

**FROM PSALM 51**

*BCP p. 137*

Open my lips, O Lord,  
and my mouth shall proclaim your praise.  
Create in me a clean heart, O God,  
and renew a right spirit within me.  
Cast me not away from your presence  
and take not your holy Spirit from me.  
Give me the joy of your saving help again  
and sustain me with your bountiful Spirit.  
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. *Amen.*

**MATTHEW 9:35-10:8**

<sup>35-38</sup> Then Jesus made a circuit of all the towns and villages. He taught in their meeting places, reported kingdom news, and healed their diseased bodies, healed their bruised and hurt lives. When he looked out over the crowds, his heart broke. So confused and aimless they were, like sheep with no shepherd. “What a huge harvest!” he said to his disciples. “How few workers! On your knees and pray for harvest hands!”

**10** <sup>1-4</sup> The prayer was no sooner prayed than it was answered. Jesus called twelve of his followers and sent them into the ripe fields. He gave them power to kick out the evil spirits and to tenderly care for the bruised and hurt lives. This is the list of the twelve he sent:

Simon (they called him Peter, or “Rock”),  
Andrew, his brother,  
James, Zebedee’s son,  
John, his brother,  
Philip,  
Bartholomew,  
Thomas,  
Matthew, the tax man,  
James, son of Alphaeus,  
Thaddaeus,  
Simon, the Canaanite,  
Judas Iscariot (who later turned on him).

<sup>5-8</sup> Jesus sent his twelve harvest hands out with this charge:

“Don’t begin by traveling to some far-off place to convert unbelievers. And don’t try to be dramatic by tackling some public enemy. Go to the lost, confused people right here in the neighborhood. Tell them that the kingdom is here. Bring health to the sick. Raise the dead. Touch the untouchables. Kick out the demons. You have been treated generously, so live generously.

Reader:       The Word of the Lord.  
*People:*       *Thanks be to God.*

**THE HOMILY**           *Cheryl Smith, Director of Children & Family Ministries*  
*(A period of silence may follow.)*

### **THE HAND PRAYER**

**I love you, God (1-praise)**  
**I’m sorry, God (2-confession)**  
**I thank you, God (3-thanksgiving)**  
**Help others, God (4-intercession)**  
**Help me, God (5-petition)**  
**I’m listening, God (6-meditation)**  
**Amen.**

### **THE LORD’S PRAYER**

*Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name; thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory for ever and ever. Amen.*

### **THE COLLECT**

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Keep, O Lord, your household the Church in your steadfast faith and love, that through your grace we may proclaim your truth with boldness, and minister your justice with compassion; for the sake of our Savior Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

### **THE BLESSING**

Deep peace to you, my child, deep peace.  
Peace in your body, peace in your mind, peace in your spirit.  
As you breathe in deeply, breathe in peace.  
May the worries in your mind seem far away.  
May you know God’s love for you, and your family’s love too.  
Deep, deep peace to you, my child, deep peace.

*(Excerpt from Prayers for Faithful Families by Traci Smith)*