Example 1

**The Collect for the Day**

Set us free, O God, from the bondage of our sins, and give us the liberty of that abundant life which you have made known to us in your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

**The Collect for Camp Sunday:**

*Almighty God, giver of all life, Your creative hands have molded the dry land and gathered the waters into beautiful places for your children to experience your glory, to build relationships, to find you; your spirit moves in your church to inspire the lives of generations of children, youth and adults with generous and tender love. Move in us as we seek to strengthen the ministries we share, that we may be empowered by your presence to draw all people to you. Keep us ever mindful of the gifts and opportunities before us for the formation of children and families, that, when they ask to see Jesus we might show them the way through the generous and creative camping ministries of our church and diocesan family. Through Christ, who welcomes us to walk with him in unity with you through the Holy Spirit, one God now and forever. AMEN*

**First Lesson: Isaiah 40:21-31**

**Psalm 147:1-12, 21c**

**Second Lesson: 1 Corinthians 9:16-23**

**The Gospel: Mark 1:29-39** note: this gospel gives us a wonderful opportunity to tie in the diocesan theme for 2015 of “*Called to Serve,”*which will be the basis for the teaching in our camping programs this year.

**Camp Sunday Nuggets**

Camp Sundayis an opportunity to both celebrate and give thanks for the ministry we share and a time to encourage others to join us. Camp Sunday reminds us to stop and listen for God’s voice and to seek out those in our community who have the wisdom to help us understand it.

For the message this Sunday, rather than a traditional sermon, invite some of the leaders in your church, the priest, youth, camp alumni, family camp participants or others, to share their personal camp story. People may choose to describe the people at camp, the place, the beautiful landscape, or the community. Or they may choose to share about the meaning of the experience or the relevance of the experience to their lives now. They may want speak about how camp has affected their family or their family members. They may want to share how a camp experience has empowered them or helped them overcome obstacles in their lives. The sermon can be a wonderful opportunity to share a personal experience about the transforming nature of God at work in a safe, nurturing environment where the meaning of unconditional love comes alive. Remember our camps and conference ministry is for people of all ages, so invite people to speak who will inspire not only support of this ministry but participation as well!

**Prayers of the People:**

We pray for the Church and its holy mission. That as brothers and sisters in Christ, we may be united together in proclaiming the love of God in all that we do.

God in Your grace,

*Hear our prayer.*

We pray for all ministries of the Church, especially the camping ministry of this Diocese: Camp Capers, Colorado Adventure Camp at Duncan Park, and Mustang Island Family Camp; that these offerings of grace may provide a safe environment for persons of all ages to see and share the Kingdom of God.

God in Your grace,

*Hear our prayer.*

We pray for our Church leaders: all bishops, priests, deacons, and lay leaders. We pray for all those serving as deans, chaplains, and teachers this summer at camp; that they may support and strengthen all camp participants and leaders while faithfully proclaiming Christ’s love.

God in Your grace,

*Hear our prayer.*

We pray for all camp staff and counselors who will serve this summer; that they may live out the love of Jesus Christ with energy and excitement as they mentor and serve the children, youth and adults gathered at all three camp sites.

God in Your grace,

*Hear our prayer.*

We pray for the mission of camp ministry in our diocese and all those who support it with their time, talent, and treasure; that we may continue to find new ways to offer these gifts to all who are drawn to encounter your love in this community of grace.

God in Your grace,

*Hear our prayer.*

We pray for this nation, our leaders, and the world; that they may seek justice and equality for all people, and together we may promote peace across this land.

God in Your grace,

*Hear our prayer.*

We pray for the earth; that we may live into our calling from the beginning of time as good stewards of Your creation, as we learn to protect and conserve the beauty of the mountains, rivers, and beaches.

God in Your grace,

*Hear our prayer.*

We pray for this community. That by loving our neighbor we may be a place of healing in a broken world.

God in Your grace,

*Hear our prayer.*

We pray for those who are suffering or in any kind of trouble; may you send your healing Spirit to comfort and protect them. Help us to always remember that you are our light in the darkness; an outstretched hand when we are alone.

God in Your grace,

*Hear our prayer.*

We pray for the departed; that you may safely guide them into your loving embrace where they may rest in your eternal Kingdom.

God in Your grace,

*Hear our prayer.*

**The Blessing of the Offering for Camp Sunday**

Almighty God, we thank you for the generosity of those you have called to the churches of the Episcopal Diocese of West Texas today. Pour out now your blessing upon this offering. Let those who benefit from this generosity find themselves touched by you through the camp experience they will have this summer. May time spent at camp strengthen the bonds of affection amongst them and between them and our Church, and may their experience grow us all, in fellowship with one another, into the head, who is Jesus Christ your Son. In the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Example 2

**The Collect**

***A Collect for Camp Sunday:*** Almighty God, giver of all life, Your creative hands have molded the dry land and gathered the waters into beautiful places for your children to experience your glory, to build relationships, to find you; your spirit moves in your church to inspire the lives of generations of children, youth and adults with generous and tender love. Move in us as we seek to strengthen the ministries we share, that we may be empowered by your presence to draw all people to you. Keep us ever mindful of the gifts and opportunities before us for the formation of children and families, that, when they ask to see Jesus we might show them the way through the generous and creative camping ministries of our church and diocesan family. Through Christ, who welcomes us to walk with him in unity with you through the Holy Spirit, one God now and forever. Amen.

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**Prayers of the People for Camp Sunday:**

We pray for the Church and its holy mission. That as brothers and sisters in Christ, we may be united together in proclaiming the love of God in all that we do.

God in your grace,  
*Hear our prayer.*

We pray for all ministries of the Church, especially the camping ministry of this Diocese at Camp Capers, Mustang Island Conference Center, and Duncan Park; that these offerings of grace may provide a safe environment for persons of all ages to see and share the Kingdom of God.

God in your grace,  
*Hear our prayer.*

We pray for our Church leaders: all bishops, priests, deacons, and lay leaders. We pray for all those serving as deans, chaplains, and teachers this summer at camp; that they may support and strengthen all camp participants and leaders while faithfully proclaiming Christ’s love.

God in your grace,  
*Hear our prayer.*

We pray for all camp staff and counselors who will serve this summer; that they may live out the love of Jesus Christ with energy and excitement as they mentor and serve the children, youth and adults gathered by our three camping programs.

God in your grace,  
*Hear our prayer.*

We pray for the mission of camp ministry in our diocese and all those who support it with their time, talent, and treasure; that we may continue to find new ways to offer these gifts to all who are drawn to encounter your love in this community of grace.

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We pray for this nation, our leaders, and the world; that they may seek justice and equality for all people, and together we may promote peace across this land.

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