

**Readings for 20th June 2021—Pentecost +4**

**A reading from 1 Samuel chapter 17 beginning at verse 57. [17.57-18.5,10-16]**

**<sup>57</sup>On David's return from killing the Philistine, Abner took him and brought him before Saul, with the head of the Philistine in his hand.**

**<sup>58</sup>Saul said to him, 'Whose son are you, young man?'**

**And David answered,**

**'I am the son of your servant Jesse the Bethlehemite.'**

**<sup>18.1</sup>When David finished speaking to Saul, the soul of Jonathan was bound to the soul of David, and Jonathan loved him as his own soul.**

**<sup>2</sup>Saul took him that day and would not let him return to his father's house.**

**<sup>3</sup>Then Jonathan made a covenant with David, because he loved him as his own soul.**

**<sup>4</sup>Jonathan stripped himself of the robe that he was wearing, and gave it to David, and his armour, and even his sword and his bow and his belt.**

**<sup>5</sup>David went out and was successful wherever Saul sent him; as a result, Saul set him over the army.**

**And all the people, even the servants of Saul, approved.**

**<sup>10</sup>next day an evil spirit from God rushed upon Saul, and he raved within his house, while David was playing the lyre, as he did day by day. Saul had his spear in his hand;<sup>11</sup>and Saul threw the spear, for he thought, 'I will pin David to the wall.' But David eluded him twice.**

**<sup>12</sup>was afraid of David, because the LORD with him but had departed from Saul.**

**<sup>13</sup>So Saul removed him from his presence, and made him a commander of a thousand; and David marched out and came in, leading the army.**

**<sup>14</sup>David had success in all his undertakings; for the LORD was with him. <sup>15</sup>When Saul saw that he had great success, he stood in awe of him.**

**<sup>16</sup>But all Israel and Judah loved David; for it was he who marched out and came in leading them.**

**Hear the word of the Lord.**

***Thanks be to God.***

**Psalm 9:9-20**

9. The Lord is a strong tower to those that are oppressed:  
he is a tower of strength in a time of need.
- 10. All who heed your name will trust in you:  
for you have never forsaken those that seek you.**
11. O sing praises to the Lord who dwells in Zion:  
tell among the peoples what great things he has done,
- 12. For he that avenges blood has remembered the poor:  
he has not forgotten their cry.**
13. The Lord has been merciful toward me,  
he saw what I suffered from my foes:  
he raised me up again from the gates of death,
- 14. That I might tell all your praises in the gates of Zion:  
that I might rejoice in your deliverance.**
15. The nations have sunk into the pit they have dug for others:  
In the very snare they laid is their foot taken;
- 16. The Lord has declared himself and upheld the right:  
the wicked are trapped in the work of their own hands.**
17. The wicked shall be given over to death:  
and all the nations that forget God.
- 18. For the needy shall not always be forgotten:  
nor shall the hope of the poor perish for ever.**
19. Arise, Lord, let no human power prevail:  
let the nations be judged before you.
- 20. Put them in fear, O Lord:  
and let the nations know they are but human.**

**Glory to God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit:  
as in the beginning, so now, and for ever. Amen.**

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**A reading from Paul's Second Letter to the Corinthians chapter 6  
beginning at verse 1. [6.1-13]**

**<sup>1</sup>As we work together with him,  
we urge you also not to accept the grace of God in vain.**

**<sup>2</sup>For he says, 'At an acceptable time I have listened to you,**

and on a day of salvation I have helped you.'

See, now is the acceptable time; see, now is the day of salvation!

<sup>3</sup>We are putting no obstacle in anyone's way,

so that no fault may be found with our ministry,

<sup>4</sup>but as servants of God we have commended ourselves in every way: through great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, <sup>5</sup>beatings, imprisonments, riots, labours, sleepless nights, hunger;

<sup>6</sup>by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, holiness of spirit,

genuine love,<sup>7</sup>truthful speech, and the power of God;

with the weapons of righteousness for the right hand and for the left; <sup>8</sup>in honour and dishonour, in ill repute and good repute.

We are treated as impostors, and yet are true;

<sup>9</sup>as unknown, and yet are well known;

as dying, and see—we are alive;

as punished, and yet not killed;

<sup>10</sup>as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing;

as poor, yet making many rich;

as having nothing, and yet possessing everything.

<sup>11</sup>I have spoken frankly to you Corinthians;

our heart is wide open to you.

<sup>12</sup>There is no restriction in our affections, but only in yours.

<sup>13</sup>In return—I speak as to children—open wide your hearts also.

Hear the word of the Lord.

*Thanks be to God.*

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark. [4.35-41]

*Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.*

<sup>35</sup>that day, when evening had come, he said to them,

'Let us go across to the other side.'

<sup>36</sup>And leaving the crowd behind,

they took him with them in the boat, just as he was.

Other boats were with him.

<sup>37</sup>A great gale arose, and the waves beat into the boat,

so that the boat was already being swamped.

<sup>38</sup>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?'

<sup>39</sup>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.

<sup>40</sup>He said to them,

'Why are you afraid? Have you still no faith?'

<sup>41</sup>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?'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

*Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.*