

SEPTEMBER 14, 2025
FOURTEENTH SUNDAY
AFTER PENTECOST



Rejoicing at the amazing grace of God.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

These passages are related to the Lectionary texts for this Sunday.

Sunday	Luke 15:1-10	The lost sheep and the lost coin
Monday	Exodus 32:7-14	Moses pleads for the people
Tuesday	1 Timothy 1:12-17	Gratitude for mercy
Wednesday	James 3:13-18	Two kinds of wisdom
Thursday	Acts 26:12-18	Paul's conversion
Friday	Ephesians 2:1-10	From death to life
Saturday	Psalms 51:1-10	A prayer for forgiveness
Sunday	Luke 16:1-13	Parable of the shrewd manager

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

"Just so, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents." **Luke 15:10 (NRSV)**

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

Merciful God, we are thankful that you seek us out and renew our lives that we may know peace and joy through Christ Jesus, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Dear Lord, we thank you for feeding us with love, guidance, and this gift of food, examples of your care for us as the Good Shepherd. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May God fill you with joy and gladness. (Psalm 51:8)



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HYMN OF THE WEEK

*Amazing Grace, How
Sweet the Sound*



WEEKLY MILESTONES

Take a moment to tell or think about a recent mountain high and/or valley low in your life.

CARING CONVERSATIONS

Discuss in your home, small group, or use for personal reflections:

- When is a time you lost something valuable and then found it?
- Jesus told a parable about the lost sheep. How do people get "lost" from God?

DEVOTIONS

Read: Luke 15:1-10.

Jesus offers us easy images with which we can identify. Who hasn't been lost or felt lost in the jungles of self-doubt, hardship, fear, and confusion? And who hasn't lost something of value and upon finding it is filled with joy? On one level in this story, sinners and tax collectors are the ones lost and who have been found by a kind and merciful God. On another level, it is the religious leaders, those Pharisees and scribes who are truly lost. They are the ones far from understanding and enjoying the kindness and mercy of God for humanity. This is at the core of their own biblical faith. These religious folk have lost the life-giving power of rejoicing at the amazing grace of God that gives hope and changes everything. It brings beauty and love to a life often missing these essential ingredients. Whether it's lost sheep, missing coins, sinners, tax collectors, Pharisees, scribes, or even our own selves, there is rejoicing in this life because lives can repent and be found in the oceans of God's love and heavenly joy.

Discuss: When have you found yourself overcome with joy at God's amazing grace?

Pray: **Gracious God, help us to experience joy in your presence; help us to see in Jesus your desire to find us, renew us, and bless us with your abundant love and mercy. Amen.**

SERVICE

Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Daily Bible Readings and theme for this week, who do you know that may feel lost and need some support?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

In Luke 15:1-10 Jesus tells parables about the lost being found. Our sin is a condition of being lost and apart from God. God rejoices when, through faith in Christ, we, as the lost, are found, forgiven, and restored to a relationship with God. Hide chocolate coins or other candies and have others find them. After the treats are found, talk about the joy of finding them and then about God's joy at searching for and finding us.

Pray: **Thank you, God, for searching for us when we stray from you. Thank you for finding us and forgiving us. Amen.**

