

First Scripture Reading  
**2 Saumuel 11:26-12:13a**  
from the Common English Bible

<sup>26</sup>When Uriah's wife heard that her husband Uriah was dead, she mourned for her husband. <sup>27</sup>After the time of mourning was over, David sent for her and brought her back to his house. She became his wife and bore him a son. But what David had done was evil in the Lord's eyes. <sup>1</sup>So the Lord sent Nathan to David. When Nathan arrived he said, "There were two men in the same city, one rich, one poor. <sup>2</sup>The rich man had a lot of sheep and cattle, <sup>3</sup>but the poor man had nothing - just one small ewe lamb that he had bought. He raised that lamb, and it grew up with him and his children. It would eat from his food and drink from his cup - even sleep in his arms! It was like a daughter to him. <sup>4</sup>"Now a traveler came to visit the rich man, but he wasn't willing to take anything from his own flock or herd to prepare for the guest who had arrived. Instead, he took the poor man's ewe lamb and prepared it for the visitor." <sup>5</sup>David got very angry at the man, and he said to Nathan, "As surely as the Lord lives, the one who did this is demonic! <sup>6</sup>He must restore the ewe lamb seven times over because he did this and because he had no compassion." <sup>7</sup>"You are that man!" Nathan told David. "This is what the Lord God of Israel says: I anointed you king over Israel and delivered you from Saul's power. <sup>8</sup>I gave your master's house to you, and gave his wives into your embrace. I gave you the house of Israel and Judah. If that was too little, I would have given even more. <sup>9</sup>Why have you despised the Lord's word by doing what is evil in his eyes? You have struck down Uriah the Hittite with the sword and taken his wife as your own. You used the Ammonites to kill him. <sup>10</sup>Because of that, because you despised me and took the wife of Uriah the Hittite as your own, the sword will never leave your own house. <sup>11</sup>"This is

what the Lord says: I am making trouble come against you from inside your own family. Before your very eyes I will take your wives away and give them to your friend, and he will know your wives in broad daylight. <sup>12</sup>You did what you did secretly, but I will do what I am doing before all Israel in the light of day." <sup>13</sup>"I've sinned against the Lord!" David said to Nathan.

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

**Thanks be to God.**

Psalm Reading

## 51:1-12

from the UMH, 785

<sup>1</sup>Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love..

**...according to your abundant mercy blot out my transgressions.**

<sup>2</sup>Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin!

**<sup>3</sup>For I know my transgressions, and my sin is ever before me.**

<sup>4</sup>Against you, you only, have I sinned, and done that which is evil in your sight, so that you are justified in your sentence and blameless in your judgment.

**<sup>5</sup>Behold, I was born into iniquity, and I have been sinful since my mother conceived me.**

<sup>6</sup>Behold, you desire truth in the inward being; therefore teach me wisdom in my secret heart.

**<sup>7</sup>Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.**

<sup>8</sup>Make me hear with joy and gladness; let the bones which you have broken rejoice.

**<sup>9</sup>Hide your face from my sins, and blot out all my iniquities.**

<sup>10</sup>Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me.

**<sup>11</sup>Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your holy Spirit from me.**

<sup>12</sup>Restore to me the joy of your salvation...  
**...and sustain in me a willing spirit.**

Second Scripture Reading

## John 6:24-35

from the Common English Bible

<sup>24</sup>When the crowd saw that neither Jesus nor his disciples were there, they got into the boats and came to Capernaum looking for Jesus. <sup>25</sup>When they found him on the other side of the lake, they asked him, “Rabbi, when did you get here?”

<sup>26</sup>Jesus replied, “I assure you that you are looking for me not because you saw miraculous signs but because you ate all the food you wanted. <sup>27</sup>Don’t work for the food that doesn’t

last but for the food that endures for eternal life, which the Human One will give you. God the Father has confirmed him as his agent to give life.” <sup>28</sup>They asked, “What must we do in order to accomplish what God requires?”

<sup>29</sup>Jesus replied, “This is what God requires, that you believe in him whom God sent.” <sup>30</sup>They asked, “What miraculous sign will you do, that we can see and believe you? What will you do?”

<sup>31</sup>Our ancestors ate manna in the wilderness, just as it is written, *He gave them bread from heaven to eat.*” <sup>32</sup>Jesus told them, “I assure you, it wasn’t Moses who gave the bread from heaven to you, but my Father gives you the true bread from heaven. <sup>33</sup>The bread of God is the one who comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.”

<sup>34</sup>They said, “Sir, give us this bread all the time!” <sup>35</sup>Jesus replied, “I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never go hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.