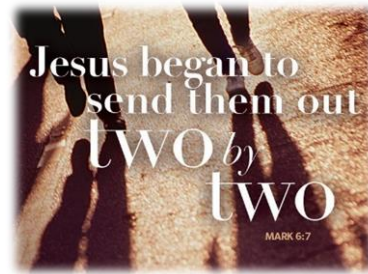


About the Readings on 7/7/24

****Click on the links for the Bible Verse(s)*



Sunday, July 3–9 Lectionary 14

Week after week, receiving the word of repentance and the gifts of healing, we are sent out to proclaim the word of God to the world. We do not need to have experienced extraordinary visions of God; instead, we rely on the power of Christ.

[Ezekiel 2:1-5](#)

This passage is set parallel to Mark 6 because Christians recognize in Jesus Christ the final “prophet” sent by God to preach faithfulness to the people. On Sunday we Christians are to hear both condemnations and blessings as directed, not at others, but at ourselves.

[Psalm 123](#)

Having heard Ezekiel’s words of criticism and blessing, we respond by singing **[Psalm 123](#)**. This short and lovely prayer, in which we liken ourselves to servants, contrasts with Ezekiel’s vigorous image of a nation of rebels. Both can be true for us.

[2 Corinthians 12:2-10](#)

Religion is filled with individuals who claim authority because of their personal visions. Here Paul claims only the power of the grace of Christ. This passage can be comforting to most clergy and laity, who, with no claim to any overwhelming personal religious experiences, can faithfully testify to Christ.

[Mark 6:1-13](#)

We hear in this passage both “law” and “gospel”: we too are skeptical and unbelieving, and yet Jesus heals us. Even Jesus could do no mighty work, and yet he healed. We are sent out to continue the work of Jesus, proclaiming the power of God over the powers of all the world’s demons.