



## We ask God's Blessing

### Song: His Mercy is More

- L** O great God, you alone are worthy of our worship. You have created us for you. Our hearts are restless until they find their rest in you. Yet relentlessly and tragically, we exchange the truth for a lie as we place created things above you in our hearts and lives. Give us fresh repentance for our forgetfulness, neglect, replacement, and disdain of you. Enliven us to see that our greatest idol is our self. We languish in the dependence, consumption, promotion, seeking, and love of self.
- C** We ask that you, Lord, guard us from idols, and triumph over all that competes for our ultimate affection. Help us this day to love you with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength, for this is the first and greatest commandment. Amen.
- L** The Lord is a gracious and compassionate God, slow to anger and abounding in love and faithfulness. He sent his son, Jesus, as our substitute to worship the Lord God and serve him only. He gave up his son, Jesus, to cleanse us from our idolatry in all its forms. He sent his son, Jesus, to defeat death and give us life. So hear the Word of God through his called servant: I forgive you all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

## Prayer of the Day

- L** O God, you have prepared joys beyond understanding for those who love you. Pour into our hearts such love for you that, loving you above all things, we may obtain your promises, which exceed all that we can desire; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** Amen.

# GOD'S WORD

## Gospel Reading: Matthew 10:34-42

<sup>34</sup> “Do not suppose that I have come to bring peace to the earth. I did not come to bring peace, but a sword. <sup>35</sup> For I have come to turn

“ ‘a man against his father,

a daughter against her mother,

a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law—

<sup>36</sup> a man’s enemies will be the members of his own household.’

<sup>37</sup> “Anyone who loves their father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; anyone who loves their son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me. <sup>38</sup> Whoever does not take up their cross and follow me is not worthy of me. <sup>39</sup> Whoever finds their life will lose it, and whoever loses their life for my sake will find it.

<sup>40</sup> “Anyone who welcomes you welcomes me, and anyone who welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me. <sup>41</sup> Whoever welcomes a prophet as a prophet will receive a prophet’s reward, and whoever welcomes a righteous person as a righteous person will receive a righteous person’s reward. <sup>42</sup> And if anyone gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones who is my disciple, truly I tell you, that person will certainly not lose their reward.”

## Verse of the Day – *Mark 8:34b*

**L** Alleluia. If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross and follow me.  
**C** Alleluia.

## Children’s Message

## Song: **God’s Own Child, I Gladly Say It** (vs. 1-3)

## Today’s Message: *based on Exodus 32:15--29*

<sup>15</sup> Moses turned and went down the mountain with the two tablets of the covenant law in his hands. They were inscribed on both sides, front and back. <sup>16</sup> The tablets were the work of God; the writing was the writing of God, engraved on the tablets.

<sup>17</sup> When Joshua heard the noise of the people shouting, he said to Moses, “There is the sound of war in the camp.”

<sup>18</sup> Moses replied:

“It is not the sound of victory,

it is not the sound of defeat;

it is the sound of singing that I hear.”

<sup>19</sup> When Moses approached the camp and saw the calf and the dancing, his anger burned and he threw the tablets out of his hands, breaking them to pieces at the foot of the mountain. <sup>20</sup> And he took the calf the people had made and burned it in the fire; then he ground it to powder, scattered it on the water and made the Israelites drink it.

<sup>21</sup> He said to Aaron, “What did these people do to you, that you led them into such great sin?”

<sup>22</sup> “Do not be angry, my lord,” Aaron answered. “You know how prone these people are to evil. <sup>23</sup> They said to me, ‘Make us gods who will go before us. As for this fellow Moses who brought us up out of Egypt, we don’t know what has happened to him.’ <sup>24</sup> So I told them, ‘Whoever has any gold jewelry, take it off.’ Then they gave me the gold, and I threw it into the fire, and out came this calf!”

<sup>25</sup> Moses saw that the people were running wild and that Aaron had let them get out of control and so become a laughingstock to their enemies. <sup>26</sup> So he stood at the entrance to the camp and said, “Whoever is for the LORD, come to me.” And all the Levites rallied to him.

<sup>27</sup> Then he said to them, “This is what the LORD, the God of Israel, says: ‘Each man strap a sword to his side. Go back and forth through the camp from one end to the other, each killing his brother and friend and neighbor.’” <sup>28</sup> The Levites did as Moses commanded, and that day about three thousand of the people died. <sup>29</sup> Then Moses said, “You have been set apart to the LORD today, for you were against your own sons and brothers, and he has blessed you this day.”

## Prayer and The Lord’s Prayer

**C** Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

## Blessing

**L** The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.  
The Lord look on you with favor and (+) give you peace.

**C** Amen.

Closing Song: God’s Own Child, I Gladly Say It (vs. 5)