

Daily Prayer in Honduras

August 3-10, 2019



EL HOGAR IS A HOME AND SCHOOL FOR ABANDONED CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE, and it is part of the Episcopal Diocese of Honduras. St. Andrew's has a long association with el Hogar, providing support for its life changing work. There have been many trips of parishioners to el Hogar over the years to witness its work first-hand and to demonstrate our support.

A small group of parishioners are taking a mission trip this summer, as we celebrate the 125th anniversary of St Andrew's, to further strengthen our relationship and return to the parish with personal stories about the work. The parishioners going on the trip are: Bianka Eichelberger, Joe Hamilton, Heidi Harper, Joanna Horobin, Elizabeth Martin, Adrian Robbins-Cole, and Becky & Steve Taylor.




A home. An education. A future.

Sunday, August 4: The 8th Sunday after the Feast of Pentecost

A reading from Hosea, chapter 11, verses 1-11

When Israel was a child, I loved him, and out of Egypt I called my son. The more I called them, the more they went from me; they kept sacrificing to the Baals, and offering incense to idols. Yet it was I who taught Ephraim to walk, I took them up in my arms; but they did not know that I healed them. I led them with cords of human kindness, with bands of love. I was to them like those who lift infants to their cheeks. I bent down to them and fed them.

They shall return to the land of Egypt, and Assyria shall be their king, because they have refused to return to me. The sword rages in their cities, it consumes their oracle-priests, and devours because of their schemes. My people are bent on turning away from me. To the Most High they call, but he does not raise them up at all.

How can I give you up, Ephraim? How can I hand you over, O Israel? How can I make you like Admah? How can I treat you like Zeboiim? My heart recoils within me; my compassion grows warm and tender. I will not execute my fierce anger; I will not again destroy Ephraim; for I am God and no mortal, the Holy One in your midst, and I will not come in wrath.

They shall go after the Lord, who roars like a lion; when he roars, his children shall come trembling from the west. They shall come trembling like birds from Egypt, and like doves from the land of Assyria; and I will return them to their homes, says the Lord.

Portions of Psalm 107 (verses 1-9, 43)

- 1 Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, *
and his mercy endures forever.
- 2 Let all those whom the Lord has redeemed proclaim *
that he redeemed them from the hand of the foe.
- 3 He gathered them out of the lands; *
from the east and from the west, from the north and from the south.
- 4 Some wandered in desert wastes; *
they found no way to a city where they might dwell.
- 5 They were hungry and thirsty; *
their spirits languished within them.
- 6 Then they cried to the Lord in their trouble, *
and he delivered them from their distress.
- 7 He put their feet on a straight path *
to go to a city where they might dwell.
- 8 Let them give thanks to the Lord for his mercy *
and the wonders he does for his children.
- 9 For he satisfies the thirsty *
and fills the hungry with good things.
- 43 Whoever is wise will ponder these things, *
and consider well the mercies of the Lord.

A reading from a letter to the Colossians, chapter 3, verses 1-11

If you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth, for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory.

Put to death, therefore, whatever in you is earthly: fornication, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed (which is idolatry). On account of these the wrath of God is coming on those who are disobedient. These are the ways you also once followed, when you were living that life. But now you must get rid of all such things – anger, wrath, malice, slander, and abusive language from your mouth. Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have stripped off the old self with its practices and have clothed yourselves with the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge according to the image of its creator. In that renewal there is no longer Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave and free; but Christ is all and in all!

The Gospel reading appointed for today (Luke 12:13-21)

Someone in the crowd said to Jesus, “Teacher, tell my brother to divide the family inheritance with me.” But he said to him, “Friend, who set me to be a judge or arbitrator over you?” And he said to them, “Take care! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; for one’s life does not consist in the abundance of possessions.” Then he told them a parable: “The land of a rich man produced abundantly. And he thought to himself, ‘What should I do, for I have no place to store my crops?’ Then he said, ‘I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. And I will say to my soul, ‘Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.’ But God said to him, ‘You fool! This very night your life is being demanded of you. And the things you have prepared, whose will they be?’ So it is with those who store up treasures for themselves but are not rich toward God.”

The Collect appointed for today:

Let your continual mercy, O Lord, cleanse and defend your Church; and, because it cannot continue in safety without your help, protect and govern it always by your goodness; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Morning Prayer Circle

Gathering prayer

Gracious God, as our prayers rise to greet you, gather us into your realm of Justice and Love. Amen.¹

Psalm appointed for the day, prayed aloud together

Taizé chant

Bless the Lord, my soul, and bless God's holy Name.
Bless the Lord, my soul, who leads me into life.

A reading from scripture appointed for the day,² followed by conversation:

- *What gets your attention in either or both of these readings?*
- *What prayer may be emerging as you begin your day at El Hogar?*

Affirmation of faith

**We believe in God, the creator of all life and beauty,
who blesses our journey.
We believe in Jesus Christ,
who lived as a friend and savior to all he met as he traveled,
and who ate and laughed, wept and celebrated with them in love.
We believe in the Holy Spirit,
who rides on the gentle breeze,
who enlivens, strengthens, and guides, offering hope.
We believe in the church,
which stands open to all travelers,
and bears witness to the everlasting love of God.³**

Prayers

As we turn to tasks before us this day, **fill us, Holy One.**

In making faithful choices, great and small, **guide us, Holy One.**

As we seek to notice and serve those in need, **teach us, Holy One.**

As we offer our lives to you, **hear us, Holy One.**

With hearts ready to serve, **keep us company, Holy One.⁴**

Specific prayers are added here, spoken aloud or silently.

The Lord's Prayer

Going out prayer

Holy Spirit, fill us with your presence and guide us on our way.⁵

Monday August 5

Psalm 80:1-7

- 1 Shepherd of Israel, listen!
You, the one who leads Joseph as if he were a sheep.
You, who are enthroned upon the winged heavenly creatures.
- 2 Show yourself before Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh!
Wake up your power! Come to save us!
- 3 Restore us, God!
Make your face shine so that we can be saved!
- 4 LORD God of heavenly forces,
how long will you fume against your people's prayer?
- 5 You have fed them bread made of tears;
you have given them tears to drink three times over!
- 6 You have put us at odds with our neighbors;
our enemies make fun of us.
- 7 Restore us, God of heavenly forces!
Make your face shine so that we can be saved!

Mark 8:11-21

¹¹ The Pharisees began to argue with Jesus. To test him, they asked for a sign from heaven. ¹² With an impatient sigh, Jesus said, "Why does this generation look for a sign? I assure you that no sign will be given to it." ¹³ Leaving them, he got back in the boat and crossed to the other side of the lake.

¹⁴ Jesus' disciples had forgotten to bring any bread, so they had only one loaf with them in the boat. ¹⁵ He gave them strict orders: "Watch out and be on your guard for the yeast of the Pharisees as well as the yeast of Herod."

¹⁶ The disciples discussed this among themselves: "He said this because we have no bread." ¹⁷ Jesus knew what they were discussing and said, "Why are you talking about the fact that you do not have any bread? Do you not grasp what has happened? Do you not understand? Are your hearts so resistant to what God is doing? ¹⁸ Do you not have eyes? Why can you not see? Do you not have ears? Why can you not hear? Do you not remember? ¹⁹ When I broke five loaves of bread for those 5000 people, how many baskets full of leftovers did you gather?" They answered, "Twelve."

²⁰ "And when I broke seven loaves of bread for those 4000 people, how many baskets full of leftovers did you gather?" They answered, "Seven."

²¹ Jesus said to them, "And you still do not understand?"

Tuesday August 6

Psalm 78:1-8, 37-39

1 Listen, my people, to my teaching; tilt your ears toward the words of my mouth.
2 I will open my mouth with a proverb. I'll declare riddles from days long gone—
3 ones that we have heard and learned about, ones that our ancestors told us.
4 We will not hide them from their descendants; we will tell the next generation
all about the praise due the LORD and his strength—the wondrous works God has done.
5 He established a law for Jacob and set up instruction for Israel,
ordering our ancestors to teach them to their children.
6 This is so that the next generation and children not yet born will know these things,
and so they can rise up and tell their children
7 to put their hope in God—never forgetting God's deeds,
but keeping God's commandments—
8 and so that they will not become like their ancestors: a rebellious, stubborn generation,
a generation whose heart was not set firm and whose spirit was not faithful to God.
37 Their hearts were not firmly set on him; they were not faithful to his covenant.
38 But God, being compassionate, kept forgiving their sins, kept avoiding destruction;
he took back his anger so many times, would not stir up all his wrath!
39 God kept remembering that they were just flesh,
just breath that passes and does not come back.

Mark 8:27-33

27 Jesus and his disciples went into the villages near Caesarea Philippi. On the way he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that I am?"

28 They told him, "Some say John the Baptist, others Elijah, and still others one of the prophets."

29 He asked them, "And what about you? Who do you say that I am?"

Peter answered, "You are the Christ." 30 Jesus ordered them not to tell anyone about him.

31 Then Jesus began to teach his disciples: "The Human One must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders, chief priests, and the legal experts, and be killed, and then, after three days, rise from the dead." 32 He said this plainly. But Peter took hold of Jesus and, scolding him, began to correct him. 33 Jesus turned and looked at his disciples, then sternly corrected Peter: "Get behind me, Satan. You are not thinking God's thoughts but human thoughts."

Wednesday August 7

Psalm 119:97-114

- 97 I love your Instruction! I think about it constantly.
98 Your commandment makes me wiser than my enemies because it is always with me.
99 I have greater insight than all my teachers because I contemplate your laws.
100 I have more understanding than the elders because I guard your precepts.
101 I have not set my feet on any evil path so I can make sure to keep your word.
102 I have not deviated from any of your rules because you are the one who has taught me.
103 Your word is so pleasing to my taste buds—it is sweeter than honey in my mouth!
104 I am studying your precepts—that is why I hate every false path.
105 Your word is a lamp before my feet and a light for my journey.
106 I have sworn, and I fully mean it: I will keep your righteous rules.
107 I have been suffering so much—LORD, make me live again according to your promise.
108 Please, LORD, accept my spontaneous gifts of praise. Teach me your rules!
109 Though my life is constantly in danger, I will not forget your Instruction.
110 Though the wicked have set a trap for me, I will not stray from your precepts.
111 Your laws are my possession forever because they are my heart's joy.
112 I have decided to keep your statutes forever, every last one.
113 I hate fickle people, but I love your Instruction.
114 You are my shelter and my shield—I wait for your promise.

Mark 8:34-38

³⁴After calling the crowd together with his disciples, Jesus said to them, “All who want to come after me must say no to themselves, take up their cross, and follow me. ³⁵All who want to save their lives will lose them. But all who lose their lives because of me and because of the good news will save them. ³⁶Why would people gain the whole world but lose their lives? ³⁷What will people give in exchange for their lives? ³⁸Whoever is ashamed of me and my words in this unfaithful and sinful generation, the Human One will be ashamed of that person when he comes in the Father's glory with the holy angels.”

Thursday August 8

Psalm 145

1 I will lift you up high, my God. I will bless your name forever and always.
2 I will bless you every day. I will praise your name forever and always.
3 The LORD is great and so worthy of praise! God's greatness cannot be grasped.
4 One generation will praise your works to the next one, proclaiming your mighty acts.
5 They will talk all about the glorious splendor of your majesty;
I will contemplate your wondrous works.
6 They will speak of the power of your awesome deeds;
I will declare your great accomplishments.
7 They will rave in celebration of your abundant goodness;
they will shout joyfully about your righteousness:
8 "The LORD is merciful and compassionate, very patient, and full of faithful love.
9 The LORD is good to everyone and everything;
God's compassion extends to all his handiwork!"
10 All that you have made gives thanks to you, LORD; all your faithful ones bless you!
11 They speak of the glory of your kingdom; they talk about your power,
12 to inform all human beings about God's power and the majestic glory of God's kingdom.
13 Your kingdom is a kingship that lasts forever; your rule endures for all generations.
The LORD is trustworthy in all that he says, faithful in all that he does.
14 The LORD supports all who fall down, and straightens up all who are bent low.
15 All eyes look to you, hoping, and you give them their food right on time,
16 opening your hand and satisfying the desire of every living thing.
17 The LORD is righteous in all his ways, faithful in all his deeds.
18 The LORD is close to everyone who calls out to him, to all who call out to him sincerely.
19 God shows favor to those who honor him, listening to their cries for help
and saving them.
20 The LORD protects all who love him, but he destroys every wicked person.
21 My mouth will proclaim the LORD's praise,
and every living thing will bless God's holy name forever and always.

Mark 9:2-10

² Jesus took Peter, James, and John, and brought them to the top of a very high mountain where they were alone. He was transformed in front of them, ³and his clothes were amazingly bright, brighter than if they had been bleached white. ⁴Elijah and Moses appeared and were talking with Jesus. ⁵Peter reacted to all of this by saying to Jesus, "Rabbi, it is good that we are here. Let us make three shrines—one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." ⁶He said this because he did not know how to respond, for the three of them were terrified.

⁷Then a cloud overshadowed them, and a voice spoke from the cloud, "This is my Son, whom I dearly love. Listen to him!" ⁸Suddenly, looking around, they no longer saw anyone with them except Jesus.

⁹As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus ordered them not to tell anyone what they had seen until after the Human One had risen from the dead. ¹⁰So they kept it to themselves, wondering, "What is this 'rising from the dead'?"

Friday August 9

Psalm 88

1 LORD, God of my salvation, by day I cry out, even at night, before you—
2 let my prayer reach you! Turn your ear to my outcry.
3 My whole being is filled with distress; my life is at the very brink of hell.
4 I am considered as one of those plummeting into the pit.
I am like those who are beyond help,
5 drifting among the dead, lying in the grave, like dead bodies—
those you do not remember anymore, those who are cut off from your power.
6 You placed me down in the deepest pit, in places dark and deep.
7 Your anger smothers me; you subdue me with it, wave after wave.
8 You have made my friends distant. You have made me disgusting to them.
I cannot escape. I am trapped!
9 My eyes are tired of looking at my suffering. I have been calling out to you every day,
LORD—I have had my hands outstretched to you!
10 Do you work wonders for the dead? Do ghosts rise up and give you thanks?
11 Is your faithful love proclaimed in the grave, your faithfulness in the underworld?
12 Are your wonders known in the land of darkness,
your righteousness in the land of oblivion?
13 But I cry out to you, LORD!
My prayer meets you first thing in the morning!
14 Why do you reject my very being, LORD? Why do you hide your face from me?
15 Since I was young I have been afflicted, I have been dying.
I have endured your terrors. I am lifeless.
16 Your fiery anger has overwhelmed me; your terrors have destroyed me.
17 They surround me all day long like water; they engulf me completely.
18 You have made my loved ones and companions distant. My only friend is darkness.

Mark 9:14-27

¹⁴ Jesus, Peter, James, and John approached the other disciples and saw a large crowd surrounding them and legal experts arguing with them. ¹⁵ Suddenly the whole crowd caught sight of Jesus. They ran to greet him, overcome with excitement. ¹⁶ Jesus asked them, “What are you arguing about?”

¹⁷ Someone from the crowd responded, “Teacher, I brought my son to you, since he has a spirit that does not allow him to speak. ¹⁸ Wherever it overpowers him, it throws him into a fit. He foams at the mouth, grinds his teeth, and stiffens up. So I spoke to your disciples to see if they could throw it out, but they could not.”

¹⁹ Jesus answered them, “You faithless generation, how long will I be with you? How long will I put up with you? Bring him to me.”

²⁰ They brought him. When the spirit saw Jesus, it immediately threw the boy into a fit. He fell on the ground and rolled around, foaming at the mouth. ²¹ Jesus asked his father, “How long has this been going on?”

He said, “Since he was a child. ²² It has often thrown him into a fire or into water trying to kill him. If you can do anything, help us! Show us compassion!”

²³ Jesus said to him, “ ‘If you can do anything’? All things are possible for the one who has faith.”

²⁴ At that the boy’s father cried out, “I have faith; help my lack of faith!”

²⁵ Noticing that the crowd had surged together, Jesus spoke harshly to the unclean spirit, “Mute and deaf spirit, I command you to come out of him and never enter him again.”

²⁶ After screaming and shaking the boy horribly, the spirit came out. The boy seemed to be dead; in fact, several people said that he had died. ²⁷ But Jesus took his hand, lifted him up, and he arose.

Saturday August 10

Psalm 90

- 1 Lord, you have been our help, generation after generation.
2 Before the mountains were born, before you birthed the earth
and the inhabited world—from forever in the past to forever in the future, you are God.
3 You return people to dust, saying, “Go back, humans.”
4 In your perspective a thousand years are like yesterday past,
like a short period during the night watch.
5 You sweep humans away like a dream, like grass that is renewed in the morning.
6 True, in the morning it thrives, renewed, but come evening it withers, all dried up.
7 We are wasting away because of your wrath;
we are paralyzed with fear on account of your rage.
8 You put our sins right in front of you, set our hidden faults in the light from your face.
9 All our days slip away because of your fury; we finish up our years with a whimper.
10 We live at best to be seventy years old, maybe eighty, if we are strong.
But their duration brings hard work and trouble because they go by so quickly.
And then we fly off.
11 Who can comprehend the power of your anger?
The honor that is due you corresponds to your wrath.
12 Teach us to number our days so we can have a wise heart.
13 Come back to us, LORD! Have compassion for your servants!
14 Fill us full every morning with your faithful love
so we can rejoice and celebrate our whole life long.
15 Make us happy for the same amount of time that you afflicted us—
for the same number of years that we saw only trouble.
16 Let your acts be seen by your servants; let your glory be seen by their children.
17 Let the kindness of the Lord our God be over us.
Make the work of our hands last.
Make the work of our hands last!

Mark 9:30-37

³⁰ Jesus and his followers went through Galilee, but he did not want anyone to know it.
³¹ This was because he was teaching his disciples, “The Human One will be delivered into human hands. They will kill him. Three days after he is killed he will rise up.” ³² But they did not understand this kind of talk, and they were afraid to ask him.

³³ They entered Capernaum. When they had come into a house, he asked them, “What were you arguing about during the journey?” ³⁴ They did not respond, since on the way they had been debating with each other about who was the greatest. ³⁵ He sat down, called the Twelve, and said to them, “Whoever wants to be first must be least of all and the servant of all.” ³⁶ Jesus reached for a little child, placed him among the Twelve, and embraced him. Then he said, ³⁷ “Whoever welcomes one of these children in my name welcomes me; and whoever welcomes me is not actually welcoming me but rather the one who sent me.”

Evening Prayer Circle

Leader: You are in the midst of us, O Lord;
and we are called by your name.

We revisit the gospel appointed for today, and have conversation about it and our day.

*What word or phrase from scripture gets my attention,
as I come to the end of the day?
How did God and I encounter one another during the day?
What am I wondering about?
What am I looking forward to as I anticipate a new day?
For what am I especially grateful?*

We pray together:

Lord, it is night.

The night is for stillness. Let us be still in the presence of God.

It is night after a long day. What has been done has been done.

What has not been done has not been done.

Let it be.

The night is dark.

Let our fears of the darkness of the world and of our own lives rest in you.

The night is quiet.

Let the quietness of your peace enfold us, all dear to us, and all who have no peace.

The night heralds the dawn.

Let us look expectantly to a new day, new joys, new possibilities.

In your name we pray. **Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer

**Padre nuestro que estás en el cielo, santificado sea tu Nombre,
venga tu reino, hágase tu voluntad, en la tierra como en el cielo.
Danos hoy nuestro pan de cada día.
Perdona nuestras ofensas,
como también nosotros perdonamos a los que nos ofenden.
No nos dejes caer en tentación y líbranos del mal.
Porque tuyo es el reino, tuyo es el poder, y tuya es la gloria,
ahora y por siempre. Amén.**

Praying

It doesn't have to be the
blue iris, it could be weeds
in a vacant lot, or a few small
stones; **just pay attention,**
then patch

a few words together and
don't try to make them
elaborate, this isn't a contest
but a doorway

into thanks, and a silence in
which another voice may speak.

~Mary Oliver



¹ "A Morning Collect" written by Fredrica Harris Thompsett. Found in *Women's Uncommon Prayers: Our Lives Revealed, Nurtured, Celebrated* (Morehouse Publishing, 2000)

² The weekday readings from the Gospel of Matthew are from the Common English Bible.

³ Found in *From Shore to Shore: Liturgies, Litanies and Prayers from Around the World* edited by Kate Wyles (London: SPCK, 2003), p. 68.

⁴ In *Daily Prayer for All Seasons* (Church Publishing, 2014), pages 122.

⁵ From "Good Morning, Holy Spirit" prayer written by Jacqueline Russel in *Women's Uncommon Prayers*