

FEBRUARY 20, 2022  
SEVENTH SUNDAY  
AFTER EPIPHANY



*God's promise of an everlasting body.*

### DAILY BIBLE READINGS

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

|                  |                                      |                                 |
|------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| <b>Sunday</b>    | <b>Luke 6:27-38</b>                  | <b>Love for enemies</b>         |
| <b>Monday</b>    | <b>Genesis 45:3-11, 15</b>           | <b>Joseph reveals himself</b>   |
| <b>Tuesday</b>   | <b>1 Corinthians 15:35-38, 42-50</b> | <b>The resurrection body</b>    |
| <b>Wednesday</b> | <b>Romans 5:6-11</b>                 | <b>Results of justification</b> |
| <b>Thursday</b>  | <b>Psalms 136:1-9</b>                | <b>God's love never fails</b>   |
| <b>Friday</b>    | <b>John 10:11-18</b>                 | <b>Jesus the good shepherd</b>  |
| <b>Saturday</b>  | <b>Psalms 37:1-11, 39-40</b>         | <b>Trust the Lord</b>           |
| <b>Sunday</b>    | <b>Luke 9:28-43a</b>                 | <b>Jesus is transfigured</b>    |

### SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

*So it is with the resurrection of the dead. What is sown is perishable, what is raised is imperishable. 1 Corinthians 15:42 (NRSV)*

### PRAYERS AND BLESSING

#### **A Prayer for the Week:**

Loving God, help us to trust in the power of the resurrection so that we may show your love, mercy, and forgiveness to others each day through Christ our Lord. Amen.

#### **Mealtime Prayer:**

Dear God, we thank you for this food that shows your care for us. May your kindness and generosity be seen in an abundance of food for all. Amen.

#### **A Blessing to Give:**

May God's love and mercy give you comfort and peace.



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### HYMN OF THE WEEK

*Soon and Very Soon*



### 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:

- What words can be used to comfort someone who has lost a loved one?
- What questions do you have about life after death?

### DEVOTIONS

*Read:* 1 Corinthians 15:35-38, 42-50.

The first century world of Paul was without an advanced health care system for people. There were reasons not to see value in the human body: persistent diseases existed; death came early for many; others lived with constant hunger. Escape from human bodies was a common understanding of the afterlife. However, the Apostle Paul sees in resurrection a new body, not just the ongoing life of a soul floating free from a body. God created a physical world, and it is created good, although it has been tainted by sin. Paul affirms that in the resurrection of the dead we are given transformed bodies that he describes as "spiritual bodies." We don't know what that will look like. What we know is that God cares for what God creates, including our bodies. In the meantime, we wait for the resurrection of our bodies with confidence in God's creative powers and living each day valuing what God has created. Physical life matters, and therefore how we treat each other matters.

*Discuss:* How does trusting in the resurrection of the body help you show love, mercy, and forgiveness to others today?

*Pray:* **Eternal God, we thank you for creating us in love with a promise of a body that will be raised in glory through Christ Jesus. Amen.**

### SERVICE

Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Daily Bible Readings and theme for this week, pray for someone you know who has experienced the loss of a loved one.

### RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

In Luke 6 Jesus directs us to love our enemies and pray for them. Our relationships are important because it matters how we treat each other. When we experience conflict and feel mistreated by others it can make us feel hurt and distant from that person. Write a list of people who you feel have mistreated you. Then say the Lord's Prayer. Pause after you say: **Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.** Then read the names you have written and finish the prayer.



In addition to *Taking Faith Home*, celebrate milestones in your daily life as an effective faith formation tool. Go to: [www.milestonesministry.org](http://www.milestonesministry.org)