



## KEEPING A HOLY LIFE

6<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Epiphany – February 13, 2022

Jeremiah 17:5-8

Psalm 1

1 Corinthians 15:1-20

Luke 6:17-26

Monday, February 14

2 Kings 24:18—25:21

1 Corinthians 15:20-34

Psalm 120

Thursday, February 17

Genesis 43:16-34

Romans 8:1-11

Psalm 37:1-11,39-40

Tuesday, February 15

Ezra 1:1-11

2 Corinthians 1:12-19

Psalm 120

Friday, February 18

Genesis 44:1-17

1 John 2:12-17

Psalm 37:1-11,39-40

Wednesday, February 16

Jeremiah 22:11-17

Luke 11:37-52

Psalm 120

Saturday, February 19

Genesis 44:18-34

Luke 12:57-59

Psalm 37:1-11,39-40

**Prayer of the Day** – Almighty God, You are the strength of all who put their trust in You. Because of the weakness of our human nature we can do no good thing apart from You. Help us to keep Your Word, that we may receive the blessings You so freely give to those who love you. Make us like trees planted by flowing streams, that we would thrive in Your love and keep Your commandments all our days. We pray this through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Readings for next Sunday: 7<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Epiphany – February 20, 2022

Genesis 45:3-15

Psalm 103:1-13

1 Corinthians 15:21-26, 30-42

Luke 6:27-38



### Listening for the Promise

#### Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany – February 13, 2022

“Blessed are you... Woe to you...” (Luke 6:17-26)

A couple of Sundays ago, Jesus preached his first sermon at his hometown synagogue in Nazareth. The congregational reaction to Jesus’s sermon did not go well as they rose up and tried to kill him! Today, Jesus is again in the pulpit preaching a couple of sermons. Which is being preached to you? First Sermon: Bless you, all you poor. The kingdoms of this world are helping the rich get richer and the poor get poorer. Good news! In God’s kingdom, those the world made poor will be made rich. How fortunate are those who are hungry. In God’s coming kingdom, there will be more than enough food. You’re lucky if you are weeping. Your tears will turn to laughter. Blessed are you when people hate you. Rejoice, your reward in heaven is great. End of the first sermon. Was God talking directly to you? Did you hear this sermon as good news for you? Second Sermon. Bad news for those of you who have lots of stuff. You have already received the best that this world has to offer. Now that’s over. Those of you who have fat pension plans, big houses, big garages, and big cars, now you will have less. You are about to feel emptiness and hunger. Bad luck for those who are happy, joyful, content, and satisfied. Unfortunately, it’s your turn to mourn and weep. Bad times ahead for whom everybody is your friend and nobody is your enemy. Unfortunately, you are about to see how the other half lives. End of sermon two. Were you comfortable with either sermon? Which sermon did you find Jesus speaking directly to you? Which sermon did you hear with a sense of relief? Which sermon made you squirm? Jesus says he is preaching good news. One sermon sounds like really good news for some of us. The other sermon sounds like bad news for some of us. Where do these two sermons find you? If you are feeling content, accomplished, and satisfied, then this sermon is not one of your favorites. But if you are feeling empty, mourning loss, overwhelmed by the lack of hope in your life, then maybe Jesus’s sermon is good news for you. Rejoice, God’s kingdom is for you! Two sermons delivered by the same Jesus. How do you hear them? Law and Gospel? Judgment or grace? Blessings or woes?.....*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.*