



About the Readings on 6.30.24

Sunday, June 26–July 2

We continue through Mark's gospel and Paul's correspondence as we share in the bread and wine, Jesus coming in surprising ways also to our bleeding selves.

Lamentations 3:22-33

The passage from Lamentations is attached to Mark 5 as if the bleeding woman, the grieving family, and we who assemble all can use these words to plead to God for salvation. That the sufferer gives "cheek to the smiter" becomes a detail in the passion narratives.

The Psalm for the Day

In response to the hopeful prayer from Lamentations, we praise God in [Psalm 30](#). Like the bleeding woman, we were afraid, but God has turned our wailing into dancing. Like the dead girl, we have been restored to life.

2 Corinthians 8:7-15

This passage concerning the needs of the church in Jerusalem reminds us that if we are not bleeding or lying on our death bed, millions of others are. Our receiving life from God compels us to share that life with others.

Mark 5:21-43

Christians interpret miracles as an in-breaking of the future resurrection into this world and time. Today's double narrative includes several signs of Jesus' earth-shattering ministry: Jesus ministers to a Jew who is outside his circle; he welcomes the petition of a religiously unclean woman; he touches a dead body. Yet his identity remains a secret to many. We too are bleeding our life away; we too are lying dead. At worship we are healed by the touch of Christ.