

Readings + 5th Sunday after Pentecost, Lect. 13 A + June 28, 2026

Prayer of the Day

O God, you direct our lives by your grace, and your words of justice and mercy reshape the world. Mold us into a people who welcome your word and serve one another, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen

First Reading Jeremiah 28:5-9

⁵The prophet Jeremiah spoke to the prophet Hananiah in the presence of the priests and all the people who were standing in the house of the LORD, ⁶and the prophet Jeremiah said, “Amen! May the LORD do so; may the LORD fulfill the words that you have prophesied and bring back to this place from Babylon the vessels of the house of the LORD and all the exiles.

⁷But listen now to this word that I speak in your hearing and in the hearing of all the people. ⁸The prophets who preceded you and me from ancient times prophesied war, famine, and pestilence against many countries and great realms. ⁹As for the prophet who prophesies peace, when the word of that prophet comes true, then it will be known that the LORD has truly sent the prophet.”

Psalmody Psalm 89:1-4, 15-18

Your love, O LORD, forever will I sing; from age to age my mouth will proclaim your faithfulness.

For I am persuaded that your steadfast love is established forever; you have set your faithfulness firmly in the heavens.

“I have made a covenant with my chosen one; I have sworn an oath to David my servant:

‘I will establish your line forever, and preserve your throne for all generations.’ ”

Happy are the people who know the festal shout!
They walk, O LORD, in the light of your presence.

They rejoice daily in your name; they are jubilant in your righteousness.

For you are the glory of their strength, and by your favor our might is exalted.

Truly, our shield belongs to the LORD; our king to the Holy One of Israel.

Second Reading Romans 6:12-23

Paul writes: ¹²Do not let sin reign in your mortal bodies, so that you obey their desires. ³No longer present any parts of your body to sin as instruments of unrighteousness, but present yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life, and present your bodies to God as instruments of righteousness. ¹⁴For sin will have no dominion over you, since you are not under law but under grace.

¹⁵What then? Should we sin because we are not under law but under grace? By no means! ¹⁶Do you not know that, if you present yourselves to anyone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of the one whom you obey, either of sin, which leads to death, or of obedience, which leads to righteousness? ¹⁷But thanks be to God that you who were slaves of sin have become obedient from the heart to the form of teaching to which you were entrusted, ¹⁸and that you, having been set free from sin, have become enslaved to righteousness. ¹⁹I am speaking in human terms because of your limitations. For just as you once presented the parts of your body as slaves to impurity and lawlessness, so now present your bodies as slaves to righteousness, leading to sanctification.

²⁰When you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness. ²¹So what fruit did you then gain from the things of which you now are ashamed? The end of those things is death. ²²But now that you have been freed from sin and enslaved to God, the fruit you have leads to sanctification, and the end is eternal life. ²³For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Holy Gospel Matthew 10:40-42

Mark also has a version of verse 42, and John has a version of verse 40.

Jesus said to the twelve, while sending them out to preach: ⁴⁰ “Whoever welcomes you welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me. ⁴¹ Whoever welcomes a prophet in

the name of a prophet will receive a prophet’s reward, and whoever welcomes a righteous person in the name of a righteous person will receive the reward of the righteous, ⁴² and whoever gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones in the name of a disciple—I tell you the truth, none of these will lose their reward.”