

A close-up photograph of several purple daisy-like flowers with yellow centers, arranged in a vertical column on the right side of the page. The flowers are in various stages of bloom, with some fully open and others as buds. The background is a soft, out-of-focus light purple and white.

GALATIANS 6:9 (KJV)

Let us not
be weary in
well doing:
for in due season
we shall
reap.

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church
(Serving the Tuskegee Community since 1912)
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**FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER
 PENTECOST
 (Proper 17)**

August 30, 2026

MORNING PRAYER – RITE 11
Self-Guided Prayer

HYMNAL

PRAYER BOOK

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THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

****** The Collect of the Day

****** The First Lesson: Jeremiah 15:15-21

****** Psalm: 26:1-8

****** Second Reading: Romans 12:9-21

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****** **THE GOSPEL:** Matthew 16:21-28

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ANNOUNCEMENTS: See inside of bulletin

Closing Hymn

Dismissal



FELLOWSHIP HOUR

The Christian Gathering continues after this service with fellowship and refreshments in the undercroft.

PLEASE JOIN US!!!!!!

September 6 - A Parishioner



14 PENTECOST

Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost: Proper 17



Revised Common Lectionary
TRACK TWO

Sunday, August 30, 2026

COLLECT

Traditional

LORD OF ALL POWER and might, who art the author and giver of all good things: Graft in our hearts the love of thy Name, increase in us true religion, nourish us with all goodness, and bring forth in us the fruit of good works; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

Contemporary

LORD OF ALL POWER and might, the author and giver of all good things: Graft in our hearts the love of your Name; increase in us true religion; nourish us with all goodness; and bring forth in us the fruit of good works; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 15:15-21

O LORD, you know; remember me and visit me, and bring down retribution for me on my persecutors. In your forbearance do not take me away; know that on your account I suffer insult. Your words were found, and I ate them, and your words became to me a joy and the delight of my heart; for I am called by your name, O LORD, God of hosts. I did not sit in the company of merrymakers, nor did I rejoice; under the weight of your hand I sat alone, for you had filled me with indignation. Why is my pain unceasing, my wound incurable, refusing to be healed? Truly, you are to me like a deceitful brook, like wa-

ters that fail. Therefore thus says the LORD: If you turn back, I will take you back, and you shall stand before me. If you utter what is precious, and not what is worthless, you shall serve as my mouth. It is they who will turn to you, not you who will turn to them. And I will make you to this people a fortified wall of bronze; they will fight against you, but they shall not prevail over you, for I am with you to save you and deliver you, says the LORD. I will deliver you out of the hand of the wicked, and redeem you from the grasp of the ruthless.

Refrain

Your love, O Lord, is before my eyes.

Psalm 26:1-8 from the Book of Common Prayer

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1 Give judgment for me,
O LORD, for I have
lived with integrity; * I
have trusted in the
Lord and have not fal-
tered. | 5 I have hated the com-
pany of evildoers; * I
will not sit down with
the wicked. |
| 2 Test me, O LORD, and
try me; * examine my
heart and my mind. | 6 I will wash my hands
in innocence, O
LORD, * that I may go
in procession round
your altar, |
| 3 For your love is be-
fore my eyes; * I have
walked faithfully with
you. | 7 Singing aloud a song
of thanksgiving * and
recounting all your
wonderful deeds. |
| 4 I have not sat with the
worthless, * nor do I
consort with the
deceitful. | 8 LORD, I love the
house in which you
dwell * and the place
where your glory
abides. |

SECOND READING: Romans 12:9-21

LET LOVE BE GENUINE; hate what is evil, hold fast to what is good; love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. Do not lag in zeal, be ardent in spirit, serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers. Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God; for it is written, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord." No, "if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink; for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads." Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

GOSPEL: Matthew 16:21-28

JESUS BEGAN to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, "God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you." But he turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things." Then 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. For what will it profit them if they

gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life? For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done. Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom.”

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR THE WEEK:

Monday, August 31, 2026

Tuesday, September 1, 2026

Wednesday, September 3, 2026

Thursday, September 4, 2026

Friday, September 5, 2026

Saturday, September 5, 2026

Sunday, September 6, 2026

11 a.m.

- Holy Eucharist, ZOOM

HAPPY BIRTHDAY & ANNIVERSARY!!

August 1 – James & June Samuel

1 - Carolyn Bland

2 – William E. Gunn

7 - Titus Smith

22 - Deborah Richie

22 – George & Tiffane Bulls

26 - Lewis & Carolyn Bland

26 - E. Drake Whitelaw

**NEWS FROM AROUND THE EPISCOPAL
& ANGLICAN DIOCESES**

Friday, September 11, 2026, at 5 pm and September 12, 2026, at 4 pm,
Clergy and Lay Leader of Color Retreat, Camp McDowell. Registration is
available on-line at dioala.org

See www.anglicannews.org for the latest Anglican Communion News

T.U. EVENTS (www.tuskegee.edu)

COMMUNITY EVENTS (Auburn, Montgomery, Tuskegee)

All Macon County Day, August 29-30, 2026, downtown-on-the-square,
Tuskegee: parade, entertainment, fellowship, food vendors.

2026 Football Schedule – Tuskegee U:

August 30 - Red Tails Classic, T.U. vs U. of West AL, Cramton Bowl,
Montgomery

September 24 – T.U. vs Benedict, HOME (Thursday night-6 pm)

October 3 – T.U. vs Morehouse, Cramton Bowl, Montgomery

October 17 – T.U. vs Albany State, HOME

November 7 – Homecoming, T.U. vs Miles, HOME

November 26 – Turkey Day Game, T.U. vs Alabama State, Cramton Bowl,
Montgomery

2026 Football Schedule – Auburn U.

September 12 – Auburn vs Southern Mississippi, HOME

September 19 – Auburn vs Florida, HOME

September 26 – Homecoming, Auburn vs. Vanderbilt, HOME

October 24 – Auburn vs LSU, HOME

November 7 – Auburn vs Arkansas, HOME

PRAYER LIST

CHRISTINA ANDERSON
CAROLYN BLAND*
STEPHANIE BOSWELL

MARIAN GARMON*

THOMASINE BRAYE
THOMAS BRAYE*
JAMES BRAYE
REBECCA LYN CARTER
CURT CARTER, SR*

MARIO LIGHTFOOTE*

CRAIG POWELL

CHARLES M. CRANK, II
PRESTON CRAYTON

JULIUS MYHAND, JR.

CLEMENT SCOTT

DAVID NGAWA**

MARTHA OSGERBY

ANNA C. OWENS

TUNESHA SMITH

ANGELICA P. SNOWDEN

LUCENIA DUNN*
SHANNON DIXON
TEDDY DOWDY*

YOLANDA P. SEAWRIGHT

DARRYL SEAWRIGHT

BRENDA D. ROBINSON*

ANITRA FULLER
ROBERT FRAZIER

LISA TECZAR

CHARLES THOMPSON**

LLOYD WILLIAMS*

E. DRAKE WHITELAW

DIANE KENNEY*

MARGARET 'KATIE' JONES
THERON JONES

*Local Parishioners

** Shut-In Parishioners

THE DIOCESAN CYCLE OF PRAYER

We pray for our Companion Diocese of Honduras and their bishop, Lloyd; Department of Stewardship; For all who suffer from addiction or effects of addiction.

ANNOUNCEMENTS!!

- **ARMED FORCES:** Please pray for our service men and women stationed in the U.S. and overseas, especially, Elijah Barber, Sam and Margaret Gunn Bunton, and Shavon Marbory Hogan.
- **PRAYERS:** Continue to pray for those on the Prayer List, friends, family and all humankind afflicted by disease, war and famine. Pray for peace!
- **REMINDER:** Please continue to furnish our Food Basket with non-perishable food items (located on the ground floor of the Education Building).
- **REMINDER:** The link for the Sunday ZOOM Companion Service can be reached by dialing: 1-312-626-6799, Meeting ID: 882 671 9532, Passcode 008810 or click on your email invite. Mark your calendar for the next Holy Eucharist Service – in person on *Sunday, September 6, 2026, at 11 am.*
- **UPCOMING EVENTS:** *Baby Shower*, Sunday, September 6, 2026, following Holy Eucharist for Vestine Abera-T.U. Grad Student. She is expecting a boy. We are asking all parishioners to bring a wrapped gift that will be placed in a bassinet (i.e. diapers, clothing, baby towels, socks, grooming items, bottles, bibs, blanket, bathtub, stroller, etc.). *St. Andrew's Annual Fall Picnic*, will be Sunday, October 4, 2026. Dress will be picnic attire. Holy Eucharist and the picnic will be held in the undercroft. You will receive a phone call for suggested food/beverage donations.
- **NEW:** Community/Church Organizations and Committees will resume monthly meetings in September.



Pentecost 14 (A) – Proper 17

[RCL]: Exodus 3:1-15; Psalm 105:1-6, 23-26, 45c; Romans 12:9-21; Matthew 16:21-28

Say Yes

Peter says it can't happen: Jesus can't be allowed to die.

Mind you, this challenge to Jesus follows right after the passage we heard together last week, in which Peter totally gets the question right when Jesus asks him, "Who do you say that I am?" Peter proclaims that Jesus is "the Messiah, the Son of the living God."

Jesus says, that's right. That's who I am. I am the Son of God—and I will die.

And Peter says it can't happen.

In the Neil Gaiman novel *Good Omens*, the end of the world is ushered in by the birth of the anti-Christ, as foretold by Agnes Nutter, a 16th century witch. It's a great book, like most of Neil Gaiman's work, well researched, poignant, hilarious, and now available as a series on Amazon Prime.

In the story, four people come from the four corners of the world to find each other. They are the four horsemen of the apocalypse: There's War, a fiery haired woman who flies in from a war zone somewhere in the world. Then there's Famine, a man who, at the time of the apocalypse, is making his money selling food that isn't really food. Then there's Pollution, a dark-haired woman who has stepped in for the apocalypse after the retirement of Pestilence.

We have to forgive Neil Gaiman for thinking that pestilence, or disease, wasn't a threat anymore. He wrote *Good Omens* in 1990, thirty years before the COVID-19 pandemic.

Three of the four horsemen of the apocalypse ride into the town in which the witch predicted Armageddon would take place. Pollution, Famine, and War all ride motorcycles and arrive looking for the fourth horseman: Death.

Arriving in all black, Death opens his helmet to reveal that his face is just bones.

One of the others sneers, "Where have you been?"

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Death answers, “I never left.”

Of all the Bible’s greatest enemies, Death is the most real to us, the most relevant to our lives. It indeed has never left. It has been with all of us from the very beginning and long, long before any of us was born.

In the Bible, Death is the last enemy to be destroyed. Death is the opposite of life. And death is everywhere, striking all the time.

Death strikes this week, as wars rage and terror strikes around the world.

Death strikes this week, in every tragedy that made the news.

Death struck this week, in every state in the nation, and all around the world, when families received the unexpected news that a loved one had died, in untold tragedies that didn’t make the news.

Death never left.

We don’t like to think about Death. We push it away. Which why some part of us understands exactly why Peter says what he says in this Gospel lesson. His beloved friend and teacher, Jesus—the one he left everything to follow—tells them that he will suffer and die.

As Matthew tells it, Peter took Jesus aside and began to rebuke him, saying, “God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you.”

We may find ourselves thinking, and rightly so: “Who would dare to rebuke the Son of God? Bad move.”

But it turns out that the more you live, and the more death you see, the more you get exactly why Peter says what he says here. I think most of us, maybe all of us, if we were in Peter’s shoes, would’ve said the exact same thing.

“I left everything for you! I love you! You’ve brought meaning to my life that I never knew before. What on God’s green earth would I DO if you died?”

It’s easy to forget, when we read these stories, that Peter didn’t know the ending. All he knew was what he knew. And he knew that death was—is—a permanent condition. If Jesus died, as Peter saw it, then that was it. Sure, Jesus talked about resurrection, but hearing about something miraculous is very different than seeing it for yourself.

So Peter takes him aside and says this just can’t happen.

Jesus answers with his famous call for the disciples to take up their cross and follow him. Again, we risk missing the meaning here. The cross has come to have a special meaning in our lives, in Christian culture, and in the culture at large. The cross doesn’t mean to us now what it did then, before Jesus ever hung on one.

Back then, the cross was an instrument of torture, fear, and death. To take up a cross was to meet Death, face to face.

But we do know the end of this story. We know what Peter doesn't know: That death will come for Jesus, that that won't be the end.

Death never left, but Death doesn't get the final word.

The worst thing that can happen is never the last thing. Faith may die on Friday, but it rises again every Sunday—and that is why we are here in church.

Peter says it can't happen. Jesus says, Get Behind Me, Satan, because Jesus knows what comes after death comes.

"I am here," Jesus says, "and Death no longer has the final word."

None of us can say "No" to death.

Jesus reminds us that though we cannot say "No" to Death, we can say "Yes" to resurrection, "Yes" to Life—because with all of the world's horror comes all its beauty, too.

William Stafford wrote a poem called Yes. It goes like this.

It could happen any time, tornado,
earthquake, Armageddon. It could happen.
Or sunshine, love, salvation.
It could, you know. That's why we wake
and look out—no guarantees
in this life.
But some bonuses, like morning,
like right now, like noon,
like evening.

Death will come.

But so will sunshine, love, salvation.

And Jesus will come here with us—in bread and wine and water and words and us.

Jesus, over whom Death did not win, here with us forever: in morning, in right now, in noon, in evening. And in the darkest night of your life.

Jesus reminds us that it *will* happen. But Death does not have the last word.

You can say yes, unafraid. *Amen.*

***Anna Tew** is a Lutheran (ELCA) pastor serving Our Savior's Lutheran Church in South Hadley, Massachusetts, where she has served for a full decade. Originally from Alabama, she went to seminary at the Candler School of Theology at Emory University in Atlanta. Anna enjoys being outdoors: hiking, running, snowboarding, and many other pursuits. She is also a Level 2 CrossFit coach and enjoys training herself and helping people with all types of bodies to be strong, resilient, and ready for a challenge.*



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<https://www.episcopalchurch.org/bible-study/>