

## **Offering Invitations and Prayers for July 2009 based on the Lectionary Readings**

*These resources are written from the reading of scriptures from The Message Bible.*

### **July 5–Fifth Sunday After Pentecost**

In 2 Corinthians, Paul talks about his limitations being a gift from God—a way for him to take a backside to God’s message through him. When we all bring our offerings—as limited as they are—and put them together—they become a gift that God can work with. Let us bring our gifts to God.

O God without limits, we praise you that what we have brought today is not limited but are gifts which you can use. Allow them to help others. Amen.

### **July 12–Sixth Sunday After Pentecost**

One of the reasons God loved King David so much was his abundant joy in giving God praise. David sang to the Lord, danced with abandon and rejoiced as no other of God’s servants. With his example in mind, let us bring our offerings to the table—with feeling, with abandon, with overflowing joy.

O God, we give you back your own with praise and thanksgiving. Enable us to always give with joyful gratitude. Amen.

### **July 19–Seventh Sunday After Pentecost**

Can you imagine the faith it took to believe that Christ would feed five thousand people with just five loaves of bread and two fish? God through Jesus continues to amaze us by making a feast out of a meager meal. Let us bring what we have to God.

God of abundance, what we have is yours. Take these meager gifts and make them into a feast for those in our world who are hungry. Amen.

### **July 26–Eighth Sunday After Pentecost**

Ephesians 3 :20 says: “God can do anything, you know—far more than you could ever imagine or guess or request in your wildest dreams! He does it not by pushing us around but by working with us, his Spirit deeply and gently within us.” With this in mind, let us give our tithes and offerings.

O God, you know and can do beyond all that we could every imagine. Take these gifts and use them in ways beyond our wildest dreams. Amen.