

Trinity Sunday, June 15, 2025

## Scripture Reading: Romans 5:1-5

*As a father has compassion for his children, so the LORD  
has compassion for those who fear him. —Psalm 103:13*

Today is Father's Day, and so it is appropriate to reflect on "fathers" and particularly how good fathers mirror the providential care and love of our heavenly Father. Whether our earthly fathers were present and loving, absent or imperfect, our heavenly Father offers us a model of perfect compassion, care and guidance.

Consider the story (probably apocryphal) of a dad who was estranged from his son. The reasons are unknown. The son, a stubborn lad and a rebel by nature, hit the road, running away from his father as fast as he could. His dad hired private detectives to find him. The kid either eluded them or beat them up.

Dad searched for months to no avail. Finally, in a last desperate effort to find him, the father put an advert in the *Chicago Sun-Times* newspaper. They lived in the greater Chicago area. The message read: "Dear Paul, meet me on the steps of the Museum of Science and Industry at noon on Saturday. All is forgiven. I love you. Dad."

By 11:30 a.m. Saturday, 29 Pauls had shown up, looking for forgiveness and love from their dads!

The story in Luke 15 of the "prodigal son" and his father illustrates this very truth. Our heavenly Father is ready to forgive all, if we'll just make a trip to the steps of the museum as it were.

God is described throughout the Bible as a father who is present in every circumstance, guiding, comforting and providing. In Matthew 7:11, Jesus reminds us that just as earthly parents know how to give good gifts to our children, "how much more will your Father in heaven give good things to those who ask him!" Even in times when life feels difficult or lonely, God's fatherly care is never far away. God's strength becomes our strength.

We may feel limited in what we can do for others. However, our prayers, our smiles and our faith serve as powerful testaments to God's love. Today might be a good time to reflect on the ways you've experienced God's fatherly care in your life, and consider how you can share that comfort with those around you, even in small ways.

—Timothy Merrill

*Prayer: Heavenly Father, we thank you for being a perfect and compassionate parent to us. On this Father's Day, we ask for your continued guidance and love in our lives. For those who may feel lonely or distant from their families, remind them of your constant presence. Bless all fathers and father figures today, and bless us as your beloved children. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.*

**Daily Bible Readings**

**Sunday:** John 11-13

**Monday:** Amos 7-9

**Tuesday:** 2 Kings 15-17

**Wednesday:** Hosea 1-4

**Thursday:** Hosea 5-7

**Friday:** Hosea 8-10

**Saturday:** Psalms 61-63

## WORD SEARCH

Find the words listed to the right that are from the readings in the Old Testament book of Numbers. Remember that the words are hidden forward, backward, vertically and diagonally.



AARON  
ATONEMENT  
BALAAM  
BARAK  
CANAAN  
CLOUD  
DAN  
DESERT  
ELDERS  
FIRE  
ISRAEL  
JOSHUA  
JUDAH  
KORAH  
LEVITES  
MANNA  
MERIBAH  
MIRIAM  
MOAB  
MOSES  
PASSOVER  
PRIESTS  
QUAILS  
REUBEN  
SERPENT  
SIMEON  
SINAI

**Library Books:** Louisa was asked by her mother to go to the city library and check out some books. She was given two slips of paper. On one was a list of TWELVE authors and on the other was a list of SEVEN titles. Help Louisa check out the books by correctly matching the authors with the titles.

1. *The Pilgrim's Progress* by \_\_\_\_\_
2. *David Copperfield* by \_\_\_\_\_
3. *Jane Eyre* by \_\_\_\_\_
4. *Silas Marner* by \_\_\_\_\_
5. *War and Peace* by \_\_\_\_\_
6. *Far from the Madding Crowd* by \_\_\_\_\_
7. *Pride and Prejudice* by \_\_\_\_\_

**Choose the correct authors from this list:** William Thackeray, Henry James, Leo Tolstoy, John Updike, Charlotte Bronte, Stephen King, George Eliot, Jane Austen, Thomas Hardy, John Bunyan, William Shakespeare, Charles Dickens.

**Answers:** 1-Bunyan;  
2-Dickens; 3-Bronte; 4-Eliot;  
5-Tolstoy; 6-Hardy; 7-Austen.