

First Scripture Reading

John 6:1-21

from the Common English Bible

¹After this Jesus went across the Galilee Sea (that is, the Tiberias Sea). ²A large crowd followed him, because they had seen the miraculous signs he had done among the sick. ³Jesus went up a mountain and sat there with his disciples. ⁴It was nearly time for Passover, the Jewish festival. ⁵Jesus looked up and saw the large crowd coming toward him. He asked Philip, “Where will we buy food to feed these people?” ⁶Jesus said this to test him, for he already knew what he was going to do. ⁷Philip replied, “More than a half year’s salary worth of food wouldn’t be enough for each person to have even a little bit.” ⁸One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother, said, ⁹“A youth here has five barley loaves and two fish. But what good is that for a crowd like this?” ¹⁰Jesus said, “Have the people sit down.” There was plenty of grass there. They sat down, about five thousand of them. ¹¹Then Jesus took the bread. When he had given thanks, he distributed it to those who were sitting there. He did the same with the fish, each getting as much as they wanted. ¹²When they had plenty to eat, he said to his disciples, “Gather up the leftover pieces, so that nothing will be wasted.” ¹³So they gathered them and filled twelve baskets with the pieces of the five barley loaves that had been left over by those who had eaten. ¹⁴When the people saw that he had done a miraculous sign, they said, “This is truly the prophet who is coming into the world.” ¹⁵Jesus understood that they were about to come and force him to be their king, so he took refuge again, alone on a mountain. ¹⁶When evening came, Jesus’ disciples went down to the lake. ¹⁷They got into a boat and were crossing the lake to Capernaum. It was already getting dark and Jesus hadn’t come to them yet. ¹⁸The water was getting rough because a

strong wind was blowing. ¹⁹When the wind had driven them out for about three or four miles, they saw Jesus walking on the water. He was approaching the boat and they were afraid. ²⁰He said to them, “I Am. Don’t be afraid.” ²¹Then they wanted to take him into the boat, and just then the boat reached the land where they had been heading.

This is the word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm Reading

14

UMH, 746

¹Fools say in their hearts, “There is no God.”

They are corrupt, they do abominable deeds, there is none that does good.

²The Lord looks down from heaven on all people, to see if there are any that are wise, who seek after God.

³They have all gone astray, they are all alike perverse there is none that does good, no, not one.

⁴Have they no knowledge, the evildoers who eat up my people as they eat bread, and do not call upon the Lord?

⁵There they shall be in great terror, for God is with the generation of the righteous.

⁶You would confound the plans of the poor, but the Lord is their refuge.

⁷O that deliverance for Israel would come from Zion! When the Lord restores their fortunes, Jacob shall rejoice and Israel shall be glad!

Second Scripture Reading

Ephesians 3:14-21

from the Common English Bible

¹⁴This is why I kneel before the Father. ¹⁵Every ethnic group in heaven or on earth is recognized by him. ¹⁶I ask that he will strengthen you in your inner selves from the riches of his glory through the Spirit. ¹⁷I ask that Christ will live in your hearts through faith. As a result of having strong roots in love, ¹⁸I ask that you'll have the power to grasp love's width and length, height and depth, together with all believers. ¹⁹I ask that you'll know the love of Christ that is beyond knowledge so that you will be filled entirely with the fullness of God. ²⁰Glory to God, who is able to do far beyond all that we could ask or imagine by his power at work within us; ²¹glory to him in the church and in Christ Jesus for all generations, forever and always. Amen.