keyboard

Love One Another - ME..... Romans, Matthew
John L. Bell
© 2000, GIA Publications, G-5158
SATB, a cappella

Sound Over All Waters - MD..... Romans
Paul Halley
© 1982, 1994 Pelagos Music, PEL2081
Soprano, SATB, Piano, opt. Bass Guitar, Organ, Perc.

Teach Me, O Lord - E..... Psalm 119
Thomas Attwood/Gerald Near, ed.
© 2014, MorningStar Music, 50-3425
SATB, opt. Organ (adaptable for piano)

When the Trumpet Sounds - E..... Ezekiel
Negro Spiritual/André Thomas, arr.
© 1985, Mark Foster, MF-261
SATB, Piano

-- Youth and Children --

The Day Is Coming - E..... Romans
Mark A. Miller
© 2017, Choristers Guild, CGA-1081
SATB, Piano

Living God's Love - E..... Romans
Mark Patterson
© 2014, Choristers Guild, CGA1367
Unison/2-Part, Piano, opt. 3 Handbells

ADDITIONAL MATERIAL (Prayers, Poems, Quotes & Liturgies)

*As St. Augustine says of the psalter — it goes for the whole Bible—
you do not understand it unless you live out its meanings in your own life.*

— THOMAS MERTON, *Entering the Silence*

*Give us wisdom to perceive you,
intelligence to understand you,
diligence to seek you,
patience to wait for you,
eyes to behold you,
a heart to meditate upon you,
and a life to proclaim you,
through the power of the Spirit of Jesus Christ our Lord.*

—attributed to ST. BENEDICT (480–543)

CALL TO WORSHIP

based on Romans 13:11-14

The moment has come to wake from sleep.

For our salvation is nearer than when we first believed.

The night is far gone, the day is near.

**Let us then lay aside the works of darkness
and put on the armor of light.**

Let us live honorably as in the day,

And put on the Lord Jesus Christ.

— Dalen C. Jackson*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God, Giver of the law of life and love, we confess that we have not kept your law with our whole hearts; our hearts, and our eyes, and our feet have strayed away from the path you have laid out for us. We have not lived up to your call to love one another. We have clung to our selfish ways instead of putting on the Lord Jesus Christ. Forgive us these sins that weigh upon us, give healing to our hearts, bring new vision to our eyes, and redirect our paths. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

This saying is reliable and deserves full acceptance: "Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners." And now the God who takes pleasure when wrongdoers turn back from their ways to live in the way of divine love offers you forgiveness,
and the armor of light to strengthen you,
and the promise to be near to you always. Amen.

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

Gracious and merciful God, give us humble, teachable, and obedient hearts. Shine a light on our comfortable and self-interested readings of your Word. As we read, incline our ears to listen to the voices of people with diverse bodies, and abilities, and traditions, and stories. You have created all people in your image; help us to hear your truth embodied in their insights. Amen.

RESPONSIVE READING

A Paraphrase of Psalm 119:33-40, an acrostic featuring the letter n (he)

Hand over your statutes, Lord,
for me to heed always.
Help me to understand your law
and keep it wholeheartedly.
Hasten me to find your commandments,
with happiness.
Herd me toward your decrees,
hide me from selfish gain.
Head me off from vain things,
hold me in your ways.
Honor your promise to your servant,
the harvest of those who fear you.
Hush the insults I dread,
for your rulings are helpful.
I hunger for your commands,
my life is in your righteous hand.

BENEDICTION/SENDING

And now, as you go out in faithful witness, may your eyes steer you in the way of God's statutes; may your feet carry you down paths of righteousness; and may your hearts be filled with a humble love that only God can set loose on the great longing of this world. Amen.

*Thanks to Dalen C. Jackson for contributing this week's prayers and liturgies.

Warren Howell, editor