

August 24th
11th Sunday after Pentecost

“The Lord Will Guide You Continually”

Main Text: Isaiah 58:9b-14
(Hebrews 12:18-29, Luke 13:10-17)

When I ran Cross Country, my coach would be at different places on the course to guide me and encourage me. He might point out an upcoming challenge and tell me to breath or shorten my stride going up the hill. These words of encouragement guided and supported me on the course. As we run the course set before us, know that our Lord meets us on that course to guide us and encourage us. In this 58th chapter of Isaiah, the course has been rough. They found themselves far from home in a foreign land. They began to feel as if they lost the race. These words, however, are words of guidance and encouragement to stay the course. The book of Hebrews describes the difference between where we are on the course and the perfection that lies ahead. That perfection, however, is embodied in the life, death and resurrection of Christ. In Luke, the ruler of the synagogue was not looking for guidance on the course but believed their job was to protect where they were and what they already believed. Jesus, however, was running a different race. Where do we look for our guidance and encouragement on the course set before us?