

KEEPING A HOLY LIFE

Seventh Sunday after Pentecost – July 11, 2021

Amos 7:7-15
Psalm 85:1-13
Ephesians 1:3-14
Mark 6:14-29

Monday, July 12

Amos 5:1-9
Acts 21:27-39
Psalm 142

Thursday, July 15

Jeremiah 10:1-16
Colossians 1:15-23
Psalm 23

Tuesday, July 13

Amos 9:1-4
Acts 23:12-35
Psalm 142

Friday, July 16

Jeremiah 10:17-25
Acts 17:16-31
Psalm 23

Wednesday, July 14

Amos 9:11-15
Luke 7:31-35
Psalm 142

Saturday, July 17

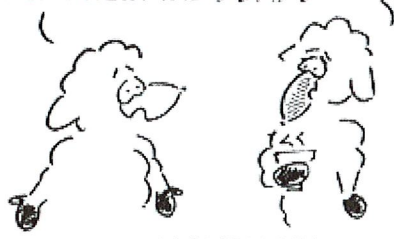
Jeremiah 12:1-13
Luke 18:35-43
Psalm 23

Prayer of the Day – O God, from You come all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works. Give to us, Your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey Your commandments; and also that we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may live in peace and quietness, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Readings for Next Sunday: 8 Pentecost – July 18, 2021

Jeremiah 23:1-6
Psalm 23
Ephesians 2:11-22
Mark 6:30-44

WOW, HEROD IS A TRAIN
WRECK! HE REALLY
THINKS JESUS IS JOHN
BACK FROM THE DEAD?
SO IT
SEEMS.

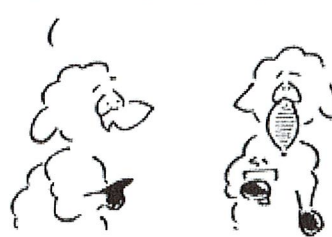


WWW.AGNUSDAY.ORG

HEROD MAKES A MESS
OF THINGS, BUT GOD'S
WORD WILL NOT BE SILENCED.
IT WILL HAVE ITS WAY, EVEN
WHEN YOU'VE LOST YOUR WAY.



OR YOUR HEAD!



MARK 6:14-29

© WETZSTEIN 12.07.11

Listening for the Promise

Seventh Sunday after Pentecost – July 11, 2021

“...had a grudge against him and wanted to put him to death.” (Mark 6:19) Though we don’t like to admit this, the Christian life is not always an easy life. Unfortunately, the Christian life can be difficult as it is not all comfort, blessing, reward, and joy. The world resists Jesus and silences Christians because they tell the truth to power. In a country of religious freedom like ours, today’s disciples of Jesus should expect to receive some resistance from those who hold authority and power because Jesus’ people tell the truth. What a challenging reading this is! At a time when most people are enjoying the lazy days of summer, the church talks about politics, power, and violence. The story of John the Baptist, is about a violent, senseless murder by government order. Senseless? John was executed because he told the truth to a powerful couple. He wasn’t murdered because Herod didn’t enjoy John’s preaching but because John spoke the words that nobody else dared to speak. What are we to make of this tragic story placed right in the center of Mark’s Gospel? It is a violent, horrible event that casts a shadow over Jesus. Some scholars agree the story of the death of John is a prefigurement of the death of Jesus. Is Mark trying to tell us that John’s death is a preview of Jesus’s death? Remember Jesus sending out the disciples? Mark places the death of John right after the disciples’ sending and their report of success against demons. Is this story meant as a warning to the disciples who were sent out on mission? Or perhaps we should ask ourselves, “When’s the last time I’ve been threatened because I told God’s truth?” Let us pray: Lord Jesus, help us to be more courageous in following you. Help us when we run from the conflict that sometimes shows up when you move in our world. Give us the strength to stand up to the world’s criticism, opposition, and resistance. Help us to be bold in speaking and living out the truth as you give it to us. In a world where the powerful maintain their power through lies and deception, where we love our security and comfort and run from sometimes painful truths, help us to be people who tell the truth because we trust you, the Lord who is not only the way and the life, but also the truth. Amen..... *Sola Worship Resource — Weekly Devotional © 2020, Sola Publishing (www.solapublishing.com), written by Amy Little. Scripture taken from ESV Bible® (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®), copyright ©2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.*