

THE LESSONS APPOINTED FOR USE ON  
SUNDAYS IN THE SEASON OF PENTECOST  
23 MAY—25 JULY 2021

**Sunday, May 23, 2021**  
**The Day of Pentecost**

**THE COLLECT**

Almighty God, on this day you opened the way of eternal life to every race and nation by the promised gift of your Holy Spirit: Shed abroad this gift throughout the world by the preaching of the Gospel, that it may reach to the ends of the earth; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

**THE LESSON**

**Acts 2:1-21**

When the day of Pentecost had come, the disciples were all together in one place. And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability. Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. Amazed and astonished, they asked, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and Arabs—in our own languages we hear them speaking about God's deeds of power." All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, "What does this mean?" But others sneered and said, "They are filled with new wine." But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them, "Men of Judea and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say. Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o'clock in the morning. No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel: 'In the last days it will be, God declares, that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams. Even upon my slaves, both men and women, in those days I will pour out my Spirit; and they shall prophesy. And I will show portents in the heaven above and signs on the earth below, blood, and fire, and smoky mist. The sun shall be turned to darkness and the moon to blood, before the coming of the Lord's great and glorious day. Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.' "

**THE GRADUAL**

**Psalm 104:25-35, 37**

<sup>25</sup> O LORD, how manifold are your works! \*

in wisdom you have made them all; the earth is full of your creatures.

<sup>26</sup> Yonder is the great and wide sea with its living things too many to number, \*  
creatures both small and great.

27 There move the ships, and there is that Leviathan, \*  
which you have made for the sport of it.

28 All of them look to you \*  
to give them their food in due season.

29 You give it to them; they gather it; \*  
you open your hand, and they are filled with good things.

30 You hide your face, and they are terrified; \*  
you take away their breath, and they die and return to their dust.

31 You send forth your Spirit, and they are created; \*  
and so you renew the face of the earth.

32 May the glory of the LORD endure for ever; \*  
may the LORD rejoice in all his works.

33 He looks at the earth and it trembles; \*  
he touches the mountains and they smoke.

34 I will sing to the LORD as long as I live; \*  
I will praise my God while I have my being.

35 May these words of mine please him; \*  
I will rejoice in the LORD.

37 Bless the LORD, O my soul. \*  
Hallelujah!

## **THE GOSPEL**

### **John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15**

Jesus said to his disciples, "When the Advocate comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who comes from the Father, he will testify on my behalf. You also are to testify because you have been with me from the beginning. I did not say these things to you from the beginning, because I was with you. But now I am going to him who sent me; yet none of you asks me, 'Where are you going?' But because I have said these things to you, sorrow has filled your hearts. Nevertheless I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Advocate will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you. And when he comes, he will prove the world wrong about sin and righteousness and judgment: about sin, because they do not believe in me; about righteousness, because I am going to the Father and you will see me no longer; about judgment, because the ruler of this world has been condemned. I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth; for he will not speak on his own, but will speak whatever he hears, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. He will glorify me, because he will take what is mine and declare it to you. All that the Father has is mine. For this reason I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you."

**Sunday, May 30, 2021**

**The First Sunday after Pentecost: Trinity Sunday**

### **THE COLLECT**

Almighty and everlasting God, you have given to us your servants grace, by the confession of a true faith, to acknowledge the glory of the eternal Trinity, and in the power of your divine Majesty to worship the Unity: Keep us steadfast in this faith and worship, and bring us at last to see you in your one and eternal glory, O Father; who with the Son and the Holy Spirit live and reign, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

### **THE LESSON**

#### **Isaiah 6:1-8**

In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lofty; and the hem of his robe filled the temple. Seraphs were in attendance above him; each had six wings: with two they covered their faces, and with two they covered their feet, and with two they flew. And one called to another and said: "Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory." The pivots on the thresholds shook at the voices of those who called, and the house filled with smoke. And I said: "Woe is me! I am lost, for I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips; yet my eyes have seen the King, the Lord of hosts!" Then one of the seraphs flew to me, holding a live coal that had been taken from the altar with a pair of tongs. The seraph touched my mouth with it and said: "Now that this has touched your lips, your guilt has departed and your sin is blotted out." Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?" And I said, "Here am I; send me!"

### **THE GRADUAL**

#### **Psalm 29: 1-6, 10-11**

- <sup>1</sup> Ascribe to the LORD, you gods, \*  
ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.
- <sup>2</sup> Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his Name; \*  
worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness.
- <sup>3</sup> The voice of the LORD is upon the waters;  
the God of glory thunders; \*  
the LORD is upon the mighty waters.
- <sup>4</sup> The voice of the LORD is a powerful voice; \*  
the voice of the LORD is a voice of splendor.
- <sup>5</sup> The voice of the LORD breaks the cedar trees; \*  
the LORD breaks the cedars of Lebanon;
- <sup>6</sup> He makes Lebanon skip like a calf, \*  
and Mount Hermon like a young wild ox.

<sup>10</sup> The LORD sits enthroned above the flood; \*  
the LORD sits enthroned as King for evermore.

<sup>11</sup> The LORD shall give strength to his people; \*  
the LORD shall give his people the blessing of peace.

## **THE GOSPEL**

### **John 3:1-17**

There was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. He came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God." Jesus answered him, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above." Nicodemus said to him, "How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?" Jesus answered, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not be astonished that I said to you, 'You must be born from above.' The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit." Nicodemus said to him, "How can these things be?" Jesus answered him, "Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things? Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him."

**Sunday, June 6, 2021**

**The Second Sunday after Pentecost: Proper 5B**

**THE COLLECT**

O God, from whom all good proceeds: Grant that by your inspiration we may think those things that are right, and by your merciful guiding may do them; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

**THE LESSON**

**Genesis 3:8-15**

They heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden at the time of the evening breeze, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God among the trees of the garden. But the Lord God called to the man, and said to him, "Where are you?" He said, "I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself." He said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?" The man said, "The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit from the tree, and I ate." Then the LORD God said to the woman, "What is this that you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent tricked me, and I ate." The LORD God said to the serpent, "Because you have done this, cursed are you among all animals and among all wild creatures; upon your belly you shall go, and dust you shall eat all the days of your life. I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will strike your head, and you will strike his heel."

**THE GRADUAL**

**Psalm 130**

<sup>1</sup> Out of the depths have I called to you, O LORD;  
LORD, hear my voice; \*  
let your ears consider well the voice of my supplication.

<sup>2</sup> If you, LORD, were to note what is done amiss, \*  
O LORD, who could stand?

<sup>3</sup> For there is forgiveness with you; \*  
therefore you shall be feared.

<sup>4</sup> I wait for the LORD; my soul waits for him; \*  
in his word is my hope.

<sup>5</sup> My soul waits for the LORD,  
more than watchmen for the morning, \*  
more than watchmen for the morning.

<sup>6</sup> O Israel, wait for the LORD, \*  
for with the LORD there is mercy;

<sup>7</sup> With him there is plenteous redemption, \*  
and he shall redeem Israel from all their sins.

## **THE GOSPEL**

### **Mark 3:20-35**

The crowd came together again, so that Jesus and his disciples could not even eat. When his family heard it, they went out to restrain him, for people were saying, “He has gone out of his mind.” And the scribes who came down from Jerusalem said, “He has Beelzebul, and by the ruler of the demons he casts out demons.” And he called them to him, and spoke to them in parables, “How can Satan cast out Satan? If a kingdom is divided against itself, that kingdom cannot stand. And if a house is divided against itself, that house will not be able to stand. And if Satan has risen up against himself and is divided, he cannot stand, but his end has come. But no one can enter a strong man’s house and plunder his property without first tying up the strong man; then indeed the house can be plundered. Truly I tell you, people will be forgiven for their sins and whatever blasphemies they utter; but whoever blasphemes against the Holy Spirit can never have forgiveness, but is guilty of an eternal sin” — for they had said, “He has an unclean spirit.” Then his mother and his brothers came; and standing outside, they sent to him and called him. A crowd was sitting around him; and they said to him, “Your mother and your brothers and sisters are outside, asking for you.” And he replied, “Who are my mother and my brothers?” And looking at those who sat around him, he said, “Here are my mother and my brothers! Whoever does the will of God is my brother and sister and mother.”

**Sunday, June 13, 2021**

**The Third Sunday after Pentecost: Proper 6B**

**THE COLLECT**

Keep, O Lord, your household the Church in your steadfast faith and love, that through your grace we may proclaim your truth with boldness, and minister your justice with compassion; for the sake of our Savior Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

**THE LESSON**

**Ezekiel 17:22-24**

Thus says the Lord GOD: I myself will take a sprig from the lofty top of a cedar; I will set it out. I will break off a tender one from the topmost of its young twigs; I myself will plant it on a high and lofty mountain. On the mountain height of Israel I will plant it, in order that it may produce boughs and bear fruit, and become a noble cedar. Under it every kind of bird will live; in the shade of its branches will nest winged creatures of every kind. All the trees of the field shall know that I am the LORD. I bring low the high tree, I make high the low tree; I dry up the green tree and make the dry tree flourish. I the LORD have spoken; I will accomplish it.

**THE GRADUAL**

**Psalm 92:1-4, 11-14**

<sup>1</sup> It is a good thing to give thanks to the LORD, \*  
and to sing praises to your Name, O Most High;

<sup>2</sup> To tell of your loving-kindness early in the morning \*  
and of your faithfulness in the night season;

<sup>3</sup> On the psaltery, and on the lyre, \*  
and to the melody of the harp.

<sup>4</sup> For you have made me glad by your acts, O LORD; \*  
and I shout for joy because of the works of your hands.

<sup>11</sup> The righteous shall flourish like a palm tree, \*  
and shall spread abroad like a cedar of Lebanon.

<sup>12</sup> Those who are planted in the house of the LORD \*  
shall flourish in the courts of our God;

<sup>13</sup> They shall still bear fruit in old age; \*  
they shall be green and succulent;

<sup>14</sup> That they may show how upright the LORD is, \*  
my Rock, in whom there is no fault.

## **THE GOSPEL**

### **Mark 4:26-34**

Jesus said, "The kingdom of God is as if someone would scatter seed on the ground, and would sleep and rise night and day, and the seed would sprout and grow, he does not know how. The earth produces of itself, first the stalk, then the head, then the full grain in the head. But when the grain is ripe, at once he goes in with his sickle, because the harvest has come." He also said, "With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable will we use for it? It is like a mustard seed, which, when sown upon the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth; yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes the greatest of all shrubs, and puts forth large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade." With many such parables he spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it; he did not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything in private to his disciples.



**Sunday, June 20, 2021**

**The Fourth Sunday after Pentecost: Proper 7B**

**THE COLLECT**

O Lord, make us have perpetual love and reverence for your holy Name, for you never fail to help and govern those whom you have set upon the sure foundation of your loving-kindness; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

**THE LESSON**

**Job 38:1-11**

The LORD answered Job out of the whirlwind: "Who is this that darkens counsel by words without knowledge? Gird up your loins like a man, I will question you, and you shall declare to me. 'Where were you when I laid the foundation of the earth? Tell me, if you have understanding. Who determined its measurements—surely you know! Or who stretched the line upon it? On what were its bases sunk, or who laid its cornerstone when the morning stars sang together and all the heavenly beings shouted for joy? Or who shut in the sea with doors when it burst out from the womb?—when I made the clouds its garment, and thick darkness its swaddling band, and prescribed bounds for it, and set bars and doors, and said, 'Thus far shall you come, and no farther, and here shall your proud waves be stopped?'"

**THE GRADUAL**

**Psalm 107:1-2, 23-26, 29-32**

<sup>1</sup> Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good, \*  
and his mercy endures for ever.

<sup>2</sup> Let all those whom the LORD has redeemed proclaim \*  
that he redeemed them from the hand of the foe.

<sup>23</sup> Some went down to the sea in ships \*  
and plied their trade in deep waters;

<sup>24</sup> They beheld the works of the LORD \*  
and his wonders in the deep.

<sup>25</sup> Then he spoke, and a stormy wind arose, \*  
which tossed high the waves of the sea.

<sup>26</sup> They mounted up to the heavens and fell back to the depths; \*  
their hearts melted because of their peril.

<sup>29</sup> He stilled the storm to a whisper \*  
and quieted the waves of the sea.

<sup>30</sup> Then were they glad because of the calm, \*  
and he brought them to the harbor they were bound for.

<sup>31</sup> Let them give thanks to the LORD for his mercy \*  
and the wonders he does for his children.

<sup>32</sup> Let them exalt him in the congregation of the people \*  
and praise him in the council of the elders.

## **THE GOSPEL**

### **Mark 4:35-51**

When evening had come, Jesus said to his disciples, "Let us go across to the other side." And leaving the crowd behind, they took him with them in the boat, just as he was. Other boats were with him. A great windstorm arose, and the waves beat into the boat, so that the boat was already being swamped. But he was in the stern, asleep on the cushion; and they woke him up and said to him, "Teacher, do you not care that we are perishing?" He woke up and rebuked the wind, and said to the sea, "Peace! Be still!" Then the wind ceased, and there was a dead calm. He said to them, "Why are you afraid? Have you still no faith?" And they were filled with great awe and said to one another, "Who then is this, that even the wind and the sea obey him?"

**Sunday, June 27, 2021**

**The Fifth Sunday after Pentecost: Proper 8B**

**THE COLLECT**

Almighty God, you have built your Church upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief cornerstone: Grant us so to be joined together in unity of spirit by their teaching, that we may be made a holy temple acceptable to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

**THE LESSON**

**Wisdom of Solomon 1:13-15; 2:23-24**

God did not make death, and he does not delight in the death of the living. For he created all things so that they might exist; the generative forces of the world are wholesome, and there is no destructive poison in them, and the dominion of Hades is not on earth. For righteousness is immortal. God created us for incorruption, and made us in the image of his own eternity, but through the devil's envy death entered the world, and those who belong to his company experience it.

**THE GRADUAL**

**Psalm 30:1-6, 12-13**

<sup>1</sup> I will exalt you, O LORD,  
because you have lifted me up \*  
and have not let my enemies triumph over me.

<sup>2</sup> O LORD my God, I cried out to you, \*  
and you restored me to health.

<sup>3</sup> You brought me up, O LORD, from the dead; \*  
you restored my life as I was going down to the grave.

<sup>4</sup> Sing to the LORD, you servants of his; \*  
give thanks for the remembrance of his holiness.

<sup>5</sup> For his wrath endures but the twinkling of an eye, \*  
his favor for a lifetime.

<sup>6</sup> Weeping may spend the night, \*  
but joy comes in the morning.

<sup>12</sup> You have turned my wailing into dancing; \*  
you have put off my sack-cloth and clothed me with joy.

<sup>13</sup> Therefore my heart sings to you without ceasing; \*  
O LORD my God, I will give you thanks for ever.

## **THE GOSPEL**

### **Mark 5:21-43**

When Jesus had crossed again in the boat to the other side, a great crowd gathered around him; and he was by the sea. Then one of the leaders of the synagogue named Jairus came and, when he saw him, fell at his feet and begged him repeatedly, "My little daughter is at the point of death. Come and lay your hands on her, so that she may be made well, and live." He went with him. And a large crowd followed him and pressed in on him. Now there was a woman who had been suffering from hemorrhages for twelve years. She had endured much under many physicians, and had spent all that she had; and she was no better, but rather grew worse. She had heard about Jesus, and came up behind him in the crowd and touched his cloak, for she said, "If I but touch his clothes, I will be made well." Immediately her hemorrhage stopped; and she felt in her body that she was healed of her disease. Immediately aware that power had gone forth from him, Jesus turned about in the crowd and said, "Who touched my clothes?" And his disciples said to him, "You see the crowd pressing in on you; how can you say, 'Who touched me?'" He looked all around to see who had done it. But the woman, knowing what had happened to her, came in fear and trembling, fell down before him, and told him the whole truth. He said to her, "Daughter, your faith has made you well; go in peace, and be healed of your disease." While he was still speaking, some people came from the leader's house to say, "Your daughter is dead. Why trouble the teacher any further?" But overhearing what they said, Jesus said to the leader of the synagogue, "Do not fear, only believe." He allowed no one to follow him except Peter, James, and John, the brother of James. When they came to the house of the leader of the synagogue, he saw a commotion, people weeping and wailing loudly. When he had entered, he said to them, "Why do you make a commotion and weep? The child is not dead but sleeping." And they laughed at him. Then he put them all outside, and took the child's father and mother and those who were with him, and went in where the child was. He took her by the hand and said to her, "Talitha cum," which means, "Little girl, get up!" And immediately the girl got up and began to walk about (she was twelve years of age). At this they were overcome with amazement. He strictly ordered them that no one should know this, and told them to give her something to eat.

**Sunday, July 4, 2021**

**The Sixth Sunday after Pentecost: Proper 9B**

**THE COLLECT**

O God, you have taught us to keep all your commandments by loving you and our neighbor: Grant us the grace of your Holy Spirit, that we may be devoted to you with our whole heart, and united to one another with pure affection; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

**THE LESSON**

**Ezekiel 2:1-5**

The Lord said to me: O mortal, stand up on your feet, and I will speak with you. And when he spoke to me, a spirit entered into me and set me on my feet; and I heard him speaking to me. He said to me, Mortal, I am sending you to the people of Israel, to a nation of rebels who have rebelled against me; they and their ancestors have transgressed against me to this very day. The descendants are impudent and stubborn. I am sending you to them, and you shall say to them, "Thus says the Lord GOD." Whether they hear or refuse to hear (for they are a rebellious house), they shall know that there has been a prophet among them.

**THE GRADUAL**

**Psalm 123**

<sup>1</sup> To you I lift up my eyes, \*  
to you enthroned in the heavens.

<sup>2</sup> As the eyes of servants look to the hand of their masters, \*  
and the eyes of a maid to the hand of her mistress,

<sup>3</sup> So our eyes look to the LORD our God, \*  
until he show us his mercy.

<sup>4</sup> Have mercy upon us, O LORD, have mercy, \*  
for we have had more than enough of contempt,

<sup>5</sup> Too much of the scorn of the indolent rich, \*  
and of the derision of the proud.

## **THE GOSPEL**

### **Mark 6:1-13**

Jesus came to his hometown, and his disciples followed him. On the sabbath he began to teach in the synagogue, and many who heard him were astounded. They said, "Where did this man get all this? What is this wisdom that has been given to him? What deeds of power are being done by his hands! Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary and brother of James and Joses and Judas and Simon, and are not his sisters here with us?" And they took offense at him. Then Jesus said to them, "Prophets are not without honor, except in their hometown, and among their own kin, and in their own house." And he could do no deed of power there, except that he laid his hands on a few sick people and cured them. And he was amazed at their unbelief. Then he went about among the villages teaching. He called the twelve and began to send them out two by two, and gave them authority over the unclean spirits. He ordered them to take nothing for their journey except a staff; no bread, no bag, no money in their belts; but to wear sandals and not to put on two tunics. He said to them, "Wherever you enter a house, stay there until you leave the place. If any place will not welcome you and they refuse to hear you, as you leave, shake off the dust that is on your feet as a testimony against them." So they went out and proclaimed that all should repent. They cast out many demons, and anointed with oil many who were sick and cured them.

**Sunday, July 11, 2021**

**The Seventh Sunday after Pentecost: Proper 10B**

**THE COLLECT**

O Lord, mercifully receive the prayers of your people who call upon you, and grant that they may know and understand what things they ought to do, and also may have grace and power faithfully to accomplish them; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

**THE LESSON**

**Amos 7:7-15**

This is what the Lord God showed me: the Lord was standing beside a wall built with a plumb line, with a plumb line in his hand. And the LORD said to me, "Amos, what do you see?" And I said, "A plumb line." Then the Lord said, "See, I am setting a plumb line in the midst of my people Israel; I will never again pass them by; the high places of Isaac shall be made desolate, and the sanctuaries of Israel shall be laid waste, and I will rise against the house of Jeroboam with the sword." Then Amaziah, the priest of Bethel, sent to King Jeroboam of Israel, saying, "Amos has conspired against you in the very center of the house of Israel; the land is not able to bear all his words. For thus Amos has said, 'Jeroboam shall die by the sword, and Israel must go into exile away from his land.'" And Amaziah said to Amos, "O seer, go, flee away to the land of Judah, earn your bread there, and prophesy there; but never again prophesy at Bethel, for it is the king's sanctuary, and it is a temple of the kingdom." Then Amos answered Amaziah, "I am no prophet, nor a prophet's son; but I am a herdsman, and a dresser of sycamore trees, and the LORD took me from following the flock, and the LORD said to me, 'Go, prophesy to my people Israel.'"

**THE GRADUAL**

**Psalm 85:8-13**

<sup>8</sup> I will listen to what the LORD God is saying, \*  
for he is speaking peace to his faithful people  
and to those who turn their hearts to him.

<sup>9</sup> Truly, his salvation is very near to those who fear him, \*  
that his glory may dwell in our land.

<sup>10</sup> Mercy and truth have met together; \*  
righteousness and peace have kissed each other.

<sup>11</sup> Truth shall spring up from the earth, \*  
and righteousness shall look down from heaven.

<sup>12</sup> The LORD will indeed grant prosperity, \*  
and our land will yield its increase.

<sup>13</sup> Righteousness shall go before him, \*  
and peace shall be a pathway for his feet.

## **THE GOSPEL**

### **Mark 6:14-29**

King Herod heard of the demons cast out and the many who were anointed and cured, for Jesus' name had become known. Some were saying, "John the baptizer has been raised from the dead; and for this reason these powers are at work in him." But others said, "It is Elijah." And others said, "It is a prophet, like one of the prophets of old." But when Herod heard of it, he said, "John, whom I beheaded, has been raised." For Herod himself had sent men who arrested John, bound him, and put him in prison on account of Herodias, his brother Philip's wife, because Herod had married her. For John had been telling Herod, "It is not lawful for you to have your brother's wife." And Herodias had a grudge against him, and wanted to kill him. But she could not, for Herod feared John, knowing that he was a righteous and holy man, and he protected him. When he heard him, he was greatly perplexed; and yet he liked to listen to him. But an opportunity came when Herod on his birthday gave a banquet for his courtiers and officers and for the leaders of Galilee. When his daughter Herodias came in and danced, she pleased Herod and his guests; and the king said to the girl, "Ask me for whatever you wish, and I will give it." And he solemnly swore to her, "Whatever you ask me, I will give you, even half of my kingdom." She went out and said to her mother, "What should I ask for?" She replied, "The head of John the baptizer." Immediately she rushed back to the king and requested, "I want you to give me at once the head of John the Baptist on a platter." The king was deeply grieved; yet out of regard for his oaths and for the guests, he did not want to refuse her. Immediately the king sent a soldier of the guard with orders to bring John's head. He went and beheaded him in the prison, brought his head on a platter, and gave it to the girl. Then the girl gave it to her mother. When his disciples heard about it, they came and took his body, and laid it in a tomb.



**Sunday, July 18, 2021**

**The Eighth Sunday after Pentecost: Proper 11B**

**THE COLLECT**

Almighty God, the fountain of all wisdom, you know our necessities before we ask and our ignorance in asking: Have compassion on our weakness, and mercifully give us those things which for our unworthiness we dare not, and for our blindness we cannot ask; through the worthiness of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

**THE LESSON**

**Jeremiah 23:1-6**

Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture! says the LORD. Therefore thus says the LORD, the God of Israel, concerning the shepherds who shepherd my people: It is you who have scattered my flock, and have driven them away, and you have not attended to them. So I will attend to you for your evil doings, says the LORD. Then I myself will gather the remnant of my flock out of all the lands where I have driven them, and I will bring them back to their fold, and they shall be fruitful and multiply. I will raise up shepherds over them who will shepherd them, and they shall not fear any longer, or be dismayed, nor shall any be missing, says the LORD. The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In his days Judah will be saved and Israel will live in safety. And this is the name by which he will be called: "The LORD is our righteousness."

**THE GRADUAL**

**Psalm 23**

<sup>1</sup> The LORD is my shepherd; \*

I shall not be in want.

<sup>2</sup> He makes me lie down in green pastures \*  
and leads me beside still waters.

<sup>3</sup> He revives my soul \*  
and guides me along right pathways for his Name's sake.

<sup>4</sup> Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,  
I shall fear no evil; \*  
for you are with me;  
your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

<sup>5</sup> You spread a table before me in the presence of those who trouble me; \*  
you have anointed my head with oil,  
and my cup is running over.

<sup>6</sup> Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, \*  
and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for ever.

## **THE GOSPEL**

### **Mark 6:30-34, 53-56**

The apostles gathered around Jesus, and told him all that they had done and taught. He said to them, "Come away to a deserted place all by yourselves and rest a while." For many were coming and going, and they had no leisure even to eat. And they went away in the boat to a deserted place by themselves. Now many saw them going and recognized them, and they hurried there on foot from all the towns and arrived ahead of them. As he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had compassion for them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd; and he began to teach them many things. When they had crossed over, they came to land at Gennesaret and moored the boat. When they got out of the boat, people at once recognized him, and rushed about that whole region and began to bring the sick on mats to wherever they heard he was. And wherever he went, into villages or cities or farms, they laid the sick in the marketplaces, and begged him that they might touch even the fringe of his cloak; and all who touched it were healed.

**Sunday, July 25, 2021**

**The Ninth Sunday after Pentecost: Proper 12B**

**THE COLLECT**

O God, the protector of all who trust in you, without whom nothing is strong, nothing is holy: Increase and multiply upon us your mercy; that, with you as our ruler and guide, we may so pass through things temporal, that we lose not the things eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

**THE LESSON**

**2 Kings 4:42-44**

A man came from Baal-shalishah, bringing food from the first fruits to the man of God: twenty loaves of barley and fresh ears of grain in his sack. Elisha said, "Give it to the people and let them eat." But his servant said, "How can I set this before a hundred people?" So he repeated, "Give it to the people and let them eat, for thus says the LORD, "They shall eat and have some left." He set it before them, they ate, and had some left, according to the word of the LORD.

**THE GRADUAL**

**Psalms 145:10-19**

<sup>10</sup> All your works praise you, O LORD, \*  
and your faithful servants bless you.

<sup>11</sup> They make known the glory of your kingdom \*  
and speak of your power;

<sup>12</sup> That the peoples may know of your power \*  
and the glorious splendor of your kingdom.

<sup>13</sup> Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom; \*  
your dominion endures throughout all ages.

<sup>14</sup> The LORD is faithful in all his words \*  
and merciful in all his deeds.

<sup>15</sup> The LORD upholds all those who fall; \*  
he lifts up those who are bowed down.

<sup>16</sup> The eyes of all wait upon you, O LORD, \*  
and you give them their food in due season.

<sup>17</sup> You open wide your hand \*  
and satisfy the needs of every living creature.

<sup>18</sup> The LORD is righteous in all his ways \*  
and loving in all his works.

<sup>19</sup> The LORD is near to those who call upon him, \*  
to all who call upon him faithfully.

## **THE GOSPEL**

### **John 6:1-21**

Jesus went to the other side of the Sea of Galilee, also called the Sea of Tiberias. A large crowd kept following him, because they saw the signs that he was doing for the sick. Jesus went up the mountain and sat down there with his disciples. Now the Passover, the festival of the Jews, was near. When he looked up and saw a large crowd coming toward him, Jesus said to Philip, "Where are we to buy bread for these people to eat?" He said this to test him, for he himself knew what he was going to do. Philip answered him, "Six months' wages would not buy enough bread for each of them to get a little." One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, said to him, "There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish. But what are they among so many people?" Jesus said, "Make the people sit down." Now there was a great deal of grass in the place; so they sat down, about five thousand in all. Then Jesus took the loaves, and when he had given thanks, he distributed them to those who were seated; so also the fish, as much as they wanted. When they were satisfied, he told his disciples, "Gather up the fragments left over, so that nothing may be lost." So they gathered them up, and from the fragments of the five barley loaves, left by those who had eaten, they filled twelve baskets. When the people saw the sign that he had done, they began to say, "This is indeed the prophet who is to come into the world." When Jesus realized that they were about to come and take him by force to make him king, he withdrew again to the mountain by himself. When evening came, his disciples went down to the sea, got into a boat, and started across the sea to Capernaum. It was now dark, and Jesus had not yet come to them. The sea became rough because a strong wind was blowing. When they had rowed about three or four miles, they saw Jesus walking on the sea and coming near the boat, and they were terrified. But he said to them, "It is I; do not be afraid." Then they wanted to take him into the boat, and immediately the boat reached the land toward which they were going.