



FIRST CUP READINGS

JANUARY 2026

Blessings and love in Christ,

Sandy Sturch

Dear Family in Christ,

First Cup is designed to assist you in the habit of daily Bible reading and prayer. The name is to remind you that as you reach for your first cup of morning coffee or tea, reach also for your Bible and prayer list. The prayers at the beginning of each week are taken from hymns, sometimes found in obscure hymnals in my library. They are intended to be read as your beginning prayer, to focus your mind on the daily readings that follow. May this spiritual discipline strengthen you as you face each day.

Let the morning bring me word of your unfailing love, for I have put my trust in you. Show me the way I should go, for to you I lift up my soul.— Psalm 143:8

- 1 Ecclesiastes 3:1-17; Psalm 119:81-112; 103
- 2 Hebrews 1; John 1:1-14; Galatians 3:26-4:4
- 3 Hebrews 2; Philippians 2:1-11; 2 Timothy 1:8-12

Mighty God, while angels bless Thee, May a mortal sing Thy name? Lord of men as well as angels, Thou art every creature's theme. Lord of every land and nation, Ancient of eternal days, sounded thru the wide creation be Thy just and endless praise. Brightness of the Father's glory, shall Thy praise unuttered lie? Break, my tongue, such guilty silence! Sing the Lord who came to die. From the highest throne of glory to the cross of deepest woe, all to ransom guilty captives; Flow my praise, forever flow! (The Hymnbook, #10)

- 4 Hebrews 3; 1 Cor. 3:16-17; John 3:35-36
- 5 Hebrews 4:1-13; Exodus 20:8-11; Ephesians 2:8-10; Romans 4:1-8
- 6 Hebrews 4:14-5:10; 1 Cor. 10:13; Romans 6
- 7 Hebrews 5:11-6:6; 1 Peter 2:2; 1 Cor. 3:1-4; Matthew 7:21-23; 26:4
- 8 Hebrews 6:7-20; Isaiah 5:1-7; 44; 55:10-13; Matthew 13:1-30
- 9 Genesis 14:17-20; Psalm 110; Hebrews 7; Romans 8:26-27
- 10 1 Peter 2; Rev. 1:4-6; 5:6-10; 20:4-6

Tis the grandest theme thro' the ages rung; tis the grandest theme for a mortal tongue; Tis the grandest theme that the world e'er sung; Our God is able to deliver thee. Tis the grandest theme in the earth or main; Tis the grandest theme for a mortal strain; Tis the grandest theme, tell the world again; Our God is able to deliver thee. (The Baptist Hymnal, #198)

- 11 Hebrews 8 (see Exodus 25-31); Jeremiah 31; 2 Cor. 5:17
- 12 Hebrews 9:1-10; Exodus 40; Leviticus 16; Romans 3:21-26
- 13 Leviticus 8, 17; Hebrews 9:11-28; Matthew 5:17; Romans 8:1-17
- 14 Hebrews 10:1-25; 7:26-28; Matthew 26:26-29; 1 Cor. 11:23-26
- 15 Hebrews 10:26-39; 2 Peter 2; Matthew 12:31-32; Ephesians 4:30-32
- 16 Hebrews 11; Isaiah 7:9b; Rev. 6:9-11; 1 Peter 1:1-12
- 17 Hebrews 12:1-3; 1 Cor. 9:24-27; Philippians 2; Galatians 6:9

Oh soul, are you weary and troubled? No light in the darkness you see? There's light for a look at the Savior, and life more abundant and free! Thro' death into life everlasting He passed, and we follow Him there. Over us sin no more hath dominion— for more than conqu'rors we are! His Word shall not fail you — He promised; believe Him, and all will be well. Then go to a world that is dying, His perfect salvation to tell! Turn your eyes upon Jesus; Look full in His wonderful face; And the things of earth will grow strangely dim in the light of His glory and grace. (Worship in Song, #207)

- 18 Hebrews 12:4-13; 2 Cor. 4:5-10; Psalm 94
- 19 Hebrews 12:14-17; Ephesians 4:17-5:20
- 20 Hebrews 12:18-29 (see Exodus 19-20); Philippians 3:7-4:1; 2 Peter 3:10-18
- 21 Hebrews 13:1-6; Romans 12:9-21; 1 Cor. 5:1-13; 6:9-11; Matthew 6:24
- 22 Hebrews 13:7-25; 1 Thess. 4-5
- 23 James 1:1-8; Romans 5:1-5; Job 28:20-28; Psalm 90:12; Proverbs 1:7; 8; 21:30
- 24 James 1:9-11; Psalm 49; Mark 4:1-20; Luke 18:18-30; 1 Timothy 6:6-10; 17-19

While passing through this world of sin, and others your life shall view, Be clean and pure without, within, Let others see Jesus in you. Your life's a book before their eyes, They're reading it through and through; Say, does it point them to the skies, Do others see Jesus in you? Let others see Jesus in you, Let others see Jesus in you; Keep telling the story, be faithful and true, Let others see Jesus in you. (The Baptist Hymnal, #348)

- 25 James 1:12-18; Matthew 6:9-13; 1 Cor. 9:24-27; 10:12-13; Galatians 6:1-16
- 26 James 1:19-27; Psalm 4:4; Ephesians 4:17-32; Proverbs 15:1; 29:11
- 27 James 2:1-13; Leviticus 19:15; Proverbs 3; 14:21; Luke 10:25-37
- 28 James 2:14-26; Ephesians 2:8-10; Matthew 7:21-27; 25
- 29 James 3:1-12; Proverbs 4; 12:19; 16:23-30; 18:6-8; 26:20-28; 27:2; Psalm 12; 141
- 30 James 3:13-18; Proverbs 29:23; Matthew 20:20-28; 23:1-12; Luke 22:24-30
- 31 James 4:1-12; Proverbs 10:18-21; Matthew 15:10-20; Titus 2:11-15; 1 John 2:1-7



FIRST CUP READINGS

FEBRUARY 2026

Blessings and love in Christ,

Sandy Sturch

Dear Family in Christ,

First Cup is designed to assist you in the habit of daily Bible reading and prayer. The name is to remind you that as you reach for your first cup of morning coffee or tea, reach also for your Bible and prayer list. The prayers at the beginning of each week are taken from hymns, sometimes found in obscure hymnals in my library. They are intended to be read as your beginning prayer, to focus your mind on the daily readings that follow. May this spiritual discipline strengthen you as you face each day.

Let the morning bring me word of your unfailing love, for I have put my trust in you. Show me the way I should go, for to you I lift up my soul.— Psalm 143:8

Sweet hour of prayer, sweet hour of prayer, that calls me from a world of care and bids me at my Father's throne make all my wants and wishes known! In seasons of distress and grief my soul has often found relief, and oft escaped the tempter's snare, by Thy return, sweet hour of prayer. Sweet hour of prayer, sweet hour of prayer, Thy wings shall my petition bear to Him whose truth and faithfulness engage the waiting soul to bless; And since He bids me seek His face, believe His word, and trust His grace, I'll cast on Him my ev'ry care, and wait for thee, sweet hour or prayer.
(Worship in Song, #475)

- 1 James 4:13-17; Matthew 6:34; Proverbs 3:27-28; 16:9; 19:21; 27:1; Psalm 139
- 2 James 5:1-6; Leviticus 19:9-13; 24:14-15; Matthew 6:19-21; Hebrews 11:24-26
- 3 James 5:7-12; Job 1:1-2:10; 42; Romans 12:6-21
- 4 James 5:13-20; 1 Kings 17; 2 Kings 4:1-37; Acts 9:36-43; Romans 8:26-28
- 5 1 Peter 1; 1 Chronicles 29:15; Psalm 39:12; Hebrews 13:13-16; Ephesians 2:1-13
- 6 1 Peter 2:1-12; 1 Cor. 3:16-17; 6:19; Psalm 65:1-4
- 7 1 Peter 2:13-3:22; Ephesians 5:22-6:9; Romans 13

The whole world was lost in the darkness of sin; The Light of the world is Jesus. Like sunshine at noonday His glory shone in; The Light of the world is Jesus. No darkness have we who in Jesus abide; The Light of the world is Jesus. We walk in the Light when we follow our Guide; the Light of the world is Jesus. Come to the Light; 'tis shining for thee. Sweetly the Light has dawned upon me. Once I was blind, but now I can see. The Light of the world is Jesus. (Worship in Song, #96)

- 8 1 Peter 4; Philippians 1:27-30; Rev. 2:10
- 9 Jeremiah 10:21; 23:1-4; Matthew 9:36; John 10:1-18; 1 Peter 5
- 10 Matthew 17:1-8; 2 Peter 1; 2 Timothy 3:16-17; Psalm 119:105; 2 Cor. 4:6
- 11 2 Peter 2; Hebrews 6:4-6
- 12 Ezekiel 12:21-28; 2 Peter 3; 2 Cor. 6:1-2
- 13 1 John 1:2-14; Matthew 5:14-16; John 3:19-21; 8:12; 12:35-50
- 14 1 John 2:15-27; John 15:1-17; Titus 2:11-14

My Father is rich in houses and lands; He holdeth the wealth of the world in His hands! Of rubies and diamonds, of silver and gold, His coffers are full- He has riches untold. I once was an outcast stranger on earth, A sinner by choice, an alien by birth! But I've been adopted; my name's written down. I'm heir to a mansion, a robe, and a crown! I'm a child of the King! A child of the King! With Jesus, my Saviour, I'm a child of the King!
(Worship in Song, #377)

- 15 1 John 2:28-3:24; Psalm 119:1-16; 66:16-20; Romans 8:1-17
- 16 1 John 4:1-6; 1 Cor. 1:18-25; Matthew 7:15-20; 2 Peter 2:1-3
- 17 1 John 4:7-21; Romans 12:9-21; 1 Cor. 13
- 18 1 John 5; Jeremiah 7:1-29; 1 Cor. 11:23-32; James 5:13-20
- 19 2 John; Romans 16:17-20; Colossians 1:21-23; 2:6-8; Hebrews 10:35-38
- 20 3 John; Romans 12:13; 1 Timothy 5:9-10; 1 Peter 4:8-10; Philemon 8-22
- 21 Jude; John 10:1-18; Psalm 23

Tell me the story of Jesus, Write on my heart every Word; Tell me the story most precious, sweetest that ever was heard. Tell how the angels in chorus, Sang as they welcomed His birth, "Glory to God in the highest! Peace and good tidings to earth." Fasting alone in the desert, Tell of the days that are past; How for our sins He was tempted, Yet was triumphant at last. Tell of the years of His labor, tell of the sorrow He bore, He was despised and afflicted, homeless, rejected and poor. Tell me the story of Jesus, Write on my heart every Word. Tell me the story most precious, Sweetest that ever was heard. (Baptist Hymnal, #211)

- 22 Mark 1:1-13; Matthew 4:1-11; 2 Cor. 11:13-15; 1 Peter 5:8; Romans 16:20
- 23 Mark 1:14-20; Luke 4:43; 17:20-21; Luke 5:1-11; John 1:35-51; Matthew 10:37-39
- 24 Mark 1:21-45; Luke 4:14-44; John 20:29-31; 1 Peter 1:3-16
- 25 Mark 2:1-17; Jeremiah 29:13; Matthew 11:28-30; 1 Timothy 1:12-17; Psalm 91
- 26 Mark 2:18-3:6; Exodus 20:8-10; Jeremiah 17:19-27; Matthew 5:17-20
- 27 Mark 3:7-34; Matthew 12:22-37; Romans 8:12-17; Galatians 3:26-29
- 28 Mark 4:1-34; Matthew 13:24-30



FIRST CUP READINGS

MARCH 2026

Blessings and love in Christ,

Sandy Sturch

Let the morning bring me word of your unfailing love, for I have put my trust in you. Show me the way I should go, for to you I lift up my soul.— Psalm 143:8

*Cast thy burden on the Lord, Lean thou only on His word;
Ever will He be thy stay, Tho' the heavens shall melt away. Ever
in the raging storm, Thou shalt see His cheering form; hear his
pledge of coming aid: "It is I; be not afraid." Cast thy burdens
at His feet; linger near His mercy seat; He will lead thee by the
hand gently to the better land. He will gird thee by His power,
in the weary, fainting hour; Lean thou strong upon His Word;
Cast thy burden to the Lord. (Baptist Hymnal, #254)*

- 1 Deut. 6:4-8; Psalm 119:89-112;
2 Timothy 2:10-19
- 2 Mark 4:35-41; 2 Samuel 22; Psalm 65
- 3 Mark 5:1-20; Matthew 4:23-24; 8:16-17;
Acts 19:11-20; Rev. 20:1-10
- 4 Mark 5:21-43; Psalm 103
- 5 Mark 6:1-29; Luke 9:7-9; 14:25-33; Acts 21:10-14
- 6 Mark 6:30-56; Ephesians 3:20-21; Psalm 37
- 7 Mark 7:1-23; Jeremiah 17:9; Micah 6; James 1:21-27

*Savior, like a Shepherd lead us, much we need thy tender care;
In thy pleasant pastures feed us, for Thy use our folds prepare.
Thou hast promised to receive us, poor and sinful though we
be; Thou hast mercy to relieve us, grace to cleanse and power
to free. Blessed Jesus, Blessed Jesus, Thou hast loved us loved us
still; Blessed Jesus, Blessed Jesus, Thou hast loved us, loved us
still. (The Hymnbook, #380)*

- 8 Mark 7:24-8:10; Colossians 1:15-23; Ephesians 1:2-23
- 9 Mark 8:11-38; John 10
- 10 Mark 9:1-13; Malachi 4:5-6;
Matthew 11:7-15; 17:1-13
- 11 Mark 9:14-29; James 5:13-20; Philippians 4:6-7;
Ephesians 6:18
- 12 Mark 9:30-41; Numbers 11:26-30; Matthew 18:1-9
- 13 Mark 9:42-50; 1 Cor. 5; 1 Peter 1:13-25
- 14 Genesis 2:18-25; Mark 10:1-16; 1 Cor. 7;
1 John 1:9-10

*Work, for the night is coming, Work through the morning
hours; Work while the dew is sparkling, Work mid springing
flowers; Work when the day grows brighter, Work in the
glowing sun; Work, for the night is coming, when man's work
is done. Work for the night is coming, under the sunset skies;
while their bright tints are glowing, work for the daylight flies.
Work till the last beam fadeth, fadeth to shine no more; Work
while the night is darkening, when man's work is o'er. (The
Hymnbook, #297)*

- 15 Mark 10:17-31; 2 Chronicles 1:1-12;
Proverbs 11:24-28; 1 Timothy 6:17
- 16 Mark 10:32-45; Philippians 2:1-18;
John 13:1-17
- 17 Mark 10:46-52; Hebrews 11:6; Matthew 7:7-12;
Luke 19:1-10; Psalm 27
- 18 Mark 11:1-19; Jeremiah 7; Romans 12:12;
Colossians 4:2
- 19 Mark 11:20-33; Luke 17:1-4; Matthew 5:21-24;
Matthew 18:21-35
- 20 Mark 12; Proverbs 25:14; Matthew 6:1-4;
Psalm 37:25-26; 112; Proverbs 11:25
- 21 Matthew 23; Proverbs 6:16-19; Micah 6:8

*Saviour, teach me day by day Love's sweet lesson to obey;
Sweeter lesson cannot be, Loving Him who first loved me. With
a child's glad heart of love, at Thy bidding may I move. Prompt
to serve and follow Thee, Loving Him who first loved me.
Teach me thus Thy steps to trace, strong to follow in thy grace,
Learning how to love from Thee, Loving Him who first loved
me. (The Hymnbook, #457)*

- 22 Mark 13; Isaiah 13:9-11; Rev. 6:12-17
- 23 Matthew 24; Rev. 16:15
- 24 Matthew 25
- 25 1 Thess. 4-5:11
- 26 John 10
- 27 John 11
- 28 John 12:1-11; Deut. 15:1-11

*All glory, laud, and honor, To Thee, Redeemer, King. To whom
the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring! The people of
the Hebrews with palms before Thee went; Our praise and
prayer and anthems before Thee we present. Thou art the king
of Israel, Thou David's royal Son, Who in the Lord's name
comest, The King and blessed One! To Thee, before Thy Passion,
they sang their hymns of praise; To Thee, now high exalted, our
melody we raise. All glory, laud and honor to Thee, Redeemer,
King, To whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring!
(The Hymnbook, #187)*

- 29 Matthew 21:1-17; John 12:12-19
- 30 John 12:20-50; 3:16-21; Romans 10:9-13
- 31 Mark 14:10-42; John 17; Mark 14:43-72



FIRST CUP READINGS

APRIL 2026

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- 1 Mark 14:1-16
- 2 Mark 14:17-42; John 13
- 3 Mark 14:43-15:47
- 4 Matthew 16:21-28; 27:62-66; 28:11-15

I know that my Redeemer lives! What joy the blest assurance gives! He lives, He lives, who once was dead; He lives, my everlasting Head! He lives to bless me with His love; He lives, to plead for me above; He lives, my hungry soul to feed; He lives, to help in time of need. He lives, all glory to His name; He lives, my Savior, still the same; What joy, the blest assurance gives; I know that my Redeemer lives! (The Methodist Hymnal, #445)

- 5 Mark 16:1-8; Luke 24:1-35; John 20:1-23
- 6 John 20:24-31
- 7 John 21
- 8 Matthew 28:16-20; Acts 1:1-11; John 14
- 9 Psalm 109:1-8 Acts 1:12-26
- 10 Acts 2
- 11 Acts 3; Deut. 19:15, 18-19; Romans 1:16

Holy Spirit, breathe on me until my heart is clean. Let sunshine fill its inmost part, with not a cloud between. Holy Spirit, breathe on me; my stubborn will subdue. Teach me in words of living flame what Christ would have me do. Holy Spirit, breathe on me; fill me with power divine. Kindle a flame of love and zeal within this heart of mine. Breathe on me, breathe on me, Holy Spirit, breathe on me. Take Thou my heart; cleanse every part. Holy Spirit, breathe on me. (Worship in Song, #272)

- 12 Acts 4:1-5:11; Leviticus 19:11; John 8:44-45; Colossians 3:5-10
- 13 Acts 5:12-6:7; I Cor. 12
- 14 Acts 6:8-8:3; Galatians 1:13, 23
- 15 Acts 8:4-40; Isaiah 56:4-8
- 16 Acts 9:1-31; Galatians 1:11-24
- 17 Acts 9:32-11:30; 1 Timothy 6:17-19; 2 Cor. 9:6-11
- 18 Acts 12:1-14:28; 9:15-16; 2 Timothy 3; Job 36:15

And can it be that I should gain an interest in the Savior's blood! Died He for me, who caused His pain? For me to Him to death pursued? Amazing love! How can it be that Thou, my God, should die for me? He left His Father's throne above, so free, so infinite His grace! Emptied Himself of all but love, and bled for Adam's helpless race. 'Tis mercy all, immense and free! For, O my God, it found out me. Amazing love! How can it be that Thou, my God should die for me? (Worship in Song, #221)

- 19 Acts 15:1-35; Romans 1:1-6; 3:21-31
- 20 Acts 15:36-16:40; 2 Cor. 11; Hebrews 10:32-39; 13:3; Rev. 2:10
- 21 Acts 17; 1 Thess. 2-3
- 22 Acts 18; Romans 16:3-5a; 1 Cor. 16:20; 1 Peter 1:22
- 23 Acts 19; Exodus 34:10-17; Leviticus 19:4; Psalm 135
- 24 Acts 20; 2 Timothy 2:1-13; 4:1-5
- 25 Acts 21-23:11; Matthew 5:10-12; Psalm 119:153-160

Almost persuaded" now to believe; "Almost persuaded" Christ to receive; Seems now some soul to say, "Go, Spirit, go Thy way. Some more convenient day on Thee I'll call." "Almost persuaded," come, come today. "Almost persuaded," turn not away. Jesus invites you here; Angels are lin-g'ling near; Prayers rise from hearts so dear. O wanderer come! "Almost persuaded," harvest is past! "Almost persuaded," doom comes at last! "Almost" cannot avail; "Almost" is but to fail! Sad, sad, that bitter wail, "Almost," but lost! (Worship in Song, #233)

- 26 Acts 23:12-24:27; Psalm 91
- 27 Acts 25-26; Psalm 7
- 28 Acts 27-28:10; Psalm 69
- 29 Acts 28:11-31; 2 Cor. 11:21b-12:10; Romans 5:1-5; 2 Timothy 1:8-2:13
- 30 Colossians 1:1-14; John 3:16-21; 8:12; 12:44-46; Ephesians 5:8-20; Psalm 112



FIRST CUP READINGS

MAY 2026

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Sandy Sturch

Let the morning bring me word of your unfailing love, for I have put my trust in you. Show me the way I should go, for to you I lift up my soul.— Psalm 143:8

- 1 Colossians 1:1-14; Ephesians 5:1-20
- 2 Genesis 1; John 1:1-4; Colossians 1:15-23

Living for Jesus a life that is true, striving to please Him in all that I do, Yielding allegiance, glad-hearted and free, This is the pathway of blessing for me. Living for Jesus wherever I am, Doing each duty in His holy name, Willing to suffer affliction or loss, Deeming each trial a part of my cross! Living for Jesus thro' earth's little while, My dearest treasure, the light of His smile, Seeking the lost ones He died to redeem, Bringing the weary to find rest in Him! I own no other Master; My heart shall be Thy throne. My life I give, henceforth to live, O Christ, for Thee alone. (Worship in Song, No. 333)

- 3 Colossians 1:24-29; Romans 16:25-27; Ephesians 3:2-6
- 4 Colossians 2:1-23; Ephesians 2
- 5 Colossians 3:1-17; Ephesians 4:17-5:20
- 6 Colossians 3:18-4:18; Ephesians 5:21-6:20
- 7 Romans 1; Leviticus 18; Psalm 106
- 8 Romans 2; James 1:19-25; Matthew 7:1-5
- 9 Romans 3; Psalm 14; 5; Ephesians 1:3-14

Holy Spirit, truth divine, dawn upon this soul of mine; Word of God, and inward light, wake my spirit, clear my sight. Holy Spirit, love divine, glow within this heart of mine; Kindle every high desire; perish self in Thy pure fire. Holy Spirit, power divine, fill and nerve this will of mine; By Thee may I strongly live, bravely bear, and nobly strive. Holy Spirit, right divine, make my conscience wholly Thine; Be my law, and I shall be firmly bound, forever free. (The Presbyterian Hymnal, No. 321)

- 10 Romans 4; Ephesians 2:8-9; John 6:28-40
- 11 Romans 5:1-11; Colossians 1:21-23; 1 Peter 4:12-19; James 5:10-11
- 12 Romans 5:12-6:23; 1 Thess. 3:11-4:8
- 13 Romans 7; 2 Samuel 11; Mark 14:26-38; 51-72; Psalm 32
- 14 Romans 8:1-17; 2 Cor. 5:1-10; Isaiah 25:6-9; 1 Cor. 15:35-58
- 15 Romans 8:18-39; Deut. 31:6; Joshua 1:5; Psalm 118
- 16 Romans 9; Jeremiah 18; Isaiah 29:13-16; 64:5-9

A charge to keep I have, A God to glorify; A never dying soul to save, And fit it for the sky. To serve the present age, My calling to fulfill; Oh, may it all my pow'rs engage To do my Master's will! Arm me with jealous care, As in Thy sight to live; And, oh, Thy servant, Lord, prepare A strict account to give! Help me to watch and pray, And on Thyself rely, Assured if I my trust betray I shall forever die. (Worship in Song, No. 190)

- 17 Isaiah 65; Romans 10
- 18 Romans 11; Psalm 139
- 19 Romans 12; Leviticus 19:18; Proverbs 20:22; 1 Peter 2:11-25
- 20 Romans 13; Ephesians 5:11-13; 6:10-18
- 21 Romans 14; Psalm 34:14; Hebrews 12:14-15; 1 Cor. 8:9-13
- 22 Romans 15-16; Romans 12:10; 1 Peter 1:22; 1 John 4:7-21
- 23 1 Peter 1; Romans 12:1-2; Ephesians 4:17-5:21

O Jesus, I have promised To serve Thee to the end; Be Thou forever near me, My Master and my Friend: I shall not fear the battle If Thou art by my side, Nor wander from the pathway If Thou wilt be my Guide. O let me feel Thee near me! The world is ever near; I see the sights that dazzle, The tempting sounds I hear; My foes are ever near me, Around me and within; But, Jesus, draw Thou nearer, And shield my soul from sin. O let me hear Thee speaking In accents clear and still, Above the storms of passion, The murmurs of self-will! O speak to reassure me, To hasten or control! O speak, and make me listen, Thou Guardian of my soul! (The Hymnbook, No. 307)

- 24 1 Peter 2:1-12; Romans 13:8-14; 1 Cor. 3:16-17; 6:19; Psalm 65:1-4
- 25 1 Peter 2:13-3:22; Ephesians 5:22-6:9; 1 Thess. 5
- 26 1 Peter 4; Philippians 1:27-30; Rev. 2:10
- 27 Jeremiah 10:21; 23:1-4; Matthew 9:36; John 10:1-18; 1 Peter 5
- 28 Matthew 17:1-8; 2 Peter 1; 2 Timothy 3:16-17; Psalm 119:105; 2 Cor. 4:6
- 29 2 Peter 2; Hebrews 6:4-6; Jude
- 30 Matthew 24; 2 Peter 3; 2 Thess. 1:3-12

O Lord, my inmost heart and thought Thy searching eye doth see; Wher-e'er I rest, wher-e'er I go, My ways are known to Thee. Each spoken word, each silent thought, Thou, Lord, dost understand; Before me and behind art Thou, Restraining by Thy hand. From Thee, O Lord, I cannot hide, Though darkness cover me; The darkness and the light of day Are both alike to Thee. Search me, O God, and know my heart, Try me, my thoughts to know; O lead me, if in sin I stray, In paths of life to go. (The Hymnbook, No. 129)

- 31 1 Cor. 10:1-13; 1 Timothy 6:6-10; 1 John 2:15-17; James 1:13-15



FIRST CUP READINGS

JUNE 2026

Blessings and love in Christ,

Sandy Sturch

Let the morning bring me word of your unfailing love, for I have put my trust in you. Show me the way I should go, for to you I lift up my soul.— Psalm 143:8

- 1 Luke 11:29-32; Jonah 1; Psalm 89:9; 107:29
- 2 Jonah 2; Jeremiah 10:1-16; Psalm 88
- 3 Jonah 3; Jeremiah 18:1-11; Isaiah 29:16;
Romans 9:19-26
- 4 Jonah 4; Joel 2:12-14; Psalm 72
- 5 Jeremiah 1:1-10; 5:14; Exodus 4:10-12;
Isaiah 51:12-16; Mark 10:17-20; John 12:47-50
- 6 Jeremiah 1:11-19; Micah 4:1-7; Romans 2:5-16;
John 4:27-42; Matthew 9:35-38

If my people's hearts are humbled, if they pray and seek my face; if they turn away from evil, I will not withhold my grace. I will hear their prayers from heaven; I will pardon every sin. If my people's hearts are humbled, I will surely heal their land. Then my eyes will see their sorrow, then my ears will hear their plea. If my people's hearts are humbled, I will set their nation free. (Australian Hymn, No. 278)

- 7 Jeremiah 2:1-13; 2 Kings 17:1-23; Isaiah 44:6-23;
Romans 1:18-22; Psalm 51:1-17
- 8 Jeremiah 3:6-25; Psalm 16; Colossians 1:9-23;
Romans 1:28-2:16; 1 Peter 1:3-9
- 9 Jeremiah 4; Amos 5; Malachi 4:1-6
- 10 Genesis 6:1-8; Genesis 18:16-33; Jeremiah 5:1-19;
1 Peter 3:8-22
- 11 Jeremiah 5:20-31; Isaiah 59:1-15; Ecclesiastes 7:27-29;
Psalm 94; Hebrews 10:26-31
- 12 Jeremiah 6; Deut. 32:1-47; Isaiah 42:18-25;
2 Timothy 4:1-5
- 13 1 Kings 9:1-9; Jeremiah 7:1-20; Ezekiel 18:29-32;
Romans 7:1-8:4

*O God, our Help in ages past, Our hope for years to come,
Our Shelter from the stormy blast, And our eternal Home:
Under the shadow of Thy throne, still may we dwell secure;
Sufficient is Thine arm alone and our defense is sure. Before
the hills in order stood, Or earth received her frame, From
everlasting Thou art God, To endless years the same. O God,
our Help in ages past, our hope for years to come, Be Thou our
Guide while life shall last, And our eternal Home. (Worship
in Song, No. 14)*

- 14 Jeremiah 7:21-8:3; 2 Kings 21:1-15; 2 Kings 23:1-25;
1 Cor. 3:16-17
- 15 Jeremiah 8:4-9:6; Isaiah 1:1-20; Matthew 21:18-22;
Mark 11:12-17; Matthew 7:15-20
- 16 Jeremiah 10:1-16; Isaiah 40:21-31; John 1:1-14;
Colossians 1:15-23

- 17 Deut. 29-30; Jeremiah 11:1-17
- 18 Exodus 20:1-21; Deut. 12-13; Jeremiah 13
- 19 Jeremiah 14; 17:1-10; Deut. 28:15-24;
Ezekiel 34:20-31
- 20 Jeremiah 16:10-21; 1 Kings 9:6-9; Psalm 106:40-45;
Psalm 107

*Before the Lord we bow, the God who reigns above, And rules
the world below, boundless in power and love. Our thanks
we bring in joy and praise, our hearts we raise to heaven's
high king. Earth, hear thy Maker's voice, thy great Redeemer
own. Believe, obey, rejoice, and worship Him alone. Cast
down thy pride, thy sin deplore, and bow before the Crucified.
(Lutheran Worship, No. 500)*

- 21 Jeremiah 17:19-27; Exodus 20:2-17; Isaiah 56;
Matthew 12:1-14; Hebrews 4:1-13
- 22 Jeremiah 18:1-11; Isaiah 29:13-16; 64:8-12;
Romans 9:14-21
- 23 Jeremiah 22:13-23; Jeremiah 33:14-16;
Zechariah 9:9-17; Matthew 7:15-25
- 24 Jeremiah 23:1-8; Isaiah 53:1-7; Acts 7:51-53;
Psalm 43
- 25 Jeremiah 23:9-15; Micah 2:6-11; Ezekiel 13;
1 John 4:1-6; 2 Peter 2:1-3
- 26 Jeremiah 23:16-40; 2 Timothy 4:1-5; 2 Peter 2;
James 3:1
- 27 Jeremiah 24; Romans 9; James 2:14-26

*Have Thine own way, Lord! Have Thine own way! Thou art
the Potter; I am the clay. Mold me and make me After Thy
will, While I am waiting, Yielded and still. Have Thine own
way, Lord! Have Thine own way! Search me and try me,
Master, today. Whiter than snow, Lord, Wash me just now,
As in Thy presence Humbly I bow. Have Thine own way,
Lord! Have Thine own Way! Fill with Thy Spirit Till all shall
see Christ only, always Living in me! (The Hymnbook, No.
302)*

- 28 Jeremiah 25:1-14; Psalm 28; 94
- 29 Jeremiah 25:15-38; Psalm 44; 71
- 30 Jeremiah 29:1-14; Romans 10



FIRST CUP READINGS

JULY 2026

Blessings and love in Christ,

Sandy Sturch

Let the morning bring me word of your unfailing love, for I have put my trust in you. Show me the way I should go, for to you I lift up my soul.— Psalm 143:8

- 1 Jeremiah 31:27-34; Romans 11
- 2 Lamentations 1; Isaiah 1; 2 Chronicles 7:13-14
- 3 Lamentations 2; Matthew 23; 2 Timothy 4:1-5
- 4 Lamentations 3:1-36; Matthew 5:39;
2 Cor. 6:1-10; Psalm 123

Great is Thy faithfulness, O God, my Father! There is no shadow of turning with Thee; Thou changest not, Thy compassions, they fail not: As Thou has been Thou forever wilt be. Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth, Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide. Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow—blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside! (Hymns for the Family of God, #98)

- 5 Lamentations 3:37-66; Job 30; Psalm 37
- 6 Genesis 19:1-29; Lamentations 4; Jeremiah 19:9;
Matthew 24:1-35
- 7 Lamentations 5; Isaiah 49; 1 Thess. 4:13-5:11
- 8 Luke 1:1-25; John 1:1-34
- 9 Matthew 1:18-25; Luke 1:26-56; Genesis 17:19;
Psalm 132:11-18; Galatians 3:16
- 10 Luke 2:1-20; Colossians 1:15-23; Isaiah 43:1-3; 45:22
- 11 Leviticus 12; Luke 2:21-40; Isaiah 42:1-9; 8:13-17;
John 10:11; Psalm 23

Come, Thou long expected Jesus, Born to set Thy people free. From our sins and fears release us; Let us find our rest in Thee. Israel's Strength and Consolation, Hope of all the earth Thou art; Dear Desire of ev'ry nation, Joy of ev'ry longing heart! Born Thy people to deliver, Born a child and yet a King, Born to reign in us forever, now Thy gracious kingdom bring. By Thine own eternal Spirit rule in all our hearts alone; By Thine all sufficient merit, raise us to Thy glorious throne. (Worship in Song, #181)

- 12 Micah 5:1-5; Matthew 2
- 13 Luke 2:41-52; Proverbs 3:1-6
- 14 Luke 3:1-22; Matthew 3:13-17;
Mark 1:1-11; 16:15-16; Acts 1:5, 2:38-41
- 15 Luke 3:23-4:13; Deut. 6:13-19;
Hebrews 2:10-18; 4:14-16; 1 Peter 5:5-10
- 16 Isaiah 40:1-11; 52:7; 61:1-3; Luke 4:14-21;
John 16:13-15
- 17 Luke 4:22-30; 10:13-16; John 1:9-14; 15:18-16:4
- 18 Luke 4:31-37; Deut. 32:17; Isaiah 14:12-15; Luke
10:18; John 12:27-50

Out in the highways and byways of life, Many are weary and sad. Carry the sunshine where darkness is rife, Making the sorrowing glad. Tell the sweet story of Christ and His love; tell of His power to forgive. Others will trust Him if only you prove True every moment you live. Give as 'twas given to you in your need; Love as the Master loved you.

Be to the helpless a helper indeed; unto your mission be true. Make me a blessing; Make me a blessing. Out of my life may Jesus shine. Make me a blessing, O Saviour, I pray. Make me a blessing to someone today. (Worship in Song, #342)

- 19 Luke 4:38-44; Psalm 103
- 20 Luke 5:1-11; John 12:20-26; 1 Peter 2:11-15;
Psalm 32
- 21 Numbers 12; 2 Kings 5; Luke 5:12-26; Psalm 147:3
- 22 Luke 5:27-32; John 15:18-27; 2 Cor. 5:16-21; James
4:4; 1 John 3:13-15
- 23 Luke 5:33-39; Leviticus 16:29-31; Joel 2:12-14;
Nehemiah 9:1-3; Matthew 6:16-18
- 24 Genesis 2:1-3; Exodus 16; Deut. 5:12-15; Matthew
5:17-20; Luke 6:1-11
- 25 Psalm 7; Luke 6:12-36; Proverbs 16:7;
Romans 12:17-21

Come, ye sinners, poor and needy, weak and wounded, sick and sore; Jesus ready stands to save you, full of pity, love, and power; He is able, He is able, He is willing; doubt no more. Let not conscience make you linger, nor of fitness fondly dream; All the fitness He requireth is to feel your need of Him: This He gives you, this He gives you; 'Tis the Spirit's glimmering beam. Come, ye weary, heavy laden, bruised and mangled by the Fall; If you tarry till you're better, You will never come at all; Not the righteous, not the righteous; Sinners Jesus came to call. (The Baptist Hymnal, #241)

- 26 Luke 6:37-45; Romans 2; 14; James 4:11-12;
Matthew 18:15-35
- 27 Luke 6:46-49; James 2:14-26; John 15:1-17
- 28 1 Kings 17; 2 Kings 4:1-37; Luke 7:1-17;
Jeremiah 32:17-27; Psalm 107:20-22
- 29 Psalm 38; Luke 7:36-50; Psalm 32
- 30 Luke 8:1-18; Psalm 119:1-16; 89-112;
James 1:22-25
- 31 Psalm 119:33-88; Luke 8:19-21; John 14:15-21



FIRST CUP READINGS

AUGUST 2026

Blessings and love in Christ,

Sandy Sturch

Let the morning bring me word of your unfailing love, for I have put my trust in you. Show me the way I should go, for to you I lift up my soul.— Psalm 143:8

- 1 Luke 8:22-25; 2 Samuel 22; Jonah 2;
Psalm 3:5; 4:8; 73:23-26

"Take up thy cross," the Savior said, "If thou wouldst My disciple be; Take up thy cross with willing heart And humbly follow after Me." Take up thy cross; let not its weight Fill thy weak spirit with alarm; His strength shall bear thy spirit up, And brace thy heart, and nerve thy arm. Take up thy cross, nor heed the shame; Nor let thy foolish pride rebel; Thy Lord for thee the cross endured, To save thy soul from death and hell. Take up thy cross and follow Christ, Nor think till death to lay it down; For only he who bears the cross May hope to wear the glorious crown. (The Hymnbook, #293)

- 2 Deut. 18:9-13; Psalm 106; Luke 8:26-39; James 4:7
3 Luke 8:40-48; Leviticus 15:25-27; Mark 3:10; 6:56;
Luke 8:49-55; Hebrews 11:6
4 Luke 9:1-9; Matthew 14:1-12; 17:9-13;
Matthew 10:17-31
5 Exodus 16; Luke 9:10-17; Mark 11:22-25;
Proverbs 30:7-9; John 6:48-51
6 Luke 9:18-27; Matthew 10:32-33; 16:24-28;
Philippians 1
7 Luke 9:28-36; Isaiah 42:1-9; Matthew 3:16-17; 5:17;
2 Peter 1; Psalm 119:105
8 Luke 9:37-45; Mark 9:14-29; Matthew 21:21-22;
James 5:15-16

Our Father in heaven, we hallow Thy name; May Thy kingdom holy on earth be the same; O give to us daily our portion of bread; It is from Thy bounty that all must be fed. Forgive our transgressions, and teach us to know that humble compassion which pardons each foe; Keep us from temptation, from evil and sin, And Thine be the glory forever! Amen. (Baptist Hymnal, #343)

- 9 1 Kings 19:19-21; Luke 9:46-62; Matthew 4:18-22;
Mark 10:17-31; Matthew 6:33
10 Luke 10:1-24; Matthew 4:10; Rev. 9:1-11; 12:7-12;
13:5-10; Daniel 12:1-4
11 Luke 10:25-37 Deut. 6:5; Leviticus 19:18;
Matthew 19:16-30
12 Luke 10:38-42; Matthew 6:25-34; Romans 12:1-13;
Psalm 27:4; 119:97-112
13 Luke 11:1-13; Matthew 26:31-46; 69-75;
1 Cor. 10:1-13
14 Luke 11:14-28; 2 Peter 2; Hebrews 6:4-6
15 Luke 11:29-32; Jonah 3; 2 Chronicles 9:1-12;
Matthew 12:38-45; John 3:18-21

Oh, the unsearchable riches of Christ, Wealth that can never be told! Riches exhaustless of mercy and grace, Precious, more precious than gold! Oh, the unsearchable riches of Christ! Who shall their greatness declare? Jewels whose luster our lives may adorn, Pearls that the poorest may wear! Oh, the unsearchable riches of Christ! Who would not gladly endure Trials, afflictions, and crosses on earth, Riches like these to secure! Precious, more precious, Wealth that can never be told! Oh, the unsearchable riches of Christ! Precious, more precious than gold. (Worship in Song, #52)

- 16 Luke 11:33-36; Psalm 101; Psalm 18:25-29;
Titus 1:15-16
17 Luke 11:37-54; Genesis 4:1-16;
2 Chronicles 24:17-22; Acts 13; Romans 2
18 Luke 12:1-12; Acts 6:8-7:60
19 Luke 12:13-34; Ecclesiastes 5:10; Isaiah 57:14-21;
Ephesians 5:1-20
20 Luke 12:33-48; 1 Thess. 4:13-5:11; 2 Thess. 2:1-16
21 Luke 12:49-53; Mark 10:28-31; 13:3-13;
Matthew 10:17-42
22 Luke 12:54-59; Matthew 16:1-4; 2 Timothy 3:1-5;
2 Peter 3; 1 John 2:18-27

There were ninety and nine that safely lay in the shelter of the fold, but the one was out on the hills far away, far off in the dark and cold. Away on the mountains, wild and bare. Away from the tender Shepherd's care. "Lord, Thou hast here Thy ninety and nine; are they not enough for Thee?" But the Shepherd made answer: "This of mine has wandered away from Me; and although the road be rough and steep, I'll go to the desert to find My sheep." And all through the mountains, thunder driven, and up from the rocky steep, there arose a cry up to the gate of heaven, "Rejoice, I have found My sheep!" And the angels echoed around the Throne, "Rejoice, for the Lord brings back His own!" (Trinity Hymnal, #187)

- 23 Luke 13:1-9; Isaiah 5:1-10; John 15:1-17
24 Exodus 20:8-11; Matthew 4:23-25; 12:1-14; Luke 13:10-35
25 Luke 14:1-24; Matthew 22:1-14; Zachariah 3
26 Luke 14:25-35; Philippians 3:7-4:1
27 Luke 15; Proverbs 20:9; 21:17, 25, 26; 22:6; Psalm 51; Hebrews 12:4-13
28 Luke 16:1-18; 12:33-34; Matthew 6:19-34
29 Luke 16:19-31; 6:17-26; Matthew 25:31-46
30 Luke 17:1-10; Matthew 6:9-15; 18:21-35
31 Luke 17:11-19; Leviticus 13:29-37; Acts 14:8-10;
James 5:13-16



FIRST CUP READINGS

SEPTEMBER 2026

Blessings and love in Christ,

Sandy Sturch

Let the morning bring me word of your unfailing love, for I have put my trust in you. Show me the way I should go, for to you I lift up my soul.— Psalm 143:8

- 1 Luke 17:20-37; Genesis 7:6-24; 19:1-29;
Rev. 6:12-17
- 2 Deut. 14:28-29; Isaiah 1:16-17; Luke 18:1-8; Isaiah 58
- 3 Luke 18:9-14; Matthew 18:1-14; 23:1-12;
2 Timothy 3:10-17; Proverbs 22:6
- 4 Luke 18:15-17; 1 Peter 2:2; 1 John 2:28-3:10
- 5 Luke 18:18-30; Exodus 20:1-17; Job 34:16-19;
1 Peter 1:3-9

Oh, I love to walk with Jesus, like the publicans of old, when He gathered them about Him and the blessed tidings told: How He came to bring deliverance to the captives in distress, take away our every burden, giving perfect peace and rest. Oh, I love to walk with Jesus, like the man of long ago who had tarried by the wayside near the gates of Jericho. Jesus heard his cry for mercy, gave him back his sight that day, and immediately he followed Jesus all along the way. Oh, I love to walk with Jesus all the way to Cal-v'ry's brow, gaze upon that scene of suffering while my tears of sorrow flow. There He tells me how He loves me, takes my ev'ry sin away; so I follow Him so gladly, lead me anywhere He may. (Worship in Song, #119)

- 6 Luke 18:31-34; Psalm 41:9; 22:16-18; Isaiah 53;
Psalm 16:9-10
- 7 Luke 18:35-43; John 9; Psalm 146
- 8 Psalm 14; Mark 2:13-17; Luke 19:1-10; Proverbs 8:17;
Jeremiah 29:13; Isaiah 55
- 9 Luke 19:11-27; Proverbs 27:18; Matthew 25:31-46
- 10 Luke 19:28-44; Matthew 21:1-11; Mark 11:1-11;
Zechariah 2; 9:9
- 11 Luke 19:45-48; John 2:13-22;
1 Cor. 3:16-17; 6:19-20; Ephesians 2
- 12 Psalm 118; Luke 20:1-19; Acts 4:1-12; 1 Peter 2:1-10

Beneath the cross of Jesus I fain would take my stand—the shadow of a mighty Rock within a weary land; a home within the wilderness, a rest upon the way, from the burning of the noontide heat, and the burden of the day. Upon the cross of Jesus mine eye at times can see the very dying form of one Who suffered there for me: and from my stricken heart with tears two wonders I confess—the wonders of redeeming love and my unworthiness. (The Hymnbook, #190)

- 13 Luke 20:20-26; Romans 13; Colossians 3:12-14;
1 Peter 5:5-12
- 14 Luke 20:27-40; John 11:1-45; Romans 6:8-14;
1 Cor. 15:20-58
- 15 Malachi 2:1-9; Matthew 23; Luke 20:41-47;
1 Peter 5:1-4

- 16 Luke 21:1-4; 2 Cor. 8:1-15; 9:6-15;
1 Kings 17:1-16; Proverbs 3:27-28
- 17 Luke 21:5-38; 2 Timothy 3; 2 Peter 3
- 18 Luke 22:1-6; Matthew 26:1-16; Matthew 10
- 19 Luke 22:7-71; John 13:13-38; Titus 1:10-16; Jude 3-4;
1 John 2:20-23

Marvelous grace of our loving Lord, grace that exceeds our sin and our guilt. Yonder on Calvary's mount outpoured, there where the blood of the Lamb was spilt! Dark is the stain that we cannot hide. What can avail to wash it away? Look! There is flowing a crimson tide; Whiter than snow you may be today. Marvelous, infinite, matchless grace, freely bestowed on all who believe! You that are longing to see His face, will you this moment His grace receive? Grace, grace, God's grace, Grace that will pardon and cleanse within! Grace that is greater than all our sin! (Worship in Song, #213)

- 20 Matthew 27:1-56; Luke 23; John 19
- 21 Matthew 28:1-15; Luke 24:1-53; 1 Cor. 15
- 22 Romans 1; Leviticus 18; Psalm 106
- 23 Romans 2; James 1:19-25; Matthew 7:1-5
- 24 Romans 3; Psalm 14; 5; Ephesians 1:3-14
- 25 Romans 4; Ephesians 2:8-9; John 6:28-40
- 26 Romans 5:1-11; Colossians 1:21-23; 1 Peter 4:12-19;
James 5:10-11

O Love that will not let me go, I rest my weary soul in Thee; I give Thee back the life I owe, that in Thine ocean depths its flow may richer, fuller be. O Light that followest all my way, I yield my flickering torch to Thee; My heart restores its borrowed ray, that in Thy sunshine's blaze its day may brighter, fairer be. O cross that liftest up my head, I dare not ask to fly from Thee; I lay in dust life's glory dead, and from the ground there blossoms red life that shall endless be. (The Hymnbook, #400)

- 27 Romans 5:12-6:23; Ephesians 1:3-10;
1 Thess. 3:11-4:8
- 28 Romans 7; 2 Samuel 11; Mark 14:26-38; 51-71;
Psalm 32
- 29 Romans 8:1-17; 2 Cor. 5:1-10; Isaiah 25:6-9;
1 Cor. 15:35-58
- 30 Romans 8:18-39; Deut. 31:6; Joshua 1:5;
Psalm 118



FIRST CUP READINGS

OCTOBER 2026

Blessings and love in Christ,

Sandy Sturch

Let the morning bring me word of your unfailing love, for I have put my trust in you. Show me the way I should go, for to you I lift up my soul.— Psalm 143:8

- 1 Romans 9; Jeremiah 18; Isaiah 29:13-16; 64:5-9
- 2 Isaiah 65; Romans 10
- 3 Romans 11; Psalm 139

A charge to keep I have, a God to glorify; a never dying soul to save, and fit it for the sky. To serve the present age, my calling to fulfill; Oh, may it all my pow'rs engage to do my Master's will! Arm me with jealous care, as in Thy sight to live; and, oh, Thy servant, Lord, prepare a strict account to give! Help me to watch and pray, and on Thyself rely, assured if I my trust betray I shall forever die. (Worship in Song, #190)

- 4 Romans 12; Leviticus 19:18; Proverbs 20:22; 1 Peter 2:11-12
- 5 Romans 13; Titus 3:1-11; 1 Thess. 4:1-12
- 6 Romans 14; Psalm 34:14; Hebrews 12:14-15; 1 Cor. 8:9-13
- 7 Romans 15-16; Romans 12:10; 1 Peter 1:22; 1 John 4:7-21, 27
- 8 1 Peter 1; 1 Chronicles 29:15; Psalm 39:12; Hebrews 13:13-16; Ephesians 2:1-13
- 9 1 Peter 2:1-12; Romans 13:8-14; 1 Cor. 3:16-17; 6:19; Psalm 65:1-4
- 10 1 Peter 2:13-3:22; Ephesians 5:22-6:9; Romans 13

I heard an old, old story, how a Saviour came from glory, how He gave His life on Calvary to save a wretch like me. I heard about His groaning, of His precious blood's atoning. Then I repented of my sins and won the victory. I heard about His healing, of His cleansing pow'r revealing, how He made the lame to walk again and caused the blind to see. And then I cried, "Dear Jesus, come and heal my broken spirit"; and somehow Jesus came and bro't to me the victory. Oh, victory in Jesus, my Saviour forever! He sought me and bought me with His redeeming blood. He loved me ere I knew Him, and all my love is due Him. He plunged me to victory beneath the cleansing flood. (Worship in Song, #434)

- 11 1 Peter 4; Philippians 1:27-30; Rev. 2:10
- 12 Jeremiah 10:21; 23:1-4; Matthew 9:36; John 10:1-18; 1 Peter 5
- 13 Matthew 17:1-8; 2 Peter 1; 2 Timothy 3:16-17; Psalm 119:105; 2 Cor. 4:6
- 14 2 Peter 2; Hebrews 6:4-6
- 15 Ezekiel 12:21-28; 2 Peter 3; 2 Cor. 6:1-2
- 16 1 Timothy 1; Romans 5:21; 7:7-8:17; Hebrews 5:11-14; James 3:1; 1 Peter 2:1-3

- 17 1 Timothy 2; Genesis 3; Proverbs 31; 11:16, 22; 14:1

He giveth more grace when the burdens grow greater, He sendeth more strength when the labor increases; to added affliction He addeth His mercy, to multiplied trials, His multiplied peace. His love has no limit, His grace has no measure, His power has no boundary known unto men; For out of His infinite riches in Jesus, He giveth, and giveth, and giveth again! (Hymns for the Family of God, #112)

- 18 1 Timothy 3; Romans 12; Hebrews 13:17
- 19 1 Timothy 4; 1:7; John 13:1-17; 1 Cor. 11:1
- 20 1 Timothy 5:1-6:2; 1 Cor. 7:8; James 1:27; Ephesians 6:5-9; Psalm 68:4-5
- 21 1 Timothy 6:3-21; Ecclesiastes 4:4-8; Luke 12; Rev. 3:14-22
- 22 2 Timothy 1; Mark 8:34-38; Romans 1:8-17; Philippians 1:12-30; 1 Peter 4:12-19
- 23 2 Timothy 2; Romans 6:1-14; Ephesians 4:1-3
- 24 2 Timothy 3; Jeremiah 12:10-11; 23:1-4; John 10:1-16; Acts 20:25-31

Fight the good fight with all thy might! Christ is thy strength, and Christ thy right; Lay hold on life, and it shall be thy joy and crown eternally. Run thou the race through God's good grace, lift up thine eyes, and seek His face; life with its way before us lies, Christ is thy path, and Christ the prize. Faint not nor fear, His arms are near, He changeth not and thou art dear; Only believe, and then thou shall see that Christ is all in all to thee. (The Baptist Hymnal, #406)

- 25 2 Timothy 4; 1 Cor. 9:24-27; Philippians 3:7-4:1
- 26 Titus 1; 1 Timothy 1:1-7; 1 Cor. 4:1-2; Philippians 1:9-11
- 27 Titus 2; Deut. 6:1-9; 11:18-21; Psalm 25; Proverbs 9:9; 22:17-21
- 28 Titus 3; Romans 13; 1 Peter 2:17
- 29 Philemon 1; 1 Peter 3:15-16; Luke 9:26; Matthew 6:14; Luke 17:1-4; Romans 16
- 30 Rev. 1:1-8; John 1:1-18; Rev. 21:6; 22:6-21
- 31 Rev. 1:9-20; Daniel 7:13-14; Matthew 5:14-16; 16:13-20



FIRST CUP READINGS

NOVEMBER 2026

Blessings and love in Christ,

Sandy Sturch

Let the morning bring me word of your unfailing love, for I have put my trust in you. Show me the way I should go, for to you I lift up my soul.— Psalm 143:8

- 1 Acts 19:1-20; 20:13-38; Revelation 2:1-7;
1 John 4:1-6; 2 John 4-11
- 2 James 2:5; Revelation 2:8-11; 1 Cor. 9:24-27;
Romans 5:3-5; James 1:1-12
- 3 Revelation 2:12-17 (see Num. 22-25); 2 Peter 2
- 4 1 Kings 16:29-34; 18:1-4, 17-21; 19:1-4; 21:5-23;
Revelation 2:18-29; 2 Peter 3:9
- 5 John 15:1-8; Luke 12:35-40; Revelation 3:1-6; 7:9-
17; 2 Timothy 3:1-5
- 6 Revelation 3:7-13; Matthew 23:13-39;
1 Cor. 3:16-17; Ephesians 2:19-22
- 7 Revelation 3:14-22; Matthew 19:16-30; James 1:9-11;
Hebrews 12:1-13

O Jesus, I have promised to serve Thee to the end; Be Thou forever near me, my Master and my Friend. I shall not fear the battle if Thou art by my side, nor wander from the pathway if Thou wilt be my Guide. O Jesus, Thou hast promised to all who follow Thee that where Thou art in glory, there shall Thy servant be. And Jesus, I have promised to serve Thee to the end; Oh give me grace to follow my Master and my Friend. (Hymns for the Family of God, #402)

- 8 Isaiah 6:1-5; Ezekiel 1; Revelation 4; 1:4-6;
Genesis 1:1; Colossians 1:15-23
- 9 John 1:29-39; Revelation 5; Psalm 33;
Philippians 2:1-11
- 10 Zechariah 1:8-17; 6:1-8; Revelation 6; Hebrews 11;
Matthew 10:17-42
- 11 Revelation 7:1 - 8:5; 21:3-5; Psalm 23:1;
John 10:11-18; Colossians 2:2-4, 12
- 12 Revelation 8:6 - 9:21; Romans 1:18-32;
2 Timothy 3:1-5; 1 Cor. 10:1-13
- 13 Revelation 10-11; Daniel 2:44; 7:14, 27; Psalm 2
- 14 Matthew 2; 3:13-4:11; Revelation 12-13:1a;
Job 1:9-11; Luke 10:18; 1 Peter 5:8-11

Work for the night is coming, work through the morning hours; work while the dew is sparkling, work 'mid the springing flowers. Work when the day grows brighter, work in the glowing sun; work for the night is coming, when man's work is done. Work till the last beam fadeth, fadeth to shine no more; work while the night is dark'ning, when man's work is o'er. (The Hymnbook, #297)

- 15 Revelation 13:1b-18; Luke 21:8-19; Romans 5:1-5;
15:4-6; 2 Cor. 6:3-10

- 16 Revelation 14; Jeremiah 25:15-38;
Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43; Galatians 6:7-8
- 17 Revelation 15-16; Luke 12:35-40; Joel 2:13-14;
Hebrews 12:14-29
- 18 Revelation 13:1-9; 17; John 16:33; Psalm 33; 37
- 19 Revelation 18; 6:9-11; Hebrews 11
- 20 Revelation 19; Matthew 22:1-14; 25:1-13;
2 Thess. 2; John 3:16-21, 36
- 21 Revelation 20; Matthew 25:31-46; Romans 2:1-16;
2 Cor. 5:1-10

*Crown Him with many crowns, the Lamb upon His throne:
Hark! how the heavenly anthem drowns all music but its
own. Awake my soul and sing of Him who died for thee; and
hail Him as thy matchless King through all eternity. Crown
Him the Lord of life: who triumphed o'er the grave, who rose
victorious to the strife for those He came to save; His glories
now we sing, who died and rose on high, who died eternal
life to bring, and lives that death may die! (Hymns for the
Family of God, #345)*

- 22 Isaiah 60; 62; John 14:1-6; Revelation 21
- 23 Genesis 3:21-24; Revelation 2:7, 11, 17, 26-29; 3:5,
11-13, 21; 7:1-3; 22:1-21
- 24 Joel 1; Psalm 80:8-19; Zechariah 14; Matthew 24
- 25 Joel 2:1-27; Jeremiah 31
- 26 Joel 2:28-32; Acts 2:17-21; Romans 10:5-13
- 27 Joel 3
- 28 Amos 1-2; Leviticus 20:11-12

*O Master, let me walk with Thee in lowly paths of service
free. Tell me Thy secret; help me bear the strain of toil, the
fret of care. Help me the slow of heart to move by some clear,
winning word of love. Teach me the wayward feet to stay, and
guide them in the homeward way. Teach me Thy patience!
Still with Thee in closer, dearer company, In work that keeps
faith sweet and strong, In trust that triumphs over wrong. In
hope that sends a shining ray far down the future's broadening
way, in peace that only Thou canst give, With Thee, O Master,
let me live. (Worship in Song, #43)*

- 29 Amos 3-4; Deuteronomy 11:8-32
- 30 Amos 5:6-6:7; 9:8; Jeremiah 44:24-28;
Matthew 7:21-27; Revelation 3:14-22



FIRST CUP READINGS

DECEMBER 2026

Blessings and love in Christ,

Sandy Sturch

Dear Family in Christ,

First Cup is designed to assist you in the habit of daily Bible reading and prayer. The name is to remind you that as you reach for your first cup of morning coffee or tea, reach also for your Bible and prayer list. The prayers at the beginning of each week are taken from hymns, sometimes found in obscure hymnals in my library. They are intended to be read as your beginning prayer, to focus your mind on the daily readings that follow. May this spiritual discipline strengthen you as you face each day.

Let the morning bring me word of your unfailing love, for I have put my trust in you. Show me the way I should go, for to you I lift up my soul.— Psalm 143:8

- 1 Isaiah 40; Matthew 3:1-3; Mark 1:4
- 2 Matthew 24
- 3 1 Thess. 4-5
- 4 2 Peter 3
- 5 2 Thess. 2; 1 Cor. 1:18; John 3:16-18

"Thy Kingdom come," on bended knee the passing ages pray; and faithful souls have yearned to see on earth that Kingdom's day. And lo! Already on the hills the flags of dawn appear. Gird up your loins, ye prophet souls, proclaim the day is near! The day in whose clear-shining light all wrong shall stand revealed; when justice shall be clothed with might and every hurt be healed; when knowledge, hand in hand with peace, shall walk the earth abroad; the day of perfect righteousness, the promised day of God. (The Hymnbook, #484)

- 6 Luke 1:37-80; 3:1-6
- 7 Matthew 3; 11:1-19
- 8 Mark 6:6b-29; Luke 14:26-27; Matthew 10:17-23
- 9 Isaiah 9:1-7; 11-12; Micah 5:2-5
- 10 Psalm 23; 28:6-9; Ezekiel 34:1-16; Zechariah 13:1-7; John 10:1-18
- 11 Psalm 46; Psalm 91
- 12 Psalm 143; 121

Come, Thou long-expected Jesus, born to set Thy people free. From our fears and sins release us; let us find our rest in Thee. Israel's Strength and Consolation, Hope of all the earth Thou art; Dear Desire of every nation, Joy of every longing heart. Born Thy people to deliver, born a child and yet a King. Born to reign in us forever, now Thy gracious Kingdom bring. By Thine own eternal Spirit rule in all our hearts alone; by Thine all-sufficient merit raise us to Thy glorious throne. (The Hymnbook, #151)

- 13 Isaiah 7:13-14; Matthew 1:18-25; Luke 1:26-38; Hebrews 11:6
- 14 Psalm 89
- 15 Hebrews 1-2
- 16 Hebrews 3-5:10

- 17 Hebrews 5:11-7
- 18 Hebrews 8-9
- 19 Hebrews 10

O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie; above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by. Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting Light; the hope and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight. O holy Child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray. Cast out our sin and enter in, be born in us today. We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell; O come to us, abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel. (The Hymnbook, #171)

- 20 Luke 1:38-56; Psalm 138
- 21 Luke 1:57-80; Joel 2:28-32; Jeremiah 31:27-34
- 22 Romans 10-11
- 23 Romans 12
- 24 Luke 2:1-20; Colossians 1:15-23
- 25 Psalm 47; Colossians 1:24-2:5
- 26 Isaiah 55

Rejoice, the Lord is King! Your Lord and King adore! Rejoice, give thanks, and sing, and triumph evermore. Lift up your heart, lift up your voice! Rejoice, again I say, rejoice! His Kingdom cannot fail, He rules o'er earth and heaven. The keys of death and hell are to our Jesus given. Lift up your heart, lift up your voice! Rejoice, again I say, rejoice! He all His foes shall quell, shall all our sins destroy, and every bosom swell with pure seraphic joy. Lift up your heart, lift up your voice! Rejoice, again I say, rejoice! (Hymnbook, #140)

- 27 Isaiah 9:2, 6-7; Luke 2:21-40
- 28 Luke 2:41-52; Proverbs 3:1-6
- 29 John 1:1-34; Ephesians 1:1-14
- 30 John 3; 5:24; 1 John 3
- 31 Psalm 90; 2 Cor. 5:1-10