

Sunday, September 1, 2024

Scripture Reading: James 1:17-27

*God is always trying to give good things to us,
but our hands are too full to receive them. —Saint Augustine*

A Farmer's Prayer

Our Loving Heavenly Father, Thou knowest that I am not overly fond of buttermilk. I don't care much for the texture and it smells sour and tastes sour and it seems like it is just a few jiffies from curdlin'.

And Thou knowest this, also, because Thou knowest all things, that I can't abide the taste of lard. Why, only a fool would try to eat that pig grease.

And Thou knowest that I don't care for plain and raw white flour. It's messy, and whenever I git involved with flour, the kitchen ends up a fright. When I ingest it, the roof of my mouth get dry and I can't git the stuff down my throat. It's just plain awful.

But Lord, when my dear Mabel here gits the buttermilk out of the icebox, and when she goes to the larder, and when she reaches into the flour bin and sets those things on the counter, and when she mixes them all together in just the right proportions and then dollops the mixture onto a baking tin and shoves it into the oven, Lord I do love them warm fresh biscuits she pulls out of the oven 15 minutes later—the very biscuits we're fixin' to eat now.

So, I thank Ye, Lord, for my Mabel and this food set before me, and I thank Ye for this reminder that when things come up that I don't like, when life gets hard, when I doesn't understand what Thou is saying to me, I should just relax and wait until Thou art done mixing the buttermilk, lard and flour. All in good time. 'Twill probably be even better than these here biscuits. Amen.

—Timothy Merrill, adapted from various internet sources.

Prayer: O God, our times are in your hands. We cannot be in a better place. Amen.

*Blessings,
Lead Pastor Ben Motz*

Daily Bible Readings

- Sunday:** Acts 15:1–18:11
- Monday:** 1 Chronicles 20-23
- Tuesday:** 1 Chronicles 24-26
- Wednesday:** 1 Chronicles 27-29
- Thursday:** 2 Chronicles 1-3
- Friday:** 2 Chronicles 4-6
- Saturday:** Psalms 97-99

STATE I.D.

You are a detective. Your supervisor needs you to identify some license plates. She gives you a list. Each item in her list below contains THREE LETTERS. All the letters are in consecutive order. What states are listed here?

NNE	
AWA	
IAN	
ENT	
RYL	
SAC	
CHI	
EBR	
PSH	

RSE	
AHO	
ODE	
ERM	
RGI	
HIN	
ELA	
SOU	
OLO	

[Use this area for notes]

Change one letter in each word to spell seven words associated with LAND:

TREK	BRASS	DART	SHONE
WELD	HALL	DOCK	

Solution to STATE I.D.:
 NNE=Connecticut, Tennessee
 AWA=Hawaii, Delaware
 IAN=Indiana
 ENT=Kentucky
 RYL=Maryland
 SAC=Massachusetts
 CHI=Michigan
 EBR=Nebraska
 PSH=New Hampshire
 RSE=New Jersey
 AHO=Idaho, Oklahoma
 ODE=Rhode Island
 ERM=Vermont
 RGI=Virginia, West Virginia, Georgia
 HIN=Washington
 ELA=Delaware
 SOU=Missouri
 South Carolina
 South Dakota
 OLO=Colorado

Solution to LAND: tree, grass, dirt, stone, weed, hill, rock.

