



# Ordinary Time

## Lectionary reflections for 14th June - Pentecost 3

Genesis 18:1-15, (21:1-7); Psalm 116:1-2,12-19; Romans 5:1-8;  
Matthew 9:35-10:8, (9-23)

Following Pentecost, the liturgical calendar moves us into Ordinary Time: an ordered sequence of weeks between the major feast days of the Christian year which give Christian communities the opportunity to reflect on the ongoing work of the Holy Spirit, to embody the mission of Jesus, and to grow in our discipleship.

**JUNE:  
BECOMING**

Hospitality becomes holy work as Abraham and Sarah offer welcome to weary strangers through concrete gifts of water, bread, shade, and attentive presence.

Yet, the good news of God's promise is hard for Sarah to hear in the reality of her "written off" body; her laughter holds together desire, disappointment, and the vulnerability of long waiting for unanswered prayers.

Meanwhile, Paul proclaims a peace grounded in Christ's love for us "while we were still weak," and the Psalmist pours out his gratitude to Yahweh who has "rescued me from death, my eyes from tears, and my feet from stumbling."

Jesus is so moved with compassion for the “harassed and dejected” crowds that he sends his disciples out to visit, listen, proclaim good news, and heal while making themselves dependent on the welcome of community for food and shelter.

God meets people at the margins of possibility - barrenness, weakness, hopelessness- to form mission-shaped communities through shared tables, peace, risk, and even the laughter that is part-hope and part-despair.



## PrayerPoem

God of the tent flap lifted to strangers,  
 train our hearts in the holiness of welcome.  
 When we are tired and tight-fisted, remind us:  
 you arrive disguised as need,  
 as ordinary as bread,  
 as interruption.  
 As Sarah laughs - half hope, half grief  
 - hold our longings without shame.  
 Let promise find us  
 in the places we have given up on.  
 Christ, you walk the villages,  
 noticing who has been missed,  
 gathering the scattered into good news.  
 Send us too as companions with open hands.  
 Pour your love into our tired bloodstream,  
 love that meets us “while we were still weak,”  
 love that makes peace more than a feeling ....  
 Make our tables wide,  
 our thresholds soft,  
 our words sturdy with hope.  
 Teach us to heal without hurry,  
 to proclaim without pride,  
 to depend on one another like daily bread.