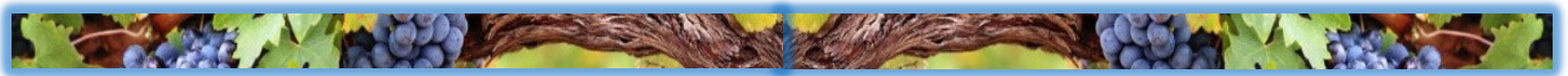




This month's readings make it hard to talk about generalized themes as there really are none but in looking down the reading list two books stick out as worthy of mention. Esther is a great story in the Hebrew Scriptures about a beautiful woman who makes her way to be queen of Persia and was able to save the people of Israel from destruction by the King by changing his mind. An interesting fact about Esther is that it is the only book of the Bible in which God is not mentioned! Yet the story is a continuous thread of God's hand throughout Esther's story. While God is not mentioned by name, God is clearly present throughout the story! The second thing worth mentioning is the presence of readings from Proverbs and Ecclesiastes. These are books from "wisdom tradition" as opposed to the books that are prophetic (Isaiah, Jeremiah, etc) or History (exodus) or Epistles (Corinthians, Philippians, etc) or Gospels. Wisdom literature gives advice about what it means to live as a covenant people of God. It's the advice of a wise teacher to a student, a parent to a youth. THIS is what it looks like to be who we are really called to be. By following the wisdom of these teachings, we learn to better reflect God in our world. Enjoy!

7/1 F Psalm 66:1-9 Jeremiah 51:47-58 2 Corinthians 8:1-7	7/5 Tu Psalm 119:73-80 Jeremiah 8:4-13 Acts 19:28-41	7/9 Sa Psalm 25:1-10 Leviticus 19:1-4, 32-37 John 3:16-21
7/2 Sa Psalm 66:1-9 Zechariah 14:10-21 Luke 9:1-6	7/6 W Psalm 119:73-80 Joshua 23:1-16 Luke 10:13-16	7/10 Deuteronomy 30:9-14 Psalm 25:1-10 Colossians 1:1-14 Luke 10:25-37
7/3 Su Isaiah 66:10-14 Psalm 66:1-9 Galatians 6:[1-6] 7-16 Luke 10:1-11, 16-20	7/7 Th Psalm 25:1-10 Genesis 41:14-36 James 2:14-26	7/11 M Psalm 25:11-20 Job 24:1-8 James 2:1-7
7/4 M Psalm 119:73-80 Jeremiah 6:10-19 Acts 19:21-27	7/8 F Psalm 25:1-10 Genesis 41:37-49 Acts 7:9-16	7/12 Tu Psalm 25:11-20 Proverbs 19:1-17 1 John 3:11-17



7/13 WPsalm 25:11-20
Ecclesiastes 9:13-18
Matthew 25:31-46

7/23 SaPsalm 138
Esther 4:1-17
Luke 8:22-25

7/14 Th Psalm 15
Genesis 12:10-20
Hebrews 5:1-6

7/24 Su Genesis 18:20-32
Psalm 138
Colossians 2:6-15 [16-19]
Luke 11:1-13

7/15 F Psalm 15
Genesis 13:1-18
Ephesians 3:14-21

7/25 M Psalm 55:16-23
Esther 5:1-14
Colossians 2:16—3:1

7/16 SaPsalm 15
Genesis 14:1-16
Luke 8:4-10

7/26 TuPsalm 55:16-23
Esther 6:1—7:6
Romans 9:30—10:4

7/17 Su July 17-23
Genesis 18:1-10a
Psalm 15
Colossians 1:15-28
Luke 10:38-42

7/27 WPsalm 55:16-23
Esther 7:7—8:17
Matthew 5:43-48

7/18 MPsalm 119:97-104
Exodus 18:1-12
Colossians 1:27—2:7

7/28 Th Psalm 49:1-12
Proverbs 23:1-11
Romans 11:33-36

7/19 TuPsalm 119:97-104
Proverbs 9:1-18
1 John 2:1-6

7/29 F Psalm 49:1-12
Proverbs 24:1-12
Ephesians 4:17-24

7/20 WPsalm 119:97-104
Deuteronomy 12:1-12
John 6:41-51

7/30 SaPsalm 49:1-12
Ecclesiastes 1:1-11
Mark 10:17-22

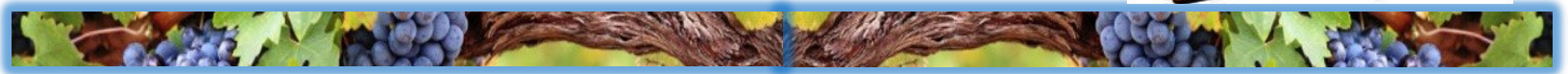
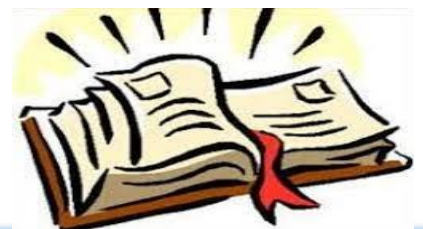
7/21 Th Psalm 138
Esther 2:19—3:6
Acts 1:15-20

7/31 Su Ecclesiastes 1:2, 12-14; 2:18-23
Psalm 49:1-12
Colossians 3:1-11
Luke 12:13-21

7/22 F Psalm 138
Esther 3:7-15
Acts 2:22-36

May God give you the grace to pray and the desire to read the Holy Bible

-Lailah Gaffty Akita

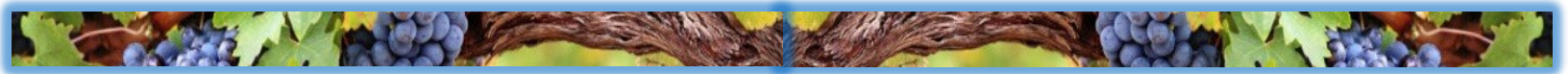


Grace Daily Readings August

Dear Friends

One book that stands out which I don't think we have discussed in a while is the book of Hebrews. (Why can't women make coffee in church?? Because the Bible clearly says "HeBrews!" 😊) Okay, enough bad seminary jokes. Many people assume Paul wrote Hebrews since it's in the Christian Scriptures and Paul wrote many of these books. In fact, we don't know who wrote Hebrews, but it is an Epistle, of unknown authorship and it focuses on the Priesthood of Jesus. In the Hebrew Scriptures, we read about the High Priest who is the one worthy of offering the acceptable sacrifice to atone for the sins of the people. The author of Hebrews takes this and makes it the crux of Christology, namely, Jesus is both priest and victim. It is Christ who offers the perfect sacrifice to God on behalf of humankind AND Christ who is the perfect sacrifice. In the gift of self-offering, Christ becomes both Great High Priest and perfect sacrifice. The book of Hebrews is most often seen in worship during Lent, because of its obvious death and resurrection imagery. We see it here in its entirety. Enjoy a very rich and interesting book!

8/1 M Psalm 127 Ecclesiastes 2:1-17 Colossians 3:18—4:1	8/6 Sa Psalm 33:12-22 Genesis 11:27-32 Matthew 6:19-24	8/11 Th Psalm 82 Joshua 7:1, 10-26 Hebrews 10:26-31
8/2 Tu Psalm 127 Ecclesiastes 3:16—4:8 Colossians 4:2-6	8/7 Su Genesis 15:1-6 Psalm 33:12-22 Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16 Luke 12:32-40	8/12 F Psalm 82 1 Samuel 5:1-12 Hebrews 10:32-39
8/3 W Psalm 127 Ecclesiastes 12:1-8, 13-14 Luke 12:22-31	8/8 M Psalm 89:1-18 2 Chronicles 33:1-17 Hebrews 11:1-7	8/13 Sa Psalm 82 1 Samuel 6:1-16 Matthew 24:15-27
8/4 Th Psalm 33:12-22 Job 21:1-16 Romans 9:1-9	8/9 Tu Psalm 89:1-18 2 Chronicles 34:22-33 Hebrews 11:17-28	8/14 Su Jeremiah 23:23-29 Psalm 82 Hebrews 11:29—12:2 Luke 12:49-56
8/5 F Psalm 33:12-22 Ecclesiastes 6:1-6 Acts 7:1-8	8/10 W Psalm 89:1-18 Jeremiah 33:14-26 Luke 12:41-48	8/15 M Psalm 32 Jeremiah 23:30-40 1 John 4:1-6



8/16 Tu Psalm 32
Jeremiah 25:15-29
Acts 7:44-53

8/22 M Psalm 109:21-31
Ezekiel 20:1-17
Hebrews 3:7—4:11

8/27 Sa Psalm 112
Proverbs 21:1-4, 24-26
Matthew 20:20-28

8/17 W Psalm 32
Jeremiah 25:30-38
Luke 19:45-48

8/23 Tu Psalm 109:21-31
Ezekiel 20:18-32
Revelation 3:7-13

8/28 Su Proverbs 25:6-7
Psalm 112
Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16
Luke 14:1, 7-14

8/18 Th Psalm 103:1-8
Numbers 15:32-41
Hebrews 12:3-17

8/24 W Psalm 109:21-31
Ezekiel 20:33-44
Luke 6:6-11

8/29 M Psalm 119:65-72
2 Chronicles 12:1-12
Hebrews 13:7-21

8/19 F Psalm 103:1-8
2 Chronicles 8:12-15
Acts 17:1-9

8/25 Th Psalm 112
Proverbs 15:13-17
1 Peter 3:8-12

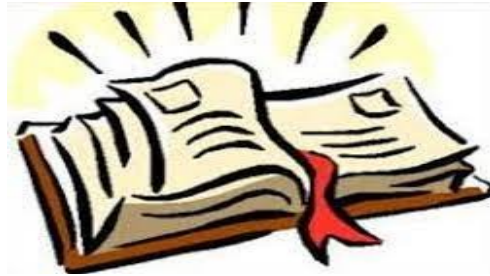
8/30 Tu Psalm 119:65-72
Isaiah 2:12-17
Titus 1:1-9

8/20 Sa Psalm 103:1-8
Nehemiah 13:15-22
Luke 6:1-5

8/26 F Psalm 112
Proverbs 18:6-12
1 Peter 4:7-11

8/31 W Psalm 119:65-72
Isaiah 57:14-21
Luke 14:15-24

8/21 Su August 21-27
Isaiah 58:9b-14
Psalm 103:1-8
Hebrews 12:18-29
Luke 13:10-17

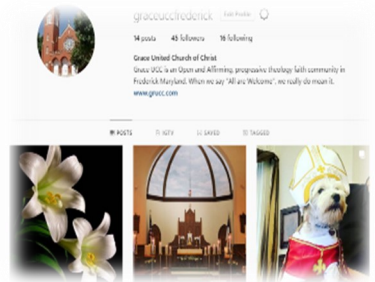


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