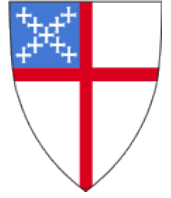


The Lessons Appointed for Use on the  
**February 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> 2026**

Year A  
RCL



## The Collect

Set us free, O God, from the bondage of our sins, and give us the liberty of that abundant life which you have made known to us in your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

## Isaiah 58:1-12

Shout out, do not hold back!  
Lift up your voice like a trumpet!  
Announce to my people their rebellion,  
to the house of Jacob their sins.  
Yet day after day they seek me  
and delight to know my ways,  
as if they were a nation that practiced  
righteousness  
and did not forsake the ordinance of  
their God;  
they ask of me righteous judgments,  
they delight to draw near to God.  
“Why do we fast, but you do not see?  
Why humble ourselves, but you do not  
notice?”  
Look, you serve your own interest on your  
fast day,  
and oppress all your workers.  
Look, you fast only to quarrel and to fight  
and to strike with a wicked fist.  
Such fasting as you do today  
will not make your voice heard on high.  
Is such the fast that I choose,  
a day to humble oneself?  
Is it to bow down the head like a bulrush,  
and to lie in sackcloth and ashes?  
Will you call this a fast,  
a day acceptable to the LORD?  
Is not this the fast that I choose:  
to loose the bonds of injustice,  
to undo the thongs of the yoke,  
to let the oppressed go free,  
and to break every yoke?

Is it not to share your bread with the hungry,  
and bring the homeless poor into your  
house;  
when you see the naked, to cover them,  
and not to hide yourself from your own  
kin?  
Then your light shall break forth like the  
dawn,  
and your healing shall spring up quickly;  
your vindicator shall go before you,  
the glory of the LORD shall be your rear  
guard.  
Then you shall call, and the LORD will  
answer;  
you shall cry for help, and he will say,  
Here I am.  
If you remove the yoke from among you,  
the pointing of the finger, the speaking  
of evil,  
if you offer your food to the hungry  
and satisfy the needs of the afflicted,  
then your light shall rise in the darkness  
and your gloom be like the noonday.  
The LORD will guide you continually,  
and satisfy your needs in parched places,  
and make your bones strong;  
and you shall be like a watered garden,  
like a spring of water,  
whose waters never fail.  
Your ancient ruins shall be rebuilt;  
you shall raise up the foundations of  
many generations;  
you shall be called the repairer of the breach,  
the restorer of streets to live in.

## Psalm 112:1-9

- 1 Hallelujah!  
Happy are they who fear the Lord  
and have great delight in the  
Lord's commandments!
- 2 Their descendants will be mighty in the land;  
the generation of the upright will be  
blessed.
- 3 Wealth and riches will be in their house,  
and their righteousness will last for ever.
- 4 Light shines in the darkness for the upright;  
the righteous are merciful and full of  
compassion.
- 5 It is good for them to be generous in lending  
and to manage their affairs with justice.
- 6 For they will never be shaken;  
the righteous will be kept in everlasting  
remembrance.
- 7 They will not be afraid of any evil rumors;  
their heart is right;  
they put their trust in the Lord.
- 8 Their heart is established and will not shrink,  
until they see their desire upon their  
enemies.
- 9 They have given freely to the poor,  
and their righteousness stands fast for  
ever;  
they will hold up their head with honor.

## 1 Corinthians 2:1-12

When I came to you, brothers and sisters, I did not come proclaiming the mystery of God to you in lofty words or wisdom. For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ, and him crucified. And I came to you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling. My speech and my proclamation were not with plausible words of wisdom, but with a demonstration of the Spirit and of power, so that your faith might rest not on human wisdom but on the power of God.

Yet among the mature we do speak wisdom, though it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are doomed to perish. But we speak God's wisdom, secret and hidden, which God decreed before the ages for our glory. None of the rulers of this age understood this; for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. But, as it is written, "What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the human heart conceived, what God has prepared for those who love him"—these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit; for the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. For what human being knows what is truly human except the human spirit that is within? So also no one comprehends what is truly God's except the Spirit of God. Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit that is from God, so that we may understand the gifts bestowed on us by God.

## Matthew 5:13-20

Jesus said, "You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything, but is thrown out and trampled under foot.

"You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven. "Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfill. For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter, not one stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments, and teaches others to do the same, will be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven."