

July 4 - 5, 2026

Sixth Sunday after Pentecost Readings

First Reading

A Reading from Zechariah

Rejoice greatly, O daughter Zion!
Shout aloud, O daughter Jerusalem!
See, your king comes to you;
triumphant and victorious is he,
humble and riding on a donkey,
on a colt, the foal of a donkey.

He will cut off the chariot from Ephraim
and the war horse from Jerusalem;
and the battle bow shall be cut off,
and he shall command peace to the nations;
his dominion shall be from sea to sea
and from the River to the ends of the earth.

As for you also, because of the blood of my covenant with you,
I will set your prisoners free from the waterless pit.
Return to your stronghold, O prisoners of hope;
today I declare that I will restore to you double.

(pause)

Reader: **Word of God, word of Life.**

Congregation: Praise to you, O Christ.

Second Reading

A Reading from Romans

I do not understand my own actions.
For I do not do what I want,
but I do the very thing I hate.
Now if I do what I do not want,
I agree that the law is good.
But in fact it is no longer I who do it
but sin that dwells within me.
For I know that the good does not dwell within me,
that is, in my flesh.
For the desire to do the good lies close at hand,
but not the ability.
For I do not do the good I want,
but the evil I do not want is what I do.
Now if I do what I do not want,
it is no longer I who do it
but sin that dwells within me.

So I find it to be a law that,
when I want to do what is good,
evil lies close at hand.
For I delight in the law of God in my inmost self,
but I see in my members another law at war with the law of my mind,
making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members.
Wretched person that I am!
Who will rescue me from this body of death?
Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!

(pause)

Reader: **Word of God, word of Life.**

Congregation: Thanks be to God.

Gospel

A Proclamation of the Holy Gospel According to Matthew

Jesus prays:

“I thank you, Abba God, Creator of heaven and earth,
because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent
and have revealed them to infants;
yes, Abba, for such was your gracious will.
All things have been handed over to me by Abba God,
and no one knows the Son except the Abba God,
and no one knows Abba God except the Son
and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.

“Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens,
and I will give you rest.
Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me,
for I am gentle and humble in heart,
and you will find rest for your souls.
For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”

***Pastor:* The Gospel of the Lord.**

Congregation: Thanks be to God.