

**Sunday, August 16, 2026**  
**Twentieth Sunday of Ordinary Time**

**Prayer for the Morning**

*In Christ are we made one: come, let us adore him!*  
**Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit, as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen. Alleluia**

**Hymn**

**Meter: CM**

In Christ there is no east or west,  
In him no south or north;  
But one great fellowship of love  
Throughout the whole wide earth.  
In him shall true hearts everywhere  
Their high communion find;  
His service is the golden cord,  
Close binding all mankind.  
In Christ now meet both east and west,  
In him meet north and south;  
All Christly souls are one in him  
Throughout the whole wide earth.

**Psalm**

**133**

*Then Peter proceeded to speak and said, "In truth, I see that God shows no partiality." (Acts 10:34)*

*God's plan is that, in Christ, there be no "insiders" or "outsiders." All will be made one in him. In this present age, we are called to work toward that profound unity through humble love of one another.*

How good and how pleasant it is,  
when brothers live in unity!  
It is like precious oil upon the head  
running down upon the beard,  
running down upon Aaron's beard  
upon the collar of his robes.  
It is like the dew of Hermon which falls  
on the heights of Zion.  
For there the Lord gives his blessing,  
life for ever. Glory to the Father...

**Word of God**

**Galatians 3:26-29**

For through faith you are all children of God in Christ Jesus. For all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free person, there is not male and female; for you

are all one in Christ Jesus. And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's descendant, heirs according to the promise.

For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all, enriching all who call upon him. (Rom 10:12)

**Canticle of Zechariah**

*In every nation whoever fears him and acts uprightly is acceptable to him.* (Acts 10:35)

**Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel; he has come to his people and set them free. He has raised up for us a mighty savior, born of the house of his servant David.**

Through his holy prophets he promised of old that he would save us from our enemies, from the hands of all who hate us. He promised to show mercy to our fathers and to remember his holy covenant.

This was the oath he swore to our father Abraham: to set us free from the hands of our enemies, free to worship him without fear, holy and righteous in his sight all the days of our life. You, my child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High; for you will go before the Lord to prepare his way, to give his people knowledge of salvation by the forgiveness of their sins. In the tender compassion of our God the dawn from on high shall break upon us, to shine on those who dwell in darkness and the shadow of death, and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

Glory to the Father...

**Intercessions**

Let us pray in and with Christ:

**R/Father, may all be one!**

Where differences divide: **R/**

Where competition leads to hostility and violence:  
**R/**

Where judgment has replaced understanding: **R/**  
**Personal intentions**

Our Father....

*O God, most holy Three-in-One, you have made us in your image. May we grow into the unity that mirrors your inner life of love, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

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**Reading 1** **Isaiah 56:1, 6-7**

Thus says the Lord:/ Observe what is right, do what is just;/ for my salvation is about to come,/ my justice, about to be revealed.

The foreigners who join themselves to the Lord,/ ministering to him,/ loving the name of the Lord,/ and becoming his servants—/ all who keep the sabbath free from profanation/ and hold to my covenant,/ them I will bring to my holy mountain/ and make joyful in my house of prayer;/ their burnt offerings and sacrifices/ will be acceptable on my altar,/ for my house shall be called/ a house of prayer for all peoples.

**Reading 2** **Romans 11:13-15, 29-32**

Brothers and sisters: I am speaking to you Gentiles. Inasmuch as I am the apostle to the Gentiles, I glory in my ministry in order to make my race jealous and thus save some of them. For if their rejection is the reconciliation of the world, what will their acceptance be but life from the dead?

For the gifts and the call of God are irrevocable. Just as you once disobeyed God but have now received mercy because of their disobedience, so they have now disobeyed in order that, by virtue of the mercy shown to you, they too may now receive mercy. For God delivered all to disobedience, that he might have mercy upon all.

**Gospel** **Matthew 15:21-28**

At that time, Jesus withdrew to the region of Tyre and Sidon. And behold, a Canaanite woman of that district came and called out, "Have pity on me, Lord, Son of David! My daughter is tormented by a demon." But Jesus did not say a word in answer to her. Jesus' disciples came and asked him, "Send her away, for she keeps calling out after us." He said in reply, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." But the woman came and did Jesus homage, saying, "Lord, help me." He said in reply, "It is not right to take the food of the children and throw it to the dogs." She said, "Please, Lord, for even the dogs eat the scraps that fall from the table of their masters." Then Jesus said to her in reply, "O woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish." And the woman's daughter was healed from that hour.

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**Men of St. Joseph Prayer**

St. Joseph, help me to be like you. Help me to be obedient to the teachings of the Church and faithful to God's commands. Help me to patiently endure my cross each day. Let me be a model of holiness and a pillar of virtue. I solemnly promise to embrace God's will and I accept the challenge to work tirelessly for my family's salvation. Be my guide and companion on this journey. St. Joseph, terror of demons, pray for us!

***Prayer for the Morning text used with permission  
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