

NOVEMBER 2, 2025
TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY
AFTER PENTECOST

taking† faith home

Jesus sees us with eyes of compassion and mercy.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

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

Sunday	Luke 19:1-10	Jesus visits Zacchaeus
Monday	Isaiah 1:10-18	Justice is needed, not sacrifice
Tuesday	2 Thessalonians 1:1-4, 11-12	God will relieve their troubles
Wednesday	Titus 3:1-8	Maintain good deeds
Thursday	Isaiah 30:18-26	God's promise to Zion
Friday	Hebrews 4:14-16	Jesus the great high priest
Saturday	Psalms 32:1-7	The joy of forgiveness
Sunday	Luke 20:27-38	Jesus speaks of the resurrection

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

Zacchaeus stood there and said to the Lord, "Look, half of my possessions, Lord, I will give to the poor; and if I have defrauded anyone of anything, I will pay back four times as much." **Luke 19:8 (NRSV)**

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

God of mercy, you care for the orphan, the widow, and the persecuted; give us faith to live compassionate and generous lives through Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Come Lord Jesus, be our guest, and let these gifts to us be blessed. Make our home your dwelling place, full of love, faith, and grace. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May God bless you with mercy.



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HYMN OF THE WEEK

*What a Fellowship,
What a Joy Divine*

taking† faith home

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:

- If you could meet someone famous, who would it be and why?
- Would you want to meet Jesus? If so, why?

DEVOTIONS

Read: Luke 19:1-10.

Zacchaeus, the "wee little man" in the children's Christian song, represents three important themes in the Gospel of Luke. First, Zacchaeus is part of the "sinners and tax collectors" for whom Jesus came to save. Second, Jesus came to find and save the lost, and Zacchaeus certainly fits the category of "the lost." Third, Zacchaeus is rich, and Luke is the Gospel most concerned with economic fairness. From the original Greek text, it is unclear whether Zacchaeus would now give or has already given half of his wealth away. Either way, such generosity is to be praised. The people of Jericho look on and grumble, clearly not seeing Zacchaeus as Jesus does. They judge harshly with their mainstream opinions and religious piety. This story lifts up the importance of having the eyes and vision of Jesus, not those of the world around us, even the religious world of accepted piety. For us and for our neighbors, it is a good thing that Jesus sees with eyes of compassion, mercy, and new beginnings for us all.

Discuss: Who can you name that has been judged harshly and needs compassion?

Pray: **Merciful God, help us to see with eyes of compassion to love and care for all people through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

SERVICE

Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Daily Bible Readings and theme for this week, how can you show care and compassion for those in need?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

Jesus was a guest at the house of Zacchaeus and said, "*Today salvation has come to this house.*" (Luke 19:9). As a sign and reminder of Christ's presence in your home, set an extra place at your table. While you are eating, think or talk about what it means for Jesus to be part of your life. When you finish, pray: **Lord Jesus, thank you for your presence at this table and in our lives. Bless this home with your salvation. Amen.**

