

PRAY EVERY DAY June 6, 2021 Resource

*Give Thanks from Psalm 138:1 (NRSV)*

I give you thanks, O LORD, with my whole heart;  
before the gods I sing your praise;

*A Collect for Proper 5 from the Book of Common Prayer, 1979*

O God, from whom all good proceeds: Grant that by your inspiration we may think those things that are right, and by your merciful guiding may we do them; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

*The Bishop Sharma Lewis Read the Bible in 2021 Challenge (Genesis to Revelation)*

June 7: Job 21 – 23	June 11: Job 35 – 37
June 8: Job 24 – 28	June 12: Job 38 – 39
June 9: Job 29 – 31	June 13: Job 40 – 42
June 10: Job 32 – 34	

*Small Group or personal study*

Read Mark 3:20-35

- Look back at Mark 1:35—3:19 and look for things that Jesus' mother and brothers may have been concerned about and also what Jesus did that caused a stir and opposition from religious leaders so much that they accused Jesus' power coming from demons. What was Jesus doing?
- Jesus' mother and brothers wanted to restrain him because people said Jesus was "out of his mind" (v. 3:21). How can you relate to Jesus' mother and brothers? What has Jesus done or what does Jesus do that would make you want to restrain, protect, or hide Jesus?
- Religious leaders opposed what Jesus was doing. In what ways can you relate to religious leaders opposing Jesus? How have you seen religious leaders oppose what Jesus has done or is doing? As a religious leader in your church, or family, or even of your own life—how has what Jesus does given you pause?
- Jesus did not give into the will of his mother and brothers or religious leaders because he was following the will of God. What "other wills" have pressured you to not follow the will of God? What wills or expectations are pulling at you at this season in your life? How are you responding to the will of God revealed in Jesus Christ?
- This passage expands thinking of who was Jesus' "brother and sister and mother" (v. 3:35). Those who do the will of God are part of Jesus' family. Who do you see doing the will of God? How do you include them or treat them like a family member?

*Spend time in silence*

*Prayer for others and yourself*

*The Lord's Prayer*

*A Daily Prayer for Racial Justice and Reconciliation*

*(The following prayer is offered by the Bishops' Work Group on Racial Justice and Reconciliation.)*

O loving God,

We give you thanks for creating the world which is full of diversity  
and for making one human family of all the peoples of the earth.

You reign over all the nations and are seated on your holy throne.

You rule over all the peoples without partiality in respect to nations or races  
because righteousness and justice are the foundation of your throne.

Forgive us for the times when we put walls around us with false pride and racial prejudice.

Forgive us for the times when we were silent in the face of racism, private or institutional.  
Open our eyes to see Christ who is in people of every nation and every culture.  
Break down the walls that separate us. Set us free from fear, hatred and racism.  
Bind us together with the unity of God's love. Restore oneness to the family of God.  
We pray in the name of Jesus who came, lived and died for all humanity. Amen.

*The Bishop Sharma Lewis Call to Pray at Noon Every Day*

Almighty God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit,

We thank you for your blessings, past, present and future. You are our rock and the source of our hope in all things and at all times. As Jehovah Jireh, our provider God, we ask you this day to stretch out your mighty hand and eradicate from the face of the earth forever this virus called COVID-19 (coronavirus) that is spreading rapidly from continent to continent.

We also pray that you, Jehovah Rapha, our healing God, would place your hand upon all of those who have been stricken by this virus and restore them to full health. Be with those who have lost loved ones and are grieving. Protect all who are caring for those with this virus and keep them from contracting it themselves. Calm our fears and provide us with your peace that surpasses all understanding. Strengthen us with the joy of the Lord and help us to hold firmly to the hope that only you can provide.

Unify us that we, the Virginia Annual Conference, may be able to experience anew the promise of your presence in and through the unity of our faith, hope and trust in you in the days ahead and forever. We offer this prayer in the mighty name of our Lord, Jesus Christ. AMEN.

*Share the Love of Jesus because It's All about Relationships*

How will you or how did you share the love of Jesus with neighbor today with no strings attached? Write it down and share it this week in small group for support and prayer.

*Fulfilled in God from Psalm 138:8 (NRSV)*

The LORD will fulfill his purpose for me;  
your steadfast love, O LORD, endures forever.  
Do not forsake the work of your hands.