

Scriptures Sept. 6, 2026

Modern Testimony

Psalms 149, Everyday Psalms by James Taylor

One: Familiar words aren't enough.

Many: New times call for new ways to praise God.

One: So, dance! Sing! Do something!

Many: Show you love God with your bodies as well as your words,

One: Use every means you have- your music. Your work, your social systems- to demonstrate your love of God.

Many: God will not shun you because you show your emotions,

One: Love is not limited to important positions or posh accents. So, join together with others...

Many: Link your hands and link your lives

One: Clap your hands and sing.

Many: raise the roof in praise of God

One: Let the power of your voices overflow into your living,

Many: Seize each challenge as an opportunity to promote justice among all the people, to bring judgment those who cause pain and suffering.

One: Even ruthless dictators cannot resist the surge of popular pressure, The longer they try to withstand the tide, the deeper they drown.

Many: that is how to give God praise

One: Let us praise God!

~silence is kept~

Ancient Testimony Exodus 12:1-14 NRSV

The Passover

The First Passover Instituted

12 The Lord said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt: ² This month shall mark for you the beginning of months; it shall be the first month of the year for you. ³ Tell the whole congregation of Israel that on the tenth of this month they are to take a lamb for each family, a lamb for each household. ⁴ If a household is too small for a whole lamb, it shall join its closest neighbour in obtaining one; the lamb shall be divided in proportion to the number of people who eat of it. ⁵ Your lamb shall be without blemish, a year-old male; you may take it from the sheep or from the goats. ⁶ You shall keep it until the fourteenth day of this month; then the whole assembled congregation of Israel shall slaughter it at twilight. ⁷ They shall take some of the blood and put it on the two doorposts and the lintel of the houses in which they eat it. ⁸ They shall eat the lamb that same night; they shall eat it roasted over the fire with unleavened bread and bitter herbs. ⁹ Do not eat any of it raw or boiled in water, but roasted over the fire, with its head, legs, and inner organs. ¹⁰ You shall let none of it remain until the morning; anything that remains until the morning you shall burn. ¹¹ This is how you shall eat it: your loins girded, your sandals on your feet, and your staff in your hand; and you shall eat it hurriedly. It is the passover of the Lord. ¹² For I will pass through the land of Egypt that night, and I will strike down every firstborn in the land of Egypt, both human beings and animals; on all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgements: I am the LORD. ¹³ The blood shall be a sign for you on the houses where you live: when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and no plague shall destroy you when I strike the land of Egypt.

¹⁴ This day shall be a day of remembrance for you. You shall celebrate it as a festival to the LORD; throughout your generations you shall observe it as a perpetual ordinance.

Ancient Testimony Matthew 18:15-20 NRSV

Reconciliation in the community of faith

Reproving Another Who Sins

¹⁵ 'If another member of the church^[a] sins against you,^[b] go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If the member listens to you, you have regained that one.^[c] ¹⁶ But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. ¹⁷ If the member refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church; and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a Gentile and a tax-collector. ¹⁸ Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. ¹⁹ Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. ²⁰ For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.'