

## The Sixth Sunday after Pentecost: July 4, 2021

### 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 First Lesson

**2 Samuel 5:1-5, 9-10**

All the tribes of Israel came to David at Hebron, and said, "Look, we are your bone and flesh. For some time, while Saul was king over us, it was you who led out Israel and brought it in. The LORD said to you: It is you who shall be shepherd of my people Israel, you who shall be ruler over Israel." So all the elders of Israel came to the king at Hebron; and King David made a covenant with them at Hebron before the LORD, and they anointed David king over Israel. David was thirty years old when he began to reign, and he reigned forty years. At Hebron he reigned over Judah seven years and six months; and at Jerusalem he reigned over all Israel and Judah thirty-three years. David occupied the stronghold, and named it the city of David. David built the city all around from the Millo inwards. And David became greater and greater, for the LORD, the God of hosts, was with him

### Psalm 48

- 1 Great is the LORD, and highly to be praised; \*  
in the city of our God is his holy hill.
- 2 Beautiful and lofty, the joy of all the earth, is the hill of Zion, \*  
the very center of the world and the city of the great King.
- 3 God is in her citadels; \*  
he is known to be her sure refuge.
- 4 Behold, the kings of the earth assembled \*  
and marched forward together.
- 5 They looked and were astounded; \*  
they retreated and fled in terror.
- 6 Trembling seized them there; \*  
they writhed like a woman in childbirth,  
like ships of the sea when the east wind shatters them.
- 7 As we have heard, so have we seen,  
in the city of the LORD of hosts, in the city of our God; \*  
God has established her for ever.
- 8 We have waited in silence on your loving-kindness, O God, \*  
in the midst of your temple.
- 9 Your praise, like your Name, O God, reaches to the world's end; \*  
your right hand is full of justice.

- 10 Let Mount Zion be glad  
and the cities of Judah rejoice, \*  
because of your judgments.
- 11 Make the circuit of Zion;  
walk round about her; \*  
count the number of her towers.
- 12 Consider well her bulwarks;  
examine her strongholds; \*  
that you may tell those who come after.
- 13 This God is our God for ever and ever; \*  
he shall be our guide for evermore.

## **The Second Lesson**

## **2 Corinthians 12:2-10**

I know a person in Christ who fourteen years ago was caught up to the third heaven—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know; God knows. And I know that such a person—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know; God knows— was caught up into Paradise and heard things that are not to be told, that no mortal is permitted to repeat. On behalf of such a one I will boast, but on my own behalf I will not boast, except of my weaknesses. But if I wish to boast, I will not be a fool, for I will be speaking the truth. But I refrain from it, so that no one may think better of me than what is seen in me or heard from me, even considering the exceptional character of the revelations. Therefore, to keep me from being too elated, a thorn was given me in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to torment me, to keep me from being too elated. Three times I appealed to the Lord about this, that it would leave me, but he said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for power is made perfect in weakness.” So, I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may dwell in me. Therefore I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities for the sake of Christ; for whenever I am weak, then I am strong.

## **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.

**Response for the Prayers of the People:**

**People: Hear our prayer.**

**Reader:**

Blessed Creator, you have filled the world with beauty and our lives with precious freedom. We pray for Joe our President, the Courts and Congress, Eric our Governor, and our mayors. Keep us mindful of those whose lives are challenged and limited by oppression and poverty. Grant us a spirit of gratitude for all that we have in this nation. **Lord, in your mercy,**

You have claimed us for yourself and brought us close to your heart. Let your people rise to sing your praise as they align themselves with your mission. We pray for your Church, especially for Michael, our Presiding Bishop; Jennifer, our Bishop; Mauricio, Bishop of Brasilia; the Anglican Church of Papua New Guinea, for Debbie our priest, and for St. Andre's in Mithon. Keep us mindful of those whose hearts year for you and those who are persecuted around the world in your name. **Lord, in your mercy,**

We thank you for bodies and minds, for friendships that nurture and challenge us. Keep us mindful of those who live in pain or fear or isolation. Strengthen our resolve to bring your love into their lives, to surround them with compassion. **Lord, in your mercy,**

We give thanks for those we have known and loved, and who now are in your eternal embrace. Keep us mindful of those who are dying and keep alive the lessons of love we have learned from them. **Lord, in your mercy,**