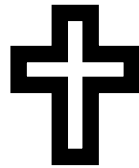


SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Sunday, July 7th, 2024

9:00 am

Service of Holy Communion



*281 Years of
"Joyously proclaiming the good news of God's love!"*

ZION LUTHERAN CHURCH

SPRING CITY, PENNSYLVANIA

Founded in 1743

Sunday, July 7th, 2024

INTRODUCTION

We embody our reverence for God's presence in many different ways. You may show your reverence for God's presence in whatever way is right for you. You might do this by standing, folding your hands or raising them, bowing your head, or entering more deeply into reverence in ways that are not visible, even as they are deeply felt.

*Note that congregational responses are printed in **bold**. Children's worship kits (complete with children's bulletins, coloring materials and fidgets) can be found at the usher's station.*

In this week's gospel text, Jesus does great deeds of power and gives his disciples authority over demons. Yet none of this power is unilateral; it all must be received by faith. Jesus asks his disciples to go out without money or supplies, so that they will be dependent on how others receive them. When we are sent from the assembly to witness and to heal, we are asked to be vulnerable, to be dependent on the reception of others. The Spirit always operates in the "between": between Jesus and his Abba, between Jesus and us, between you and me, between us and those to whom we are sent.

PRELUDES

God, Who Stretched the Spangled Heavens – On Tannenberg
Tune: The Southern Harmony, 1854 Arr. by Wilbur Held

Yet Not I, but Through Christ in Me – On Piano
Words and Music by Johnny Robinson, Rich Thompson, and Michael Farren
Arr. by Tracey Craig McKibben

Song of Freedom – On Allen
Gerald Peterson

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

More announcements can be found in the back of your bulletin. If you have an announcement you would like printed, please let Erin, our office manager, know by sending it to church@zionofspringcity.org!

GATHERING HYMN

O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing

ELW 886



- 1 Oh, for a thou-sand tongues to sing my great Re-deem-er's praise,
- 2 My gra-cious Mas-ter and my God, as-sist me to pro-claim,
- 3 The name of Je-sus charms our fears and bids our sor-rows cease,
- 4 He speaks, and lis-t'ning to his voice, new life the dead re-ceive;



the glo-ries of my God and king, the tri-umphs of his grace!
to spread through all the earth a-broad the hon-ors of your name.
sings mu-sic in the sin-ner's ears, brings life and health and peace.
the mourn-ful, bro-ken hearts re-joice, the hum-ble poor be-lieve.

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Whenever the cross ☩ symbol appears, all may make the sign of the cross on their own bodies: forehead, chest, left shoulder, right shoulder.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,
the fountain of living water,
the rock who gave us birth,
our light and our salvation. **Amen.**

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism,
we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness.
Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

We give you thanks, O God,
for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters
and by your Word you created the world,
calling forth life in which you took delight.

Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family.
Through the splitting of the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom.
At the Jordan River your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit.
By water and your Word you claim us as your children,
making us heirs of your promise and servants of all.

To you be given honor and praise, through Jesus Christ our Lord,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

— WORD —


God speaks in scripture, preaching, song and prayer.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

God of the covenant, in our baptism you call us to proclaim the coming of your kingdom. Give us the courage you gave the apostles, that we may faithfully witness to your love and peace in every circumstance of life, in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.


HYMN OF PRAISE

Refrain
Assisting minister




This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia.


All



1 Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us




free to be peo-ple of God. Pow - er and rich - es and wis - dom and



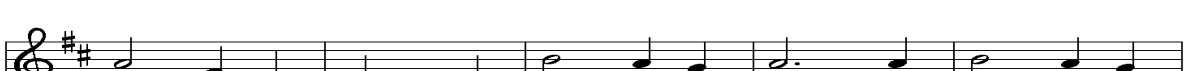
strength, and hon - or and bless-ing and glo - ry are his.

Refrain

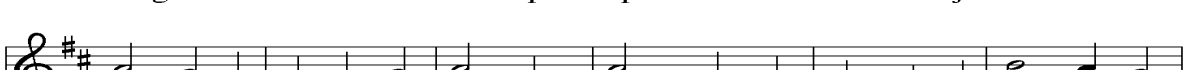


This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia.

2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God and join in the

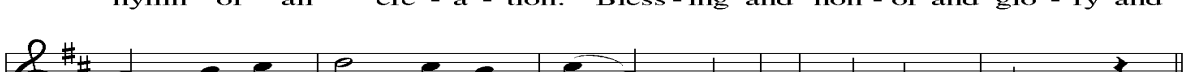


hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless-ing and hon - or and glo - ry and




might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

Final refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain



has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

FIRST READING

Ezekiel 2:1-5

In 597 BCE, the Babylonian army ransacked Jerusalem and took many of God's people as political prisoners, including the prophet Ezekiel. While Ezekiel was in exile, he received a vision of God appearing majestically on a chariot throne. Today's reading recounts God's commissioning of Ezekiel during this vision. The prophet is to speak God's word to a people unwilling to hear.

A reading from the book of the prophet Ezekiel.

¹[A voice] said to me: O mortal, stand up on your feet, and I will speak with you. ²And when he spoke to me, a spirit entered into me and set me on my feet; and I heard him speaking to me. ³He 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. ⁴The descendants are obstinate and stubborn. I am sending you to them, and you shall say to them, "Thus says the Lord GOD." ⁵Whether they hear or refuse to hear (for they are a rebellious house), they shall know that there has been a prophet among them.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.



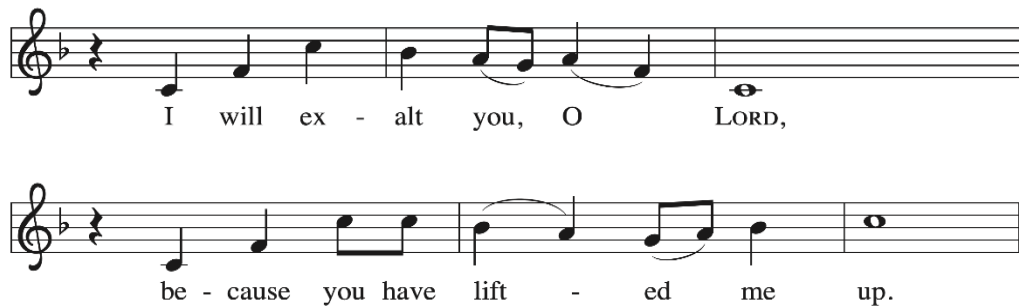
PSALM

Psalm 123

Psalms are an ancient form of musical scripture that were written by King David and his associates to be sung during worship. Let's try this out for a few weeks and see how we like it!

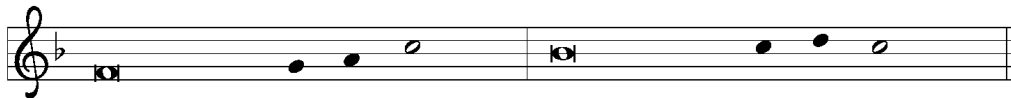
First, the choir will sing the refrain, then the congregation will repeat it. Then, according to the psalm tone, the choir will sing the unbolded verses, and the congregation will join in for the bolded verses.

Refrain:

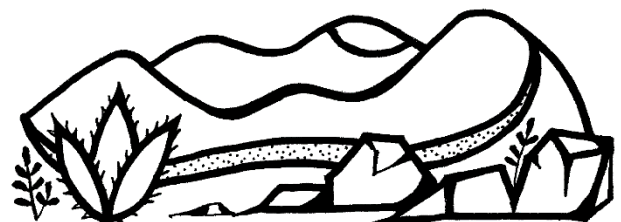


I will ex - alt you, O LORD,
be - cause you have lift - ed me up.

Psalm tone:



- ¹To you I lift | up my eyes,
to you enthroned | in the heavens.
- ²**As the eyes of servants look to the hand of their masters, and the eyes of a maid to the hand | of her mistress,
so our eyes look to you, O LORD our God, until you show | us your mercy. Refrain**
- ³Have mercy upon us, O | LORD, have mercy,
for we have had more than enough | of contempt,
- ⁴**too much of the scorn of the in- | dolent rich,
and of the derision | of the proud. Refrain**



SECOND READING

2 Corinthians 12:2-10

Paul's advice: Christians should not boast of their own accomplishments. Rather, Christian boasting focuses attention on how the power of Christ is present in our lives, especially in times of weakness and vulnerability. No matter what our circumstances in life, Christ's grace is sufficient for us.

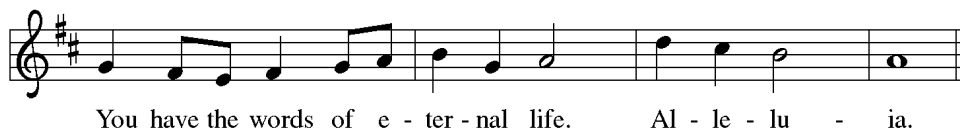
A reading from Paul's second letter to the Corinthians.

²I 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. ³And I know that such a person—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know; God knows—⁴was caught up into Paradise and heard things that are not to be told, that no mortal is permitted to repeat. ⁵On behalf of such a one I will boast, but on my own behalf I will not boast, except of my weaknesses. ⁶But 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, ⁷even 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. ⁸Three times I appealed to the Lord about this, that it would leave me, ⁹but 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. ¹⁰Therefore I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities for the sake of Christ; for whenever I am weak, then I am strong.

This is the word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

At this time, the congregation may rise in body or in spirit to greet the holy gospel.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



HOLY GOSPEL

Mark 6:1-13

This is the Holy Gospel according to Mark.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹[Jesus] came to his hometown, and his disciples followed him.²On 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! ³Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary and brother of James, Joseph, Judas and Simon, and are not his sisters here with us?" And they took offense at him. ⁴Then Jesus said to them, "Prophets are not without honor, except in their hometown, and among their own kin, and in their own house." ⁵And he could do no deed of power there, except that he laid his hands on a few sick people and cured them. ⁶And he was amazed at their unbelief.

Then he went about among the villages teaching. ⁷He called the twelve and began to send them out two by two, and gave them authority over the unclean spirits. ⁸He ordered them to take nothing for their journey except a staff; no bread, no bag, no money in their belts; ⁹but to wear sandals and not to put on two tunics. ¹⁰He said to them, "Wherever you enter a house, stay there until you leave the place. ¹¹If 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." ¹²So they went out and proclaimed that all should repent. ¹³They cast out many demons, and anointed with oil many who were sick and cured them.

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

The Gospel Acclamation is reprised.

SERMON

SILENT MEDITATION

We are called in and out of a time of reflection by the ringing of a bell.

HYMN OF THE DAY

Great is Thy Faithfulness

ELW 733



1 Great is thy faith - ful - ness, O God my Fa - ther; there is no
2 Sum - mer and win - ter and spring - time and har - vest, sun, moon, and
3 Par - don for sin and a peace that en - dur - eth, thine own dear



shad - ow of turn - ing with thee; thou chang - est not, thy com -
stars in their cours - es a - bove join with all na - ture in
pres - ence to cheer and to guide; strength for to - day and bright



pas - sions they fail not; as thou hast been, thou for - ev - er wilt be.
man - i - fold wit - ness to thy great faith - ful - ness, mer - cy, and love.
hope for to - mor - row, bless - ings all mine, with ten thou - sand be - side!

Refrain



Great is thy faith - ful - ness! Great is thy faith - ful - ness! Morn - ing by



morn - ing new mer - cies I see; all I have need - ed thy



hand hath pro - vid - ed; great is thy faith - ful - ness, Lord, un - to me.

THE APOSTLE'S CREED

Together, let us confess our faith using the ancient words of the apostle's creed.

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.

Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

One in the communion of saints and in the power of the Holy Spirit, we join our voices in prayer.

A brief silence.

Glorious God, you bend down to wash the feet of your disciples. Let the servant church arise in our teaching, our praying, our healing, and our doing. Make all your faithful people powerful in weakness and strong in grace. In your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Life-giving God, your fingers trace the heavens and your hands shape the earth. Where there is drought, bring nourishing rain. Where there is devastation from fire or flood, bring relief. Sustain the well-being of every living thing. In your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Merciful God, you speak and the nations listen. Open those who govern to the cries of all who journey with no food or shelter, particularly people fleeing violence, those seeking freedom, and those in search of community. In your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Gracious God, your embrace brings wholeness to those who are troubled. Anoint all who suffer in any way with the oil of healing, especially **Barbara Winter, Dave Grubb, Brian Mickiewicz, David Tyson, Eric Harter, Greg Wicker, Joan Emswiler, Jeanette Kaufmann, Aubree Pascale, Holly Bauman, Mary Lesh, Brookelyn Rogers, Bob Bell, Dan DeFusco, Belinda Schell, Barbara Carberry, Fran O'Neill, Lisa McComb, Paula Kaiser, Greg Mosher, Robin Sexto and the Batten Family [the Battens]**. God, renew your people. In your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Welcoming God, in your presence strangers become companions and enemies become neighbors. Open our doors to those we have so easily shut out, particularly people who are different from us or who are marginalized by church or society. In your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Eternal God, you gather us into your house of many dwelling places. We give you thanks for our faithful departed. Inspire us by their lives of faith until, with them, we rest forever at our journey's end. In your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Holy God, holy and merciful: into your outstretched arms we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray, trusting in the one who is the way, the truth, and the life, Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

PASSING OF THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always.
And also with you.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Children (and guardians) are invited to come close for a story.

— HOLY COMMUNION —

God feeds us with the presence of the risen Christ.

OFFERING

We reflect on our stewardship of the gifts of God entrusted to us for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need. Financial gifts may be offered in the passed plates, or online at zionofspringcity.org.

OFFERING MUSIC

Sinner Saved by Grace

Words and Music by Bill and Gloria Gaither

Vocal Solo by Barbara Grubb

OFFERING HYMN

As the Grains of Wheat

ELW 465

Refrain

As the grains of wheat once scat-tered on the hill were
gath-ered in - to one to be - come our bread; so may all your peo-ple from
all the ends of earth be gath-ered in - to one in you.

1 As this cup of bless - ing is shared with - in our midst,
2 Let this be a fore - taste of all that is to come when

Refrain

may we share the pres - ence of your love.
all cre - a - tion shares this feast with you.

OFFERING PRAYER

Jesus, bread of life, you have set this table with your very self, and called us to the feast of plenty. Gather what has been sown among us, and strengthen us in this meal. Make us to be what we receive here, your body for the life of the world.

Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

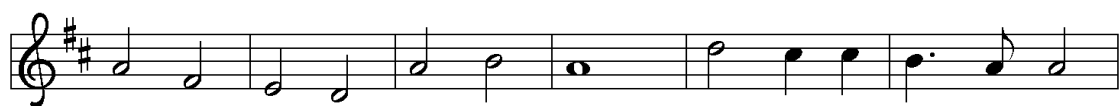
Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
through our Savior Jesus Christ;
who on this day overcame death and the grave,
and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.
In these weeks after Pentecost, in this time of the color green
and the Spirit poured out on us, with all the choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,



heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.



Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes



in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy God,
you alone are holy,
you alone are God.

The universe declares your praise:
beyond the stars;
beneath the sea;
within each cell;
with every breath.
We praise you, O God.
We praise you, O God.

Generations bless your faithfulness:
through the water;
by night and day;
across the wilderness;
out of exile;
into the future.
We bless you, O God.
We bless you, O God.

We give you thanks for your dear Son:
at the heart of human life;
near to those who suffer;
beside the sinner;
among the poor;
with us now.
We thank you, O God.
We thank you, O God.

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread,
and gave thanks; broke it,
and gave it to his disciples,
saying: Take and eat;
this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper,
he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people
for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering his love for us
on the way, at the table,
and to the end,
we proclaim the mystery of faith:
Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.

We pray for the gift of your Spirit:
in our gathering;
within this meal;
among your people;
throughout the world. **Amen.**



Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:
Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us
from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

In this place, we have red wine, white grape juice, bread and gluten-free wafers. Though the sacrament of communion is most appropriate for baptized Christians, all are welcome at Christ's table, and nothing in all creation can separate you from the love of God. If you would like to come forward for a blessing instead of communing, you may indicate that by crossing your hands over your chest. If you would like to take communion at your seat, please let an usher know and the ministers will come to you.

Come, for the table is ready.

LAMB OF GOD

During the Agnus Dei, the communion ministers come forward for communion. Once the ministers are ready, the congregation may come forward, row by row. Bread and wafers are available in the center. Wine and juice are available on the left side of the altar, and wine on the right side.



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on



us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the



sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

SHARING IN COMMUNION

This is the Body of Christ, given for you.

I believe or Amen. *(Congregation may eat the bread or wafer)*

This is the Blood of Christ, given for you.

I believe or Amen. *(Congregation may drink the wine or juice)*

COMMUNION HYMNS

We Come to the Hungry Feast

Text and Music: Ray Makeever

ELW 479

For the Bread Which You Have Broken

Text: Louis F. Benson

Music: Gross Catolisch Gesangbuch, arr. William Smith Rockstro

ELW 474

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ
strengthen us and keep us in His grace.

Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Jesus, bread of life, we have received
from your table

more than we could ever ask.

As you have nourished us in this meal,
now strengthen us to love the world
with your own life.

In your name we pray.

Amen.



— SENDING —

God feeds us with the presence of the risen Christ.

SENDING HYMN

Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service

ELW 712



- 1 Lord, whose love in hum-ble ser-vice bore the weight of hu-man need,
- 2 Still your chil-dren wan-der home-less; still the hun-gry cry for bread;
- 3 As we wor-ship, grant us vi-sion, till your love's re-veal-ing light
- 4 Called by wor-ship to your ser-vice, forth in your dear name we go,



who up-on the cross, for-sak-en, worked your mer-cy's per-fect deed:
still the cap-tives long for free-dom; still in grief we mourn our dead.
in its height and depth and great-ness dawns up-on our quick-ened sight,
to the child, the youth, the a-ged, love in liv-ing deeds to show;



we, your ser-vants, bring the wor-ship not of voice a-lone, but heart;
As you, Lord, in deep com-pas-sion healed the sick and freed the soul,
mak-ing known the needs and bur-dens your com-pas-sion bids us bear,
hope and health, good-will and com-fort, coun-sel, aid, and peace we give,



con-se-crat-ing to your pur-pose ev-'ry gift which you im-part.
by your Spir-it send your pow-er to our world to make it whole.
stir-ring us to ar-dent ser-vice, your a-bun-dant life to share.
that your ser-vants, Lord, in free-dom may your mer-cy know and live.

BLESSING

The blessing of God, who provides for us, feeds us, and journeys with us, † be upon you now and forever.

Amen.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. You are the body of Christ.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

The Church of Christ, In Every Age

Tune: William Knapp, Arr. J. Bert Carlson

— ANNOUNCEMENTS —

Let Erin know if you have something to add! Email church@zionofspringcity.org.

Coming up...

- **July 14th through July 21st** - Our Zion Youth will be in New Orleans for the ELCA National Youth Gathering! We will send them off with a blessing after worship on July 14th. Please keep them in your prayers!
- **Saturday, July 27th** - You are invited to Pastor Taylor's ordination!! At this once-in-a-lifetime service of celebration, she will be given: the authority to preside at God's table anywhere in the world, the ability to wear a stole, and a new title, Reverend. :) The service will be at 11:00 am on Saturday, July 27th. Our bishop will be presiding, and the color of the day is red!
- **Sunday, July 28th** - Whitewater rafting! Please sign up on the sheet in the hall if you're interested and contact Shawn with any questions or concerns.

Don't forget!

- **Christ in Our Home** is on the table in the narthex! Please pick up your envelope and submit your payment if necessary.
- **Spring City Food Pantry** is closed on July 4th; on July 3rd food distribution hours are 10:30 am – 12:00 pm and 5:00pm - 6:00 pm. No ID or proof of income required.

Bible Readings for this Week – 7th Sunday after Pentecost

Monday	Jeremiah 16:1-13	Jeremiah's celibacy and message
Tuesday	Jeremiah 16:14-21	God will forgive Israel
Wednesday	John 7:1-9	Unbelief of Jesus' brothers
Thursday	Ezekiel 2:8-3:11	Ezekiel to eat the scroll
Friday	2 Corinthians 11:16-33	Paul's sufferings
Saturday	Psalms 119:81-88	The faithful persecuted

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