



I WILL PUT MY

SPIRIT

within you,

*and cause you to walk
in my statutes.*

EZEKIEL 36:27 (KJV)

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church
Priest-in-Charge: The Rev. H. Mawande Mzongwana
(Serving the Tuskegee Community since 1912)
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THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
(Proper 6)

June 14, 2026

MORNING PRAYER – RITE 11
Self- Guided Prayer

HYMNAL

PRAYER BOOK

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** The Collect of the Day

** The First Lesson: Exodus 19:2-8a

** Psalm: 100

** Second Reading: Romans 5:1-8

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** **THE GOSPEL:** Matthew 9:35-10:8, 9-23

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www.episcopalchurch.org/sermons

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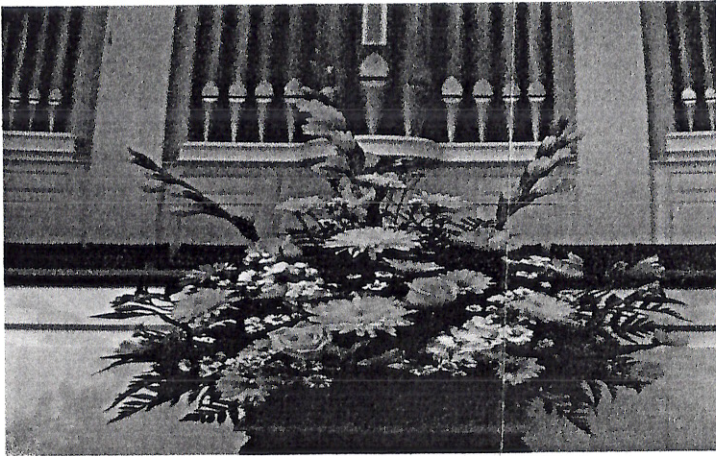
Closing Sentence and Scripture

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ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Closing Hymn:

Dismissal



FELLOWSHIP HOUR

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

PLEASE JOIN US!!!!!!

June 21 - Sponsor - A Parishioner



3 PENTECOST

Third Sunday after Pentecost: Proper 6



Revised Common Lectionary
TRACK TWO

Sunday, June 14, 2026

COLLECT

Traditional

KEEP, O LORD, we beseech thee, thy household the Church in thy steadfast faith and love, that by the help of thy grace we may proclaim thy truth with boldness, and minister thy justice with compassion; for the sake of our Savior Jesus Christ, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.
Amen.

Contemporary

KEEP, O LORD, your household the Church in your steadfast faith and love, that through your grace we may proclaim your truth with boldness, and minister your justice with compassion; for the sake of our Savior Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

FIRST READING: Exodus 19:2-8a

WHEN THE PEOPLE of Israel had journeyed from Rephidim, entered the wilderness of Sinai, and camped in the wilderness: Israel camped there in front of the mountain. Then Moses went up to God; the LORD called to him from the mountain, saying, “Thus you shall say to the house of Jacob, and tell the Israelites: You have seen what I did to the Egyptians, and how I bore you on eagles’ wings and brought you to myself. Now therefore, if you obey my voice and keep my covenant, you shall be my treasured possession out of all the peoples. Indeed, the whole earth is mine, but you shall be for me a

priestly kingdom and a holy nation. These are the words that you shall speak to the Israelites.” So Moses came, summoned the elders of the people, and set before them all these words that the LORD had commanded him. The people all answered as one: “Everything that the LORD has spoken we will do.”

Refrain

Be joyful in the Lord, all you lands!

Psalm 100 from the Book of Common Prayer

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1 Be joyful in the LORD,
all you lands; * serve
the LORD with gladness
and come before his pres-
ence with a song. | 3 Enter his gates with
thanksgiving; go into
his courts with praise; *
give thanks to him and
call upon his Name. |
| 2 Know this: The LORD
himself is God; * he him-
self has made us, and we
are his; we are his people
and the sheep of his pas-
ture. | 4 For the LORD is good;
his mercy is ever-
lasting; * and his faith-
fulness endures from age
to age. |

SECOND READING: Romans 5:1-8

SINCE WE ARE JUSTIFIED by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. And not only that,

but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us. For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us.

GOSPEL: Matthew 9:35–10:8, [9-23]

JESUS WENT ABOUT all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom, and curing every disease and every sickness. When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said to his disciples, “The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest.” Then Jesus summoned his twelve disciples and gave them authority over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to cure every disease and every sickness. These are the names of the twelve apostles: first, Simon, also known as Peter, and his brother Andrew; James son of Zebedee, and his brother John; Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas and Matthew the tax collector; James son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus; Simon the Cananaean, and Judas Iscariot, the one who betrayed him. These twelve Jesus sent out with the following instructions: “Go nowhere among the Gentiles, and enter no town of the Samaritans, but go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. As you go, proclaim the good news, ‘The kingdom of heaven has come near.’ Cure the sick, raise the dead, cleanse the lepers, cast out demons. You received without payment; give without payment.” [“Take no gold, or silver,

or copper in your belts, no bag for your journey, or two tunics, or sandals, or a staff; for laborers deserve their food. Whatever town or village you enter, find out who in it is worthy, and stay there until you leave. As you enter the house, greet it. If the house is worthy, let your peace come upon it; but if it is not worthy, let your peace return to you. If anyone will not welcome you or listen to your words, shake off the dust from your feet as you leave that house or town. Truly I tell you, it will be more tolerable for the land of Sodom and Gomorrah on the day of judgment than for that town. See, I am sending you out like sheep into the midst of wolves; so be wise as serpents and innocent as doves. Beware of them, for they will hand you over to councils and flog you in their synagogues; and you will be dragged before governors and kings because of me, as a testimony to them and the Gentiles. When they hand you over, do not worry about how you are to speak or what you are to say; for what you are to say will be given to you at that time; for it is not you who speak, but the Spirit of your Father speaking through you. Brother will betray brother to death, and a father his child, and children will rise against parents and have them put to death; and you will be hated by all because of my name. But the one who endures to the end will be saved. When they persecute you in one town, flee to the next; for truly I tell you, you will not have gone through all the towns of Israel before the Son of Man comes.”]

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR THE WEEK:

Monday, June 15, 2026

Tuesday, June 16, 2026

Wednesday, June 17, 2026

Thursday, June 18, 2026

Friday, June 19, 2026

Saturday, June 20, 2026

Sunday, June 21, 2026

Father's Day

11 a.m.

- Morning Prayer (in-person)

Father's Day is June 21, 2026. 'A Prayer for Father's Day'

Heavenly Father, Today we lift up every dad, grandad, and father figure with gratitude in our hearts. Bless them with wisdom to guide, patience to listen, and courage to lead with kindness. Renew their spirit when they feel weary and remind them that their role is a reflection of Your own steadfast love. For fathers who are near, may we cherish them deeply. For those far away or no longer with us, may their memory be a source of comfort and inspiration. May every father feel appreciated, valued, and surrounded by Your grace today and always. In Your holy name we pray, AMEN.

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

The Very Rev. Richard T. Lawson, III, Bishop-Elect will be Ordained and Consecrated as Bishop Diocesan on *Saturday, June 27, 2026*, by Presiding Bishop Sean Rowe at the Cathedral Church of the Advent in Birmingham, AL.

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

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

'Tuskegee Rising,' 22nd TNAA (Tuskegee National Alumni Association) Convention, July 30-August 2, 2026, Memphis, TN. Registration available online.

COMMUNITY EVENTS (Auburn, Montgomery, Tuskegee)

If no candidate wins more than 50% of votes in a Primary Election, a **Runoff Election** is scheduled. Run-Off Elections will be held in Macon County on Tuesday, June 16, 2026. **VOTE as if your life depends on it!**

Harriott II Riverboat Cruises, Montgomery: *Friday Night Dinner Cruise, Saturday Getaway Cruise and Sunday Evening Blues Cruise*, recurring weekly on specified nights from June 6, 2026, until November 28, 2026.

Equal Justice Initiative Museums (EJI), Montgomery – free June 19
Rosa Parks Museum, Montgomery – free June 20

Visit Dexter Avenue Parsonage Museum, 309 S. Jackson St., Montgomery
Visit Freedom Riders Museum, 210 S. Court St. (former Greyhound Bus Station), Montgomery

'Iota Omega Cruise with the Ques' on the Harriott II Riverboat, Montgomery; tickets available for an evening of food, fun, entertainment, June 20, from 7-11:30 pm...see Quentin Gaillard or William Gunn for info.

35th Annual T.U. Local Alumni Club Brag Luncheon, Sunday, June 28, 2026, at 1:30pm at Thompkins Hall. For tickets contact: Emma Brown at 251-263-1976 or Roberta Patrick at 317-289-6313.

Montgomery Independence Day Celebration, July 4, Cramton Bowl, from 7-9pm, featuring a fireworks show.

Duck Samford Stadium July 4 Celebration, Auburn, Gates open at 5 pm, featuring food treats live music, and fireworks.

PRAYER LIST

CHRISTINA ANDERSON
CAROLYN BLAND*
STEPHANIE BOSWELL

MARIAN GARMON*

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

MARIO LIGHTFOOTE*
RONNIE LIGON

CHARLES M. CRANK, II
PRESTON CRAYTON

CRAIG POWELL

LUCENIA DUNN*
SHANNON DIXON
TEDDY DOWDY*

JULIUS MYHAND, JR.
CLEMENT SCOTT
DAVID NGAWA**
MARTHA OSGERBY
ANNA C. OWENS
TUNESHA SMITH
ANGELICA P. SNOWDEN

ANITRA FULLER
ROBERT FRAZIER

YOLANDA P. SEAWRIGHT
DARRYL SEAWRIGHT
BRENDA D. ROBINSON*
MICHAEL ROBINSON*
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; St. Alban's, Birmingham; and St. Alban's, Gainesville.

ANNOUNCEMENTS!!

- **ARMED FORCES:** Please pray for our service men and women stationed in the U.S. and overseas, especially, Elijah Barber, DeRitha Marbory B. Green (retiring), 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).
- **NEW:** 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 on *Sunday, July 5, 2026*. Morning Prayer will be celebrated *Sunday, June 21, 2026*, at 11am in-person.
- **NEW:** Work will begin very soon repairing the church elevator. Thank you for your patience.
- **NEW:** Summer Vacation is here. Please keep up with your pledges and stay safe!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!

June	8 - June Samuel
	12 - Marian Garmon
	12 - Chuck Okere
	19 - Lanice Middleton
	20 - Lionel Richie
	22 - Velma Braye
	29 - Ángel Gaillard



SERMONS THAT WORK

Pentecost 3 (A) – Proper 6

[RCL] Genesis 18:1-15, (21:1-7); Psalm 116:1,10-17; Romans 5:1-8; Matthew 9:35-10:8,(9-23)

On Being Blessed

This morning's readings invite us to think about the nature of blessing: what it means to bless and to be blessed.

Now the word “blessing” is tricky—we often use it as a stand-in for good luck or material goods. We talk about being *blessed* with a parking spot when we need one. Or being *blessed* by finding exactly the thing we need at the first store we visit.

Sometimes, it gets even more complicated. “Blessing” becomes not just a stand-in for good luck, but a way we experience that we have found favor with God. Like, we speak of being *blessed* with a good health result or *blessed* by getting a pay raise.

But such a perspective is complicated. Because if those are blessings, then the opposite must be true, too. If, when our bodies are healthy, God is blessing us, then when our bodies are battling sickness, God must supposedly be punishing us.

Or if, when we have an abundance of money, God is blessing us, then when we are going through leaner times, God must be withdrawing favor from us.

You might sometimes see the label “#blessed” on social media posts when someone is casually bragging about their aesthetically beautiful life. At the bottom of a family picture, perhaps, where everyone is wearing matching outfits. (Of course, the reality of wearing scratchy, matching clothes, especially for children, doesn't usually feel hashtagblessed.) Maybe you have some of those memories from your own Easter or Christmases past. What we see online can be a mask. It is curated – not real life. And yet, it is easy for us to compare that curation to our own realities, often seeing ourselves in the worst light while we see others in the best.

In our reading this morning from the book of Genesis, we see God fulfilling the promise God made to Abraham by giving Sarah and Abraham a child, even in their very, very old age. It seems that this child is an answer to prayer—a sign of God's faithfulness. And, as children often are, Isaac is a blessing. He seems

to be a sign that the couple has found favor with God. Except. . . does that mean that any couple who has struggled to conceive is *out* of favor with God?

The story is often read simply—there is a problem, that is: childlessness—and God’s answer, God’s presence, God’s favor is manifested in the “solution” to this problem: Sarah conceives and bears a son.

Many of us know someone who has tried and been unable to add a child to their own family. Maybe it was you, or a close friend, or a family member. Chances are, in this congregation, someone has considered IVF; someone has prayed fervently that God would help them conceive. Someone might even be in the middle of that struggle. And, so, this interpretation is important to understand as an interpretation, not as the story’s one meaning. While it is a possible reading to see that God’s blessing and favor as equated with Abraham and Sarah being given a child, that is not the only reading. God’s presence is not always manifested by a simple answer to our complex yearnings. Receiving God’s blessing—being blessed—is more robust and meaningful than just getting our own way. God is not a wish-granting factory.

The complicated nature of God—and God’s way of giving—is revealed in our gospel. After telling the apostles that there will be a lot of work to do, Jesus tells them, “You received without payment, give without payment.”

Think how contrary that runs to the way of the world! The world runs on earning and deserving. America, in its idea of itself, is a meritocracy—there’s a belief that you get what you deserve based on your own merit. If you work hard enough, you should be able to have a good life. You earn your way forward.

But if a good life is earned, by American logic, then is a bad one, as well? If you have a hard life—if you’re struggling to pay your bills, or you can’t get along with your kids, or you got fired from your job—do you deserve it?

Of course, we know that meritocracy doesn’t always—or even often—work. Life isn’t fair. Bad things happen to good people, and sometimes really good luck happens to people who we feel like don’t deserve it at all. In fact, deserving seems to have very little to do with any of it. And neither does merit. Neither does hard work.

What Jesus teaches the disciples doesn’t so much grapple with deserving and undeserving—who earns what—rather, it introduces an entirely different economic system. Jesus is talking about *gifts*. He teaches about receiving God’s love and God’s presence as a gift. Not because we earned it, not because we deserve it, not because we are good, but because God is good.

This brings us back to the idea of blessing. Blessing isn’t about having our prayers answered the way we hope for. It’s not about receiving something wonderful. Blessing is about God’s goodness—God’s faithfulness—in our lives.

God’s blessing is God’s presence with us. And that presence is here when we get our way and when all the chips are down. God blesses us right where we are, on great days and on garbage days, because God is with us always.

So, maybe the blessing that Abraham and Sarah receive isn't in Isaac being made manifest to them; it is in God walking with them through years of yearning.

We are blessed by that same presence, a gift we received before we even knew how to ask for it. God is with us when we struggle and when we succeed. God is with us as we pray in frustration and as we lift our voices in praise. God's very presence with us offers us a blessing—not by changing our circumstances, but by accompanying us in them. We are not alone, no matter what lies ahead of us.

So, this morning, no matter where you are, may you be blessed.

May you come into the realization that God is here with you, right now, no matter what.
May you receive the gift of God's immense grace and unchanging love.
May the eyes of your heart be opened to see that God is blessing, and blessing, and blessing us.
Amen.

The Rev'd Jazzy Bostock is a kanaka mail woman and serves two communities in Wai'anae on the west side of Oahu, St. John the Baptist Episcopal Church and Malubia Lutheran Church. She and her wife have two boys, Theo, 5, and Sam, 1, a garden, some chickens, bees, a cat and a dog. She loves to garden, cook, laugh, and be barefoot.



Sermons that Work and Bible Studies that Work are a joint offering of Forward Movement and The Office of Communication at The Episcopal Church.

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

<https://www.episcopalchurch.org/sermons-that-work>