

## Galatians 5:1, 13-25

The Common English Bible

<sup>1</sup>Christ has set us free for freedom. Therefore, stand firm and don't submit to the bondage of slavery again. <sup>13</sup>You were called to freedom, brothers and sisters; only don't let this freedom be an opportunity to indulge your selfish impulses, but serve each other through love. <sup>14</sup>All the Law has been fulfilled in a single statement: *Love your neighbor as yourself.* <sup>15</sup>But if you bite and devour each other, be careful that you don't get eaten up by each other! <sup>16</sup>I say be guided by the Spirit and you won't carry out your selfish desires. <sup>17</sup>A person's selfish desires are set against the Spirit, and the Spirit is set against one's selfish desires. They are opposed to each other, so you shouldn't do whatever you want to do. <sup>18</sup>But if you are being led by the Spirit, you aren't under the Law. <sup>19</sup>The actions that are produced by selfish motives are obvious, since they include sexual immorality, moral corruption, doing whatever feels good, <sup>20</sup>idolatry, drug use and casting spells, hate, fighting, obsession, losing your temper, competitive opposition, conflict, selfishness, group rivalry, <sup>21</sup>jealousy, drunkenness, partying, and other things like that. I warn you as I have already warned you, that those who do these kinds of things won't inherit God's kingdom. <sup>22</sup>But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, <sup>23</sup>gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against things like this. <sup>24</sup>Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the self with its passions and its desires. <sup>25</sup>If we live by the Spirit, let's follow the Spirit.

This is the word of God for the people of God.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Psalms 77:1-2, 11-20

UMH 798

<sup>1</sup>I cry aloud to God, aloud that God may hear me.

<sup>2</sup>**In the day of my trouble I seek the Lord, in the night my hand is stretched out continually; my soul refuses to be comforted.**

<sup>11</sup>I will call to mind the deeds of the Lord; I will remember your wonders of old.

<sup>12</sup>**I will meditate on all your work, and muse on your mighty deeds.**

<sup>13</sup>Your way, O God, is holy.

**What god is great like our God?**

<sup>14</sup>You are the God who works wonders, you manifested your might among the peoples.

<sup>15</sup>**You redeemed with your arm your people, the descendants of Jacob and Joseph.**

<sup>16</sup>When the waters saw you, O God, when the waters saw you, they were afraid, the very deeps trembled.

<sup>17</sup>**The clouds poured out water; the skies gave forth thunder; your arrows flashed on every side.**

<sup>18</sup>The crash of your thunder was in the whirlwind; your lightnings illumined the world...

**the earth trembled and shook.**

<sup>19</sup>Your way was through the sea, your path through the great waters; yet your footprints were unseen.

<sup>20</sup>**You led your people like a flock by the hand of Moses and Aaron.**

## Luke 9:51-62

The Common English Bible

<sup>51</sup>As the time approached when Jesus was to be taken up into heaven, he determined to go to Jerusalem. <sup>52</sup>He sent messengers on ahead of him. Along the way, they entered a Samaritan village to prepare for his arrival, <sup>53</sup>but the Samaritan villagers refused to welcome him because he was determined to go to Jerusalem. <sup>54</sup>When the disciples James and John saw this, they said, “Lord, do you want us to call fire down from heaven to consume them?” <sup>55</sup>But Jesus turned and spoke sternly to them, <sup>56</sup>and they went on to another village. <sup>57</sup>As Jesus and his disciples traveled along the road, someone said to him, “I will follow you wherever you go.” <sup>58</sup>Jesus replied, “Foxes have dens and the birds in the sky have nests, but the Human One has no place to lay his head.” <sup>59</sup>Then Jesus said to someone else, “Follow me.” He replied, “Lord, first let me go and bury my father.” <sup>60</sup>Jesus said to him, “Let the dead bury their own dead. But you go and spread the news of God’s kingdom.” <sup>61</sup>Someone else said to Jesus, “I will follow you, Lord, but first let me say good-bye to those in my house.” <sup>62</sup>Jesus said to him, “No one who puts a hand on the plow and looks back is fit for God’s kingdom.”