

Sunday, July 4, 2010
Lectionary 14
Proper 9
Sixth Sunday after Pentecost
Holy Communion

Worship Assistants

FIRST READING: Isaiah 66:10–14

A reading from _____.

Those who returned from the exile found that the hopes for the glorious restoration of Judah were not completely fulfilled. For these disappointed people, the prophet envisions salvation in the image of a nursing woman. Mother Jerusalem and a mothering God remind the community how they are sustained and supported.

¹⁰Rejoice with Jerusalem, and be glad for her,

all you who love her;
rejoice with her in joy,
all you who mourn over her —

¹¹that you may nurse and be satisfied
from her consoling breast;
that you may drink deeply with delight
from her glorious bosom.

¹²For thus says the LORD:

I will extend prosperity to her like a river,
and the wealth of the nations like an overflowing stream;
and you shall nurse and be carried on her arm,
and dandled on her knees.

¹³As a mother comforts her child,
so I will comfort you;
you shall be comforted in Jerusalem.

¹⁴You shall see, and your heart shall rejoice;
your bodies shall flourish like the grass;
and it shall be known that the hand of the LORD is with his servants,
and his indignation is against his enemies.\

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 66:1–9

Refrain: All the earth bows down before you and sings out your name. (Ps. 66:4)

¹Be joyful in God, | all you lands;
 be joyful, | all the earth.
²**Sing the glory | of God's name;
 sing the glory | of God's praise.**
³Say to God, "How awesome | are your deeds!
 Because of your great strength your enemies | cringe before you.
⁴**All the earth bows | down before you,
 sings to you, sings | out your name." **R****
⁵Come now and see the | works of God,
 how awesome are God's deeds | toward all people.
⁶**God turned the sea into dry land, so that they went through the wa- | ter on foot,
 and there we re- | joiced in God.**
⁷Ruling forever in might, God keeps watch o- | ver the nations;
 let no rebels ex- | alt themselves.
⁸**Bless our | God, you peoples;
 let the sound of | praise be heard.**
⁹Our God has kept us a- | mong the living
 and has not allowed our | feet to slip. **R**

SECOND READING: Galatians 6:[1–6] 7–16

A reading from _____.

In the close of his letter to the Galatians, Paul encourages them to live as people made right with God through faith in Jesus Christ. Here Paul offers practical advice about how believers exercise common concern for one other in "the family of faith."

My friends, if anyone is detected in a transgression, you who have received the Spirit should restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness. Take care that you yourselves are not tempted. ²Bear one another's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ. ³For if those who are nothing think they are something, they deceive themselves. ⁴All must test their own work; then that work, rather than their neighbor's work, will become a cause for pride. ⁵For all must carry their own loads.

⁶Those who are taught the word must share in all good things with their teacher.

⁷Do not be deceived; God is not mocked, for you reap whatever you sow. ⁸If you sow to your own flesh, you will reap corruption from the flesh; but if you sow to the Spirit, you will reap eternal life from the Spirit. ⁹So let us not grow weary in doing what is right, for we will reap at harvest time, if we do not give up. ¹⁰So then, whenever we have an opportunity, let us work for the good of all, and especially for those of the family of faith.

¹¹See what large letters I make when I am writing in my own hand! ¹²It is those who want to make a good showing in the flesh that try to compel you to be circumcised — only that they may not be persecuted for the cross of Christ. ¹³Even the circumcised do not themselves obey the law, but they want you to be circumcised so that they may boast about your flesh.

¹⁴May I never boast of anything except the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has

been crucified to me, and I to the world. ¹⁵For neither circumcision nor uncircumcision is anything; but a new creation is everything! ¹⁶As for those who will follow this rule — peace be upon them, and mercy, and upon the Israel of God.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL: Luke 10:1–11, 16–20

The holy gospel according to _____.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus commissions harvesters and laborers to go where he would go and do what he would do. Risking hardship and danger in exchange for the experience of great joy, they offer peace and healing as signs that the reign of God is near.

After this the Lord appointed seventy others and sent them on ahead of him in pairs to every town and place where he himself intended to go. ²He said to them, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest. ³Go on your way. See, I am sending you out like lambs into the midst of wolves. ⁴Carry no purse, no bag, no sandals; and greet no one on the road. ⁵Whatever house you enter, first say, 'Peace to this house!' ⁶And if anyone is there who shares in peace, your peace will rest on that person; but if not, it will return to you. ⁷Remain in the same house, eating and drinking whatever they provide, for the laborer deserves to be paid. Do not move about from house to house.

⁸Whenever you enter a town and its people welcome you, eat what is set before you; ⁹cure the sick who are there, and say to them, 'The kingdom of God has come near to you.' ¹⁰But whenever you enter a town and they do not welcome you, go out into its streets and say, ¹¹'Even the dust of your town that clings to our feet, we wipe off in protest against you. Yet know this: the kingdom of God has come near.' ¹⁶Whoever listens to you listens to me, and whoever rejects you rejects me, and whoever rejects me rejects the one who sent me.

¹⁷The seventy returned with joy, saying, "Lord, in your name even the demons submit to us!" ¹⁸He said to them, "I watched Satan fall from heaven like a flash of lightning. ¹⁹See, I have given you authority to tread on snakes and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy; and nothing will hurt you. ²⁰Nevertheless, do not rejoice at this, that the spirits submit to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven."

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Gathered together as God's people in Christ Jesus, let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

Almighty God, send forth missionaries from your church to all corners of the world, carrying with them words of peace. Gather all of your people in mission to proclaim that the kingdom of heaven is near. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Fill gardens and fields with nourishing food that you produce for your creatures. Bring forth a bounty from the earth and give us guidance in distributing the harvest to every living creature. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Send your Spirit of gentleness and reconciliation to all nations that are seeking to recover from periods of strife, injustice, or disaster in their histories (*especially*). Anoint them with your healing and build for them a better future. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Bring the kingdom of heaven near to all people who long to know the warmth and comfort of your love (*especially*). Attend to all living with illness, hurt, or anger, and pour out your compassion upon them. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Give grateful hearts to all who enjoy freedom, and lead us to exercise our freedoms with judgment and care. Assist all those who still seek liberty in this world, and bind us together in hope. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Remembering with gratitude those who have died recently, and all who have gone before us in faith, strengthen your people with the promise of life everlasting and the coming of your holy reign. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

Amen.

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