



SUNDAY, AUGUST 8, 2021, MORNING MESSAGE

REVEREND EDWARD DUNN

We come to the final petition of the Lord's Prayer this week: *"Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil."* The Ecumenical version of the prayer goes like this, *"Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil."* The prayer recorded for us in Matthew 6 speaks about deliverance from *"the evil one"* thus personifying evil.

This petition is our acknowledgement that we are faced with hard times and impossible choices. We can... no, strike that...are easily tempted and prone to willfulness. Our plea for help confesses we are not strong enough to resist the forces that tempt us to disobey God.

Our scripture lesson this week is from Matthew 4:1-11, the temptation of Jesus. These temptations are represented as coming from an evil source. They represent what God does not want for humankind. Yet we look to the One who, while tempted, did not sin, and we plead for God's protection when temptation comes our way.

Blessings,  
Edward