



## July 25, 2021: The Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

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### Collect of the Day

The Rev. M. Lise Hildebrandt

God of all food and all relationships, you revealed in the feeding of the five thousand the true identity of Jesus as your equal; continue to open our hearts and lives to this truth, and may we experience his presence in all the meals we share with others day by day and week by week. Amen.

### The First Lesson

2 Samuel 11:1-15

In the spring of the year, the time when kings go out to battle, David sent Joab with his officers and all Israel with him; they ravaged the Ammonites, and besieged Rabbah. But David remained at Jerusalem.

It happened, late one afternoon, when David rose from his couch and was walking about on the roof of the king's house, that he saw from the roof a woman bathing; the woman was very beautiful. David sent someone to inquire about the woman. It was reported, "This is Bathsheba daughter of Eliam, the wife of Uriah the Hittite." So David sent messengers to get her, and she came to him, and he lay with her. (Now she was purifying herself after her period.) Then she returned to her house. The woman conceived; and she sent and told David, "I am pregnant."

So David sent word to Joab, "Send me Uriah the Hittite." And Joab sent Uriah to David. When Uriah came to him, David asked how Joab and the people fared, and how the war was going. Then David said to Uriah, "Go down to your house, and wash your feet." Uriah went out of the king's house, and there followed him a present from the king. But Uriah slept at the entrance of the king's house with all the servants of his lord, and did not go down to his house. When they told David, "Uriah did not go down to his house," David said to Uriah, "You have just come from a journey. Why did you not go down to your house?" Uriah said to David, "The ark and Israel and Judah remain in booths; and my lord Joab and the servants of my lord are camping in the open field; shall I then go to my house, to eat and to drink, and to lie with my wife? As you live, and as your soul lives, I will not do such a thing." Then David said to Uriah, "Remain here today also, and tomorrow I will send you back." So Uriah remained in Jerusalem that day. On the next day, David invited him to eat and drink in his presence and made him drunk; and in the evening he went out to lie on his couch with the servants of his lord, but he did not go down to his house.

In the morning David wrote a letter to Joab, and sent it by the hand of Uriah. In the letter he wrote, "Set Uriah in the forefront of the hardest fighting, and then draw back from him, so that he may be struck down and die."

### Psalm 14

*Psalter for the Christian People, p. 23*

The fools say in their heart, "There is no God." \*  
**All are corrupt and commit abominable acts;  
there is none who does any good.**

The LORD looks down from heaven upon us all, \*  
**to see if there is any who is wise,  
if there is one who seeks after God.**

Every one has proved faithless; all alike have turned bad; \*  
**there is none who does good; no, not one.**

Have they no knowledge, all those evildoers \*  
**who eat up my people like bread  
and do not call upon the LORD?**

See how they tremble with fear, \*  
**because God is in the company of the righteous.**

Their aim is to confound the plans of the afflicted, \*  
**but the LORD is their refuge.**

Oh, that Israel's deliverance would come out of Zion! \*  
**when the LORD restores the fortunes of his people,  
Jacob will rejoice and Israel be glad.**

## **The Second Lesson**

**Ephesians 3:14-21**

I bow my knees before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth takes its name. I pray that, according to the riches of his glory, he may grant that you may be strengthened in your inner being with power through his Spirit, and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, as you are being rooted and grounded in love. I pray that you may have the power to comprehend, with all the saints, what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

Now to him who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

## **Hymn**

God, we love this congregation

Tune: *Holy Manna*

## **The Gospel**

**John 6:1-21**

Jesus went to the other side of the Sea of Galilee, also called the Sea of Tiberias. A large crowd kept following him, because they saw the signs that he was doing for the sick. Jesus went up the mountain and sat down there with his disciples. Now the Passover, the festival of the Jews, was near. When he looked up and saw a large crowd coming toward him, Jesus said to Philip, "Where are we to buy bread for these people to eat?" He said this to test him, for he himself knew what he was going to do. Philip answered him, "Six months' wages would not buy enough bread for each of them to get a little." One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, said to him, "There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish. But what are they among so many people?" Jesus said, "Make the people sit down." Now there was a great deal of grass in the place; so they sat down, about five thousand in all. Then Jesus took the loaves, and when he had given thanks, he

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distributed them to those who were seated; so also the fish, as much as they wanted. When they were satisfied, he told his disciples, “Gather up the fragments left over, so that nothing may be lost.” So they gathered them up, and from the fragments of the five barley loaves, left by those who had eaten, they filled twelve baskets. When the people saw the sign that he had done, they began to say, “This is indeed the prophet who is to come into the world.”

## Hymn 707

Take my life and let it be consecrated

## Prayers of the People

*This week in the Anglican Cycle of Prayer, we pray for The Scottish Episcopal Church. Michael, our Presiding Bishop; Alan and, our Bishops; Amy, Dean of our Cathedral; Carol, our Regional Canon; and Nick, our priest. Also, our companion parish at St. Luc's, Lazil, Haiti and our siblings at the MANNA Community in Boston.*

*This week in the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, we pray for the parishes of the Mystic Valley Deanery: Church of the Good Shepherd, Reading; St. John's Church, Saugus; Emmanuel Church, Wakefield; The Third Order, Society of St. Francis*

*In the Needham Cycle of Prayer, we pray for the Good Shepherd Christian Fellowship and Congregation Ruach Israel.*

*The altar flowers are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Richard Davies from Irma Davies.*

*Your prayers are requested for Harry and Jeanette, Mark, Andy M., Alex, Penny, Maya, Ed B., Glenn, Madison, Anita, Kate, Jim and Debbie, Lois C., Sarah, Gail, Thomas, Maureen, and Linda F. And prayer for all serving our country – especially, remembering Timmy, Tom Z., Emmy, Jack, Sean, Ian, Colin, Tim, and Andrew.*

*This week's music is gifted by the Carr Family.*

## Those Who Serve

*We have opportunities for lay assistants to serve during worship throughout the year. If you haven't been involved before, now is a great time to try it out! [Sign up online](#).*

*Serving today:*

*Annie Russell, Tech Verger*

*Debby Rempis, Lector*

*Steve Sussman, Pianist*

## FELLOWSHIP HOUR THANKS

We thank **Phil and Priscilla Trussell** for organizing lemonade time for us today. Join our hybrid coffee hour on [Zoom](#). If you are interested in hosting this summer, please get in touch with [Debby](#).

And thanks everyone, for wearing nametags.

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