



FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE II

JULY 13, 2025

8:00 AM & 10:30 AM



917 Pond Road, Loudon, TN 37774
865-986-2390

www.episcopalloudon.com
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GOOD MORNING!

GLORIFYING GOD BY

REFRESHING SOULS | BRIDGING COMMUNITIES | ENGAGING PEOPLE IN SERVICE

We're so glad you chose to be here at Resurrection today.

Whether you're here for the first time, or are a life-long member, Resurrection is a hopeful, healing, transformation-minded kind of place, a place where everyone is welcome and can grow their relationship with God and with one another.

If you are here for the *first time* (or if you just haven't gotten around to it yet), please fill out a pew card and put it in the offering plate to let us know you were here. To receive our weekly email bulletin, be sure to include your email address. And let us know if you would like to connect with our parish life and ministries; we're happy to help you find your spot!

Our services follow *The Book of Common Prayer*, the red book in your pew rack. If you'd like to use the book to follow the service, we begin on page 355. Unless otherwise marked, our hymns are from the *Hymnal 1982*, the blue books in the pew rack. A hymn noted "S-xxx" is part of the service music, found at the front of the hymnal, appearing before the regular congregational hymns begin. For example, S-278 is found before hymn 1.

To learn more about Resurrection, check out www.episcopalloudon.com, email us at office@episcopalloudon.com, or find us on Facebook or Instagram.

Fill out a pew card or email office@episcopalloudon.com to be placed on the weekly email, *Parish Tidings*, for the latest information from Resurrection.

If you can't make it here in person, join us at 10:30, live on Facebook:
facebook.com/episcopalloudon.



Holy Eucharist, Rite II

The Word of God

Prelude *(only at 10:30)*

Kum Ba Yah / Were You There?

(Traditional African American Spiritual)

Entrance Hymn *(only at 10:30)*

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

Hymnal 390

All standing

BCP 355

Celebrant

Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People

And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever. Amen.

All

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid; Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Gloria *(Spoken at 8:00, sung at 10:30)*

Hymnal S-280

**Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to his people on earth.**

**Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.**

**Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.**

**For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

O Lord, mercifully receive the prayers of your people who call upon you, and grant that they may know and understand what things they ought to do, and also may have grace and power faithfully to accomplish them; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Lessons

The First Lesson: Amos 7:7-17

Lector A reading from the Book of Amos

This is what the Lord God showed me: the Lord was standing beside a wall built with a plumb line, with a plumb line in his hand. And the Lord said to me, “Amos, what do you see?” And I said, “A plumb line.” Then the Lord said,

“See, I am setting a plumb line in the midst of my people Israel;
I will never again pass them by;
the high places of Isaac shall be made desolate,
and the sanctuaries of Israel shall be laid waste,
and I will rise against the house of Jeroboam with the sword.”

Then Amaziah, the priest of Bethel, sent to King Jeroboam of Israel, saying, “Amos has conspired against you in the very center of the house of Israel; the land is not able to bear all his words. For thus Amos has said,

‘Jeroboam shall die by the sword,
and Israel must go into exile
away from his land.’”

And Amaziah said to Amos, “O seer, go, flee away to the land of Judah, earn your bread there, and prophesy there; but never again prophesy at Bethel, for it is the king’s sanctuary, and it is a temple of the kingdom.”

Then Amos answered Amaziah, “I am no prophet, nor a prophet’s son; but I am a herdsman, and a dresser of sycamore trees, and the Lord took me from following the flock, and the Lord said to me, ‘Go, prophesy to my people Israel.’

“Now therefore hear the word of the Lord.

You say, ‘Do not prophesy against Israel,
and do not preach against the house of Isaac.’

Therefore thus says the Lord:

‘Your wife shall become a prostitute in the city,
and your sons and your daughters shall fall by the sword,
and your land shall be parceled out by line;
you yourself shall die in an unclean land,
and Israel shall surely go into exile away from its land.’”

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 82

BCP 705

Lector We will read the Psalm responsively by half verse.

- 1 God takes his stand in the council of heaven; *
he gives judgment in the midst of the gods:
- 2 “How long will you judge unjustly, *
and show favor to the wicked?
- 3 Save the weak and the orphan; *
defend the humble and needy;
- 4 Rescue the weak and the poor; *
deliver them from the power of the wicked.
- 5 They do not know, neither do they understand; they go about in darkness; *
all the foundations of the earth are shaken.
- 6 Now I say to you, ‘You are gods, *
and all of you children of the Most High;
- 7 Nevertheless, you shall die like mortals, *
and fall like any prince.’”
- 8 Arise, O God, and rule the earth, *
for you shall take all nations for your own.

The Second Lesson: Colossians 1:1-14

Lector A reading from Paul’s letter to the Colossians.

Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and Timothy our brother,

To the saints and faithful brothers and sisters in Christ in Colossae:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father.

In our prayers for you we always thank God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, for we have heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and of the love that you have for all the

saints, because of the hope laid up for you in heaven. You have heard of this hope before in the word of the truth, the gospel that has come to you. Just as it is bearing fruit and growing in the whole world, so it has been bearing fruit among yourselves from the day you heard it and truly comprehended the grace of God. This you learned from Epaphras, our beloved fellow servant. He is a faithful minister of Christ on your behalf, and he has made known to us your love in the Spirit.

For this reason, since the day we heard it, we have not ceased praying for you and asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of God's will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, so that you may lead lives worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him, as you bear fruit in every good work and as you grow in the knowledge of God. May you be made strong with all the strength that comes from his glorious power, and may you be prepared to endure everything with patience, while joyfully giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light. He has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

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

Sequence Hymn (*only at 10:30*)

Where Charity and Love Prevail (verses 1-4)

Hymnal 581

All stand

The Gospel Lesson: Luke 10:25-37

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.
People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Just then a lawyer stood up to test Jesus. "Teacher," he said, "what must I do to inherit eternal life?" He said to him, "What is written in the law? What do you read there?" He answered, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your strength, and with all your mind; and your neighbor as yourself." And he said to him, "You have given the right answer; do this, and you will live."

But wanting to justify himself, he asked Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?" Jesus replied, "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell into the hands of robbers, who stripped him, beat him, and went away, leaving him half dead. Now by chance a priest was going down that road; and when he saw him, he passed by on the other side. So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. But a Samaritan while traveling came near him; and when he saw him, he was moved with pity. He went to him and bandaged his wounds, having poured oil and wine on them. Then he put him on his own animal, brought him to

an inn, and took care of him. The next day he took out two denarii, gave them to the innkeeper, and said, 'Take care of him; and when I come back, I will repay you whatever more you spend.' Which of these three, do you think, was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of the robbers?" He said, "The one who showed him mercy." Jesus said to him, "Go and do likewise."

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.
People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Sequence Hymn (*only at 10:30*)

Where Charity and Love Prevail (verses 5-6)

Hymnal 581

Sermon

The Rev. Dr. Marc Strong

The Nicene Creed

BCP 358

We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven:
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.

With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He has spoken through the Prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

The Prayers of the People, Form II

BCP 385

*Please assume a posture of prayer, whether standing, sitting, or kneeling as able.
Please add those intercessions and thanksgivings on your heart, silently or
aloud, at the appropriate points in the prayers.*

Lector:

I ask your prayers for God's people throughout the world; for our Presiding Bishop Sean; our Diocesan Bishop, Brian; for this gathering; and for all ministers and people.

Pray for the Church. *Silence*

I ask your prayers for peace; for goodwill among nations;
and for the well-being of all people.

Pray for justice and peace. *Silence*

I ask your prayers for the poor, the sick, the hungry, the oppressed, and those in prison, especially **David M.; Jackie C.; Becca H.; Robyn; Dave M.; Rosemary O.; Kathleen; Jim; Daphne; Jenon; Aaron; Sarah; Killian; and all your children who suffer the effects of war, oppression, or natural disasters.**

Pray for those in any need or trouble. *Silence*

I ask your prayers for all who seek God, or a deeper knowledge of him.

Pray that they may find and be found by him. *Silence*

I ask your prayers for the departed.

Pray for those who have died. *Silence*

*Members of the congregation may ask the prayers or the thanksgivings of those present.
Silence*

Praise God for those in every generation in whom Christ has been honored.

Pray that we may have grace to glorify Christ in our own day. *Silence*

Celebrant

Almighty and eternal God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth: Mercifully accept the prayers of your people, and strengthen us to do your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Please note: Continuing in a posture of prayer we will hold a moment of silence for individual, silent confessions before the priest leads us into the words of confession.

Celebrant

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Celebrant and People

Most merciful God,
**we confess that we have sinned against you
 in thought, word, and deed,
 by what we have done,
 and by what we have left undone.**
**We have not loved you with our whole heart;
 we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.**
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
**For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
 have mercy on us and forgive us;
 that we may delight in your will,
 and walk in your ways,
 to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

Celebrant

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

The Peace

BCP 360

Standing as you are able.

Celebrant May the peace of Christ be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us show one another a sign of God's peace.

The Holy Communion

Celebrant Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God. *Ephesians 5:2a*

Offertory Anthem *(sung by the choir)*

Judge eternal, throned in splendor

Hymnal 596

The Celebrant invites the people's offerings.

Doxology (*only at 10:30*)

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
praise him all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heavenly host;
praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

1 Chronicles 29:14

Celebrant For all things come from you, O Lord;
People **and of your own have we given you.**

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer

*From Enriching Our Worship, The Standing Liturgical Commission of
the Episcopal Church: New York: Church Publishing, 1997*

Sursum Corda (Lift up your Hearts)

Hymnal S-120

(Spoken at 8:00, sung at 10:30)

Celebrant The Lord be with you,

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them to the Lord.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

Celebrant It is truly right, and good and joyful, to give you thanks, all-holy God, source of life and fountain of mercy. You have filled us and all creation with your blessing and fed us with your constant love; you have redeemed us in Jesus Christ and knit us into one body. Through your Spirit you replenish us and call us to fullness of life.

Therefore, joining with Angels and Archangels and with the faithful of every generation, we lift our voices with all creation as we sing (say):

Sanctus (*Spoken at 8:00, sung at 10:30*)

Hymnal S-125

**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

The people stand or kneel.

Celebrant Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of the universe and giver of life. You formed us in your own image and called us to dwell in your infinite love.

You gave the world into our care that we might be your faithful stewards and show forth your bountiful grace. But we failed to honor your image in one another and in ourselves; we would not see your goodness in the world around us; and so we violated your creation, abused one another, and rejected your love. Yet you never ceased to care for us, and prepared the way of salvation for all people.

Through Abraham and Sarah you called us into covenant with you. You delivered us from slavery, sustained us in the wilderness, and raised up prophets to renew your promise of salvation.

Then, in the fullness of time, you sent your eternal Word, made mortal flesh in Jesus. Born into the human family, and dwelling among us, he revealed your glory. Giving himself freely to death on the cross, he triumphed over evil, opening the way of freedom and life.

On the night before he died for us, Our Savior Jesus Christ took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his friends, and said: "Take, eat: This is my Body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said: "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

Celebrant Remembering his death and resurrection, we now present to you from your creation this bread and this wine. By your Holy Spirit may they be for us the Body and Blood of our Savior Jesus Christ. Grant that we who share these gifts may be filled with the Holy Spirit and live as Christ's Body in the world. Bring us into the everlasting heritage of your daughters and sons, that with all your saints, past, present, and yet to come, we may praise your Name for ever.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever. **AMEN.** (*Spoken at 8:00, sung at 10:30*)

And now, as our Savior
Christ has taught us,
we are bold to say,

**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 Breaking of the Bread

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread and a period of silence is kept.

Celebrant Alleluia, Christ, our Passover is sacrificed for us;
People **Therefore, let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

Fraction Hymn (*Spoken at 8:00, sung at 10:30*)

Hymnal S-161

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:
Have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:
Have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:
Grant us peace.**

Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God.

We encourage you to come forward to receive Holy Communion as you feel comfortable. Remain seated, until the usher directs you forward to the communion rail. After receiving communion, return to your seat by the side aisle. so that traffic flows one way.

If you would prefer communion be brought to you at your seat, please let an usher know and, as always, we will be happy to do so. If you prefer not to receive communion, please cross your arms over your chest as a sign that you prefer a blessing.

The Bread and the Cup are given to the communicants with these words:

The Body of Christ, the bread of heaven. **Amen.**

The Blood of Christ, the cup of salvation. **Amen.**

Communion Hymn

I sought the Lord

Hymnal 689

Celebrant Let us pray.

All **Eternal God, heavenly Father,
you have graciously accepted us as living members
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,
and you have fed us with spiritual food
in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.
Send us now into the world in peace,
and grant us strength and courage
to love and serve you
with gladness and singleness of heart;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Announcements | Blessings of Birthdays and Anniversaries

The Blessing

Post communion Hymn *(only at 10:30)*

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

Hymnal 657

The Dismissal

Celebrant Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.
Alleluia, alleluia.

People **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.**

Postlude *(only at 10:30)*

Come Thou, Almighty King

(Felice de Giardini)

Parish Announcements, Prayers, & Thanksgivings

**Flowers today are given to the Glory of God
and in celebration of her daughter**

Aimee Harrison's birthday

by Judy Egan

**Want to join our "Love is the Way" Book
Conversation** group this summer? Let Rev. Becky
know you're interested, either by emailing her, calling
the church office, or signing up in the Parish Hall.
Times and dates TBD.

Saints & Sinners

Time to sign up and get to know a new small group of
folks a little better! Fall dinners will be hosted August
- November.

Saints and Sinners is a "supper club", with small
groups whose members take turns hosting a meal,
with the host providing the entrée & beverages and
the others providing the rest of the meal. Sharing
meals is a great way to get to know your fellow
parishioners better, so we hope you'll sign up and join
us!

Questions? Contact Jenny Lucas at 662-588-4857 or
jslucas_2000@yahoo.com. Please sign up in the Parish
Hall before July 27.

Cades Cove Sunrise Hike, August 12-13

The hiking ministry is sponsoring our annual sunrise
hike in Cades Cove. We'll overnight in Townsend
on Tuesday, August 12, get up before dawn on
Wednesday, August 13 and enjoy a Vehicle Free
Morning (cars not allowed) in Cades Cove. You'll see
plenty of wildlife and a sunrise that stretches across a
never ending sky. You can choose a 4 mile, 7 mile or
11 mile loop. Contact Andy Hadjian 865-235-8457.
Sign up in Parish Hall.

Please note:

**Regular church office hours are weekdays
10am-2 pm, EXCEPT for Thursdays.**

We may need office volunteers on the following dates;
please check your calendars and email Bonnie if you
can help: August 25, 26, 27, 29. Thanks!

Our Parish Prayer List

Jackie C.; Becca H.; Robyn; Dave M.;
Rosemary O.; Kathleen; Jim; Daphne;
Jenon; Aaron; Sarah; Killian

Continuing Prayers for:

the Hentchel family; Pat; Claire; Sandy;
Rob & Sherry; Cheri; Jane; Shannon; Jim; Mel;
Wayne; Diana N.; Jack; Ashley; Raynella; Ed & Jean;
Kim E.; Joe; Beverly; Grace; Virginia; Betty Anne;
Janey; Johnny; and Karen H.

For our Vestry leaders:

Class of 2025: Lisa A., Donna B., Diane V.K.
Class of 2026: Drew H., Dawson H., Jenny L.
Class of 2027: Bev B., Karen B., Mark H.
Officers: Jenny L., Diane V.K., Dawson H., Sally L.

Also for the Diocesan Prayer List:

For the Unity of the Church, BCP 255
For the Human Family, BCP 815

July Birthdays & Anniversaries

July 3	Lisa Amelse & Keith Brinkley
July 3	Judy & Andy Hadjian
July 4	Pam & John McCoy
July 5	Bill Schwindt
July 5	Mark Smith
July 6	Keytha Graves & Drew Hawley
July 16	Ginny Tolbert
July 17	Judy Hadjian
July 17	Judy Kubesh
July 20	Mark Hennes
July 20	Pam McCoy
July 23	Beverly Cantine
July 25	Monty Ross
July 26	Janey Coombes
July 29	Nelda Griffith & Steve Abercrombie
July 31	Thomas Fiebke, Jr.

For Your Calendars

THIS WEEK

July 13	8:00 am	10:30 am	
Acolyte	Donna Bye	Mark Smith	Altar Guild: Kathleen Bailey
EM	Holly Pate	Bonnie Smith	Flower Guild: Dianna Stimpson
Lectors	Peggy Rogers	Tony Adams	Organist: Judy Moyer
Ushers	Carl Bye	Monty Ross & Art Stewart	Celebrant: Rebecca Bridges
Chancellor	Diane Van Koughnett	Art Stewart	Preacher: Marc Strong
Coffee Hour	Erlys Ploeger	Elizabeth & Steve Botica	Monday Volunteer (7/13)
Video	n/a	Ann Murphy	Donna Bye
Counters	n/a	Ginny Tolbert & Bill Schwindt	

NEXT WEEK

July 20	8:00 am	10:30 am	
Acolyte	Kelly Johnson	Drew Hawley	Altar Guild: Kathleen Bailey
EM	Jack Lefler	Jane Mocilac	Flower Guild: Betty Martin
Lectors	Diane Van Koughnett	Keytha Graves	Organist: Judy Moyer
Ushers	Jerry Ploeger	Andy Hadjian & Garry Lucas	Celebrant &
Chancellor	Peggy Rogers	Jenny Lucas	Preacher: Rebecca Bridges
Coffee Hour	Cal Van Koughnett	Betsy Schwindt	Monday Volunteer (7/21)
Video	n/a	Monty Ross	Mark Hennes
Counters	n/a	Carolyn Parker & Jean Cardwell	

Next Week at Resurrection

Monday, July 14

6:30 p.m. - Vestry Meeting

7:00 p.m. - AA (*open meeting*)

Wednesday, July 16

9:00 a.m. - Deadline for Parish Tidings
or bulletin submissions

Thursday, July 17

9:00 a.m. - Prayers & Squares

Sunday, July 20

8:00 a.m. - Holy Eucharist, spoken, Rite II

10:30 a.m. - Holy Eucharist, choral, Rite II

*Email office@episcopalloudon.com by Wednesday
at 9 a.m. to have your ministry or committee's
activities added to the parish calendar.*

COMING UP . . .

Sunday, July 27

Holy Eucharist, spoken, Rite II

Holy Eucharist, choral, Rite II

Four Paws Collection Sunday

**Check your Parish Tidings
for upcoming details!**

*Contact our priest, the Rev. Dr. Rebecca Bridges,
at this email: rector@episcopalloudon.com.*

TODAY'S ART



The Good Samaritan (May 1890)

Vincent Van Gogh (1853-1890)

Oil on Canvas

Koller-Muller Museum, Otterlo, The Netherlands

Public domain

Vincent Van Gogh's dynamic and intimate portrait of the Good Samaritan is based on the French painter Eugene Delacroix's similar painting. Van Gogh painted his own version of Delacroix's The Good Samaritan while recuperating at the asylum of Saint-Rémy after suffering

from two mental breakdowns in the winter of 1888-89.

At the time, Van Gogh was feeling spent and fragile and this sense of helplessness colors both figures at the heart of the painting. The broken and attacked man can barely get up on the horse. His muscles appear limp, depleted of any strength that could help him sit upright. All the man appears capable of is clinging to his rescuer. Likewise, the Samaritan seems to be barely able to summon up the strength to lift the man on the horse. By imbuing the painting with his own brokenness, Van Gogh creates a moving depiction of Christ's solidarity with us in our human weakness. Christ humbles himself, taking on the form of a slave (Phil 2:7). And we, like this robbed man, can do nothing without Christ who strengthens us (Phil 4:13).

In some of the earliest of interpretations of the parable by early Church theologians, most famously by Augustine, the Good Samaritan is an image of Christ. The two coins with which the Samaritan pays the innkeeper are the two commandments: to love the Lord Our God, and to love our neighbor as ourselves. During this Lenten season, we strive to love God more through purifying our lives of distracting loves of lesser things, and we strive to love our neighbor more through positive actions of charity and almsgiving.

As we meditate on this image of the Samaritan lifting up the weak robbed man, let us ponder what weaknesses we need Christ to heal in us this Lent. How is Christ seeking to reach us, even in our weakness? And how, through acts of almsgiving, can we be Good Samaritans for our neighbors in need this Lent?

References

<https://faith.nd.edu/the-good-samaritan-van-gogh/>

<https://krollermuller.nl/en/vincent-van-gogh-the-good-samaritan-after-delacroix>