First Reading: **Jeremiah 11:18–20**

18 The LORD made it known to me and I knew;
then you showed me their deeds.
19 But I was like a gentle lamb
led to the slaughter.
I did not know it was against me
they devised schemes, saying,
"Let us destroy the tree with its fruit,
let us cut him off from the land of the living,
that his name be remembered no more."
20 But, O LORD of hosts, who judges righteously,
who tests the heart and the mind,
let me see your vengeance upon them,
for to you have I committed my cause.

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Psalm 54

1 O God, save me by your name,
and vindicate me by your might.
2 O God, hear my prayer;
give ear to the words of my mouth.

3 For strangers have risen against me;
ruthless men seek my life;
they do not set God before themselves. Selah

4 Behold, God is my helper;
the Lord is the upholder of my life.
5 He will return the evil to my enemies;
in your faithfulness put an end to them.

6 With a freewill offering I will sacrifice to you;
I will give thanks to your name, O LORD, for it is good.
7 For he has delivered me from every trouble,
and my eye has looked in triumph on my enemies.

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Second Reading: **James 3:13–4:10**

13 Who is wise and understanding among
you? By his good conduct let him show his
works in the meekness of wisdom. 14 But
if you have bitter jealousy and selfish am-
bition in your hearts, do not boast and be
false to the truth. 15 This is not the wisdom
that comes down from above, but is earthly,
unspiritual, demonic. 16 For where jealousy
and selfish ambition exist, there will be dis-
order and every vile practice. 17 But the wis-
dom from above is first pure, then peaceable,
gentle, open to reason, full of mercy and
good fruits, impartial and sincere. 18 And a
harvest of righteousness is sown in peace by
those who make peace.

4:1 What causes quarrels and what causes
fights among you? Is it not this, that your
passions are at war within you? 2 You desire
and do not have, so you murder. You covet
and cannot obtain, so you fight and quarrel.
You do not have, because you do not ask.
3 You ask and do not receive, because you
ask wrongly, to spend it on your passions.
4 You adulterous people! Do you not know
that friendship with the world is enmity
with God? Therefore whoever wishes to be a
friend of the world makes himself an ene-
my of God. 5 Or do you suppose it is to no
purpose that the Scripture says, "He yearns
jealously over the spirit that he has made
to dwell in us"? 6 But he gives more grace.
Therefore it says, "God opposes the proud
but gives grace to the humble." 7 Submit
yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil,
and he will flee from you. 8 Draw near to
God, and he will draw near to you. Cleanse
your hands, you sinners, and purify your
hearts, you double-minded. 9 Be wretched
and mourn and weep. Let your laughter be
turned to mourning and your joy to gloom.

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10 Humble yourselves before the Lord, and
he will exalt you.

Gospel: **Mark 9:30–37**

30 They went on from there and passed
through Galilee. And he did not want anyone
to know, 31 for he was teaching his disciples,
saying to them, "The Son of Man is going to
be delivered into the hands of men, and they
will kill him. And when he is killed, after
three days he will rise." 32 But they did not
understand the saying, and were afraid to ask
him.

33 And they came to Capernaum. And when
he was in the house he asked them, "What
were you discussing on the way?" 34 But they
kept silent, for on the way they had argued
with one another about who was the greatest.
35 And he sat down and called the twelve.
And he said to them, "If anyone would be
first, he must be last of all and servant of all."
36 And he took a child and put him in the
midst of them, and taking him in his arms, he
said to them, 37 "Whoever receives one such
child in my name receives me, and whoever
receives me, receives not me but him who
sent me."

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