



*“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.”*

- Mark 6:11

**St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church  
7<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost – July 7, 2024**

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Rev. Katie McNeal, Presiding Minister

Maizy Fisher, Director of Music Ministries

*We are delighted to have you worship with us this morning!  
Know that you are welcome here just as you are.*

*If you are looking for a church to call home, why not consider making this one your own? If this is your first time worshipping at St. John, please fill out the visitor information card stapled to your bulletin.*

*Everything you need to follow worship can be found in this bulletin. As you are comfortable, please rise when there is an \* and join in the congregational responses, noted in **bold**. All songs are marked with numbers. The red book in the pew has all the songs. Look for the large number in the upper corner of the page to find the correct song.*

*During the time of **Peace**, you are invited to turn to those around you and offer a word of peace. We suggest a handshake and saying, "Peace be with you." You are also welcomed to offer another gesture of peace (wave, fist-bump, smile, etc.). Hand sanitizer is available in each pew.*

*At the time of **Offering**, you are invited to share a gift. Envelopes are available in the pews if you prefer. Online gifts may be made using the QR code below:*



*You may also offer updates to our ongoing prayer list using the yellow cards in the pews and placing them in the offering plates. **Visitor information cards** and member attendance cards (attached to the front of the bulletin) may also be placed in the offering plates.*

*As Lutherans, we believe Christ is truly present in the elements of the Lord's Supper. At the time of **Holy Communion**, all baptized individuals are welcome to come forward via the center aisle, receive the elements, and return via the side aisles. We begin at the front of the right side, commune all on the right side, then we will invite the left side forward. When you come forward, you may receive the bread from the pastor (gluten free wafers are available), then pre-filled cups with wine or grape juice from the assisting minister. You may consume the elements after receiving them then place the empty cup in the tray held by the acolyte. Those who do not receive Holy Communion are welcome to come forward for a blessing.*

*If you need a **restroom**, restrooms are located on the bottom floor at the far side of the building from the elevator. Restrooms may be accessed either via the stairs in the rear of the sanctuary, the stairs by the Greeting Area, or the elevator.*

*A **playroom** is available by the elevator on the lower level for children who need a break from the worship service. An adult must stay with the child(ren). Children are also welcome to utilize the books and puzzles available in the Greeting Area on the top level by the elevator.*

As you prepare for worship, you are invited to fill out the blue prayer request forms located in each pew. The cards will be collected during our hymn of the day, and prayers will be offered during the prayers of intercession.

## PRELUDE

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

## GATHERING

*The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.*

### \*GATHERING SONG *We Are All One in Mission* (ELW 576)



1 We all are one in mis - sion; we all are one in call,  
2 We all are called for ser - vice, to wit-ness in God's name.  
3 Now let us be u - nit - ed, and let our song be heard.



our var-ied gifts u - nit - ed by Christ, the Lord of all.  
Our min - is - tries are dif - f'rent; our pur - pose is the same:  
Now let us be a ves - sel for God's re - deem-ing Word.



A sin - gle great com - mis - sion com - pels us from a - bove  
to touch the lives of oth - ers with God's sur - pris-ing grace,  
We all are one in mis - sion; we all are one in call,



to plan and work to - geth - er that all may know Christ's love.  
so ev - 'ry folk and na - tion may feel God's warm em - brace.  
our var - ied gifts u - nit - ed by Christ, the Lord of all.

## **\*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,  
who greets us in this and every season,  
whose word never fails,  
whose promise is sure.

**Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of our neighbors.

Merciful God,  
**we confess that we have sinned.**  
**We have hurt our community.**  
**We have squandered your blessings.**  
**We have hoarded your bounty.**  
**In the name of Jesus,**  
**forgive us and grant us your mercy.**  
*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Righteous God,  
**we confess that we have sinned.**  
**We have failed to be honest.**  
**We have lacked the courage to speak.**  
**We have spoken falsely.**  
**In the name of Jesus,**  
**forgive us and grant us your mercy.**  
*Silence is kept for reflection.*

God is a cup of cold water when we thirst.  
God offers boundless grace when we fail.  
In God's goodness, we are free to claim the gift of God's mercy:  
we are freed and forgiven  
in the name of † Jesus Christ.  
**Amen.**

**\*Canticle of Praise *Now the Feast and Celebration* (ELW 167)**

*Refrain*



Now the feast and cel - e - bra - tion, all of cre - a - tion



sings for joy to the God of life and love and free-dom;



praise and glo - ry for - ev - er - more!



1 Now is the feast of the Lamb once slain, whose blood has



*Refrain*  
freed and u - nit-ed us to be one great peo-ple of God.



2 Pow - er and rich-es, wis-dom and might, all hon - or and



*Refrain*  
glo - ry to Christ for - ev - er.



3 For God has come to dwell with us, to make us peo-ple of



*Refrain*  
God; to make all things new.

## \*PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

**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.**

## FIRST READING: Ezekiel 2:1-5

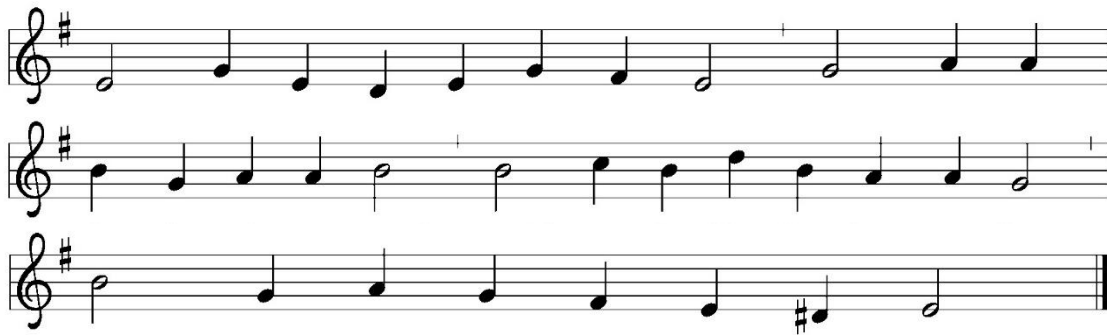
A reading from Ezekiel.

<sup>1</sup>[A voice] said to me: O mortal, stand up on your feet, and I will speak with you.<sup>2</sup>And when he spoke to me, a spirit entered into me and set me on my feet; and I heard him speaking to me.<sup>3</sup>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. <sup>4</sup>The descendants are impudent and stubborn. I am sending you to them, and you shall say to them, “Thus says the Lord GOD.” <sup>5</sup>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 word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM: Psalm 123



1. To you, O Lord, we lift our eyes,  
To you enthroned in heaven above;  
As servants wait for those they serve,  
So we look up and wait God's love.

2. Have mercy on us now, O Lord;  
Contempt has been our lot too long.  
Too long have we been mocked and scorned,  
Derided by the proud and strong.

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

A reading from 2 Corinthians.

<sup>2</sup>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. <sup>3</sup>And I know that such a person—whether in the body or out of the body I do not know; God knows—<sup>4</sup>was caught up into Paradise and heard things that are not to be told, that no mortal is permitted to repeat. <sup>5</sup>On behalf of such a one I will boast, but on my own behalf I will not boast, except of my weaknesses. <sup>6</sup>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, <sup>7</sup>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. <sup>8</sup>Three times I appealed to the Lord about this, that it would leave me, <sup>9</sup>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. <sup>10</sup>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 word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## \*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

*Repeat alleluia*

## \*GOSPEL READING: Mark 6:1-13

The holy gospel according to Mark.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup>[Jesus] came to his hometown, and his disciples followed him. <sup>2</sup>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! <sup>3</sup>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. <sup>4</sup>Then Jesus said to them, “Prophets are not without honor, except in their hometown, and among their own kin, and in their own house.” <sup>5</sup>And he could do no deed of power there, except that he laid his hands on a few sick people and cured them. <sup>6</sup>And he was amazed at their unbelief.

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

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

## CHILDREN’S SERMON

### SERMON

**\*HYMN OF THE DAY** *For by Grace You Have Been Saved* (ELW 598)

(Blue prayer cards are collected)



1 For by grace you have been saved and e - ven faith is not your  
 2 "So my grace is all - suf - fi - cient for each child who is my  
 3 So this weak - ness with con - tent - ment I'll ac - cept now in my -



own, it's the gift of God for you and not the works that you have  
 own, for my strength is now made per - fect for each child who is my  
 self, all my hard - ships, pains, and griefs that still lie deep with - in my -



done. Don't let an - y - bod - y boast, for this is  
 own. When you're weak, then you are strong, for this is  
 self. When I'm weak, then I am strong, for this is



God's great gift. A - men.  
 God's great gift." A - men.  
 God's great gift. A - men. A - men.

**\*APOSTLES' CREED**

Let us confess our faith in the words of the Apostles' Creed

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,  
 who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
 born of the virgin Mary,  
 suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
 was crucified, died, and was buried;  
 he descended to the dead.\***

**On the third day he rose again;  
 he ascended into heaven,  
 he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
 and he will come 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 mold 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 Bob, Geneva, Cherry, Winnie, Henry, Harry, Ellen, Ruth, Sally, Katie, Debi, Anne, those on our prayer list, all whom we remember aloud or in our hearts and all who suffer in any way with the oil of healing and grant them renewal. 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: you hear our prayers, spoken and unspoken. We lift now the prayers that are on the hearts and minds of this congregation this day (*blue prayer cards are read*). 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.**

## **\*PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

Let us share Christ's peace with one another.

## MEAL

*God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.*

### OFFERING

#### OFFERTORY HYMN *Listen, God is Calling* (ELW 513)

*Rise on 3rd verse*

*Refrain*  
Leader All



Ne - no, ne - no la - ke Mu - ngu la - ku - i - ta we - we,  
Lis - ten, lis - ten, God is call - ing, through the Word in - vit - ing,

1 2



ne - no la wo - ko - vu, te - na je - ma. ma.  
of - fer - ing for - give - ness, com - fort, and joy. joy.

Leader All



Ye - su a - li - se - ma, Mka - hu - bi - ri.  
1 Je - sus gave his man - date: share the good news  
2 Let none be for - got - ten through - out the world.  
3 Help us to be faith - ful, stand - ing stead - fast,

Leader All *Refrain*



Ne - no la - ke Mu - ngu la wo - ko - vu.  
that he came to save us and set us free.  
In the tri - une name of God go and bap - tize.  
walk - ing in your pre - cepts, led by your Word.

### \*OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

God of field and forest, sea and sky,  
you are the giver of all good things.  
Sustain us with these gifts of your creation,  
and multiply your graciousness in us,  
that the world may be fed with your love,  
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**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 and salutary  
that we should at all times and in all places  
offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord,  
through Christ our Lord;  
who on this day overcame death and the grave,  
and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.  
And so, 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, God of pow - er and  
might, heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -  
san - na in the high - est, 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, ho - san - na in the high - est.

You are holy, almighty and merciful God, and great is your glory.  
You so loved the world that you gave your only Son,  
that whoever believes in him may not perish but have eternal life.  
Having come into the world, he fulfilled for us your holy will  
and accomplished our salvation.

To explain God's love, to show it and share it,  
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, therefore, his good command,  
his life-giving Passion and death,  
his glorious resurrection and ascension, and his promise to come again,  
we give thanks to you, Lord God Almighty,  
not as we ought, but as we are able;  
and we ask you to accept our praise and thanksgiving,  
and, with your Word and Holy Spirit, to bless us,  
and these your own gifts of bread and wine;  
that we and all who share in the body and blood of your Son  
may be filled with heavenly peace and joy,  
and, receiving the forgiveness of sin, may be made holy,  
and have our place with all your saints.

All blessing, praise, and thanks to you, Holy God,  
through Jesus Christ, by your Spirit, in your church, without end. **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

Christ has set the table with more than enough for all.  
Come!

*Through this meal, we know forgiveness, life, and salvation as the blessings of God's sacramental grace. In response to Jesus' invitation, all baptized individuals are welcome to come forward and experience the real presence of Christ in the bread and wine. Those who do not receive the bread and wine are invited to come forward for a blessing.*

*Grape juice and gluten free wafers are available upon request. Communion may also be brought back to the pews for those who are unable to come forward.*

## COMMUNION SONG *Lamb of God*



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.

## DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

## COMMUNION HYMN *Here Is Bread* (ELW 483)

(1) Here is bread, here is wine  
Christ is with us, he is with us  
Break the bread, drink the wine  
Christ is with us here

*Refrain: In this bread there is healing  
In this cup there's life forever  
In this moment, by the Spirit  
Christ is with us here*

(2) Here is grace, here is peace  
Christ is with us, he is with us  
Know his grace, find his peace  
Feast on Jesus here

*Refrain*

(3) Here we are, joined in one  
Christ is with us, he is with us  
We'll proclaim, till he comes  
Jesus crucified

*Refrain*

## COMMUNION HYMN *He Comes to Us as One Unknown* (ELW 737)



1 He comes to us as one un-known, a breath un - seen, un -  
2 He comes when souls in si - lence lie and thoughts of day de -  
3 He comes to us in sound of seas, the o - cean's fume and  
4 He comes in love as once he came by flesh and blood and  
5 He comes in truth when faith is grown; be - lieved, o - beyed, a -



heard; as though with - in a heart of stone, or shriv - eled seed in  
part; half - seen up - on the in - ward eye, a fall - ing star a -  
foam; yet small and still up - on the breeze, a wind that stirs the  
birth; to bear with - in our mor - tal frame a life, a death, a  
dored; the Christ in all the scrip - tures shown, as yet un - seen, but



dark - ness sown, a pulse of be - ing stirred, a pulse of be - ing stirred.  
cross the sky of night with - in the heart, of night with - in the heart.  
tops of trees, a voice to call us home, a voice to call us home.  
sav - ing name, for ev - 'ry child of earth, for ev - 'ry child of earth.  
not un - known, our Sav - ior and our Lord, our Sav - ior and our Lord.

**\*POST-COMMUNION BLESSING**

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and preserve you in grace.  
**Amen**

**\*POST-COMMUNION PRAYER**

Let us pray.

We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life. In your mercy, strengthen us through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

**\*BLESSING**

The God who calls across the cosmos and speaks in the smallest seed  
bless, keep, and sustain you ✠ now and to the end of the age.

**Amen.**

**\*SENDING SONG *To Be your Presence* (ELW 546)**



1 To be your pres - ence is our mis - sion here, to show com -  
2 To be your pres - ence is our mis - sion bold, to feed the  
3 To be your pres - ence is our mis - sion blest, to speak for  
4 We are your heart, O Christ, your hands and voice, to serve your



pas - sion's face and lis - t'ning ear, to be your heart of mer - cy  
poor and shel - ter home - less cold, to be your hands of jus - tice,  
all the bro - ken and op - pressed, to be your voice of hope, your  
peo - ple is our call and choice, and in this mis - sion we, the



ev - er near,  
right up - hold, al - le - lu - ia!  
love ex - pressed,  
church, re - joice,

**\*DISMISSAL**

[Jesus said,] "Go into all the world and proclaim the good news to the whole creation."

*Mark 16:15*

Go in peace. You are the body of Christ.

**Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE**

## Assisting in worship today:

**Assisting Minister: Denise Hager**

**Acolyte: Ava N**

**Ushers:**

**Greeters: Ruth Ann Tully**

**Offering: Anna K & Nathan K**

**Attendance last week: 55 + 3 zoom**

## Notes for the day's texts:

Where does power come from? The usual answers—family connections, reputation, possessions—are all rejected in this reading from Mark's gospel. Jesus' power is not only independent of his family connection—it is hindered by it. While it isn't entirely clear why the people of Nazareth reject Jesus, the fact that they do may sound familiar to us. How often do we find exactly what we expect when we encounter something new? How open are we, really, to the possibility that God's power might come from an unexpected corner?

Perhaps Jesus sends his disciples out stripped of their possession precisely so that *they* are ready to witness to God's power in a new way. They go without any of the usual trappings of security or wealth, with no guarantee that their ministry will be received. Nevertheless, Jesus' teaching continues to astound, and the word continues to spread.

The willingness to bear witness, even when we are not certain of answered prayer or mission success, is a theme that unites today's readings. Even the Psalm invites us to let go of results in favor of relationship. Paul's sometimes confusing logic about spiritual experiences becomes clear as he sums up God's word to him: "My grace is sufficient for you . . ." That is a powerful word, which can make almost any experience an opportunity to witness to Christ's power.

## Today's Music

*We Are All One in Mission.* Text: Rusty Edwards, b. 1955, Music: Finnish folk tune; arr. hymnal version. Hope Publishing Company (ASCAP) / Public Domain / Augsburg Fortress.

*Now the Feast and Celebration.* Text and music: Marty Haugen, b. 1950. GIA Publications, Inc.

*For by Grace You Have Been Saved.* Text: Kari Tikka, b. 1946; tr. Michael Harper, Music: Kari Tikka. Boosey & Hawkes, Inc.

*Listen, God is Calling.* Text: Tanzanian traditional; tr. Howard S. Olson, b. 1922, Music: Tanzanian tune; arr. Austin C. Lovelace, b. 1919. Public Domain / Augsburg Fortress.

Psalm 123. Text: The New Metrical Psalter, Christopher L. Webber, © 2008. Music: ERHALT UNS, HERR, J. Klug, *Geistliche Lieder*, 1543, Public Domain.

*Here Is Bread.* Text: Graham Kendrick, b. 1950, Music: Graham Kendrick. Make Way Music.

*He Comes to Us as One Unknown.* Text: Timothy Dudley-Smith, b. 1926, Music: C. Hubert H. Parry, 1848-1918. Hope Publishing Company (ASCAP) / Public Domain.

*To Be Your Presence.* Text: Delores Dufner, OSB, b. 1939, Music: Charles V. Stanford, 1852–1924. GIA Publications, Inc. / Public Domain

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## Next Week's Readings

Amos 7:7-15 *The sign of the plumb line: God's judgment on Israel*

Psalm 85:8-13 *I will listen to what the Lord God is saying*

Ephesians 1:3-14 *Chosen in Christ to live to the praise of God's glory*

Mark 6:14-29 *The death of John the Baptist*