

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR SUNDAY, July 11, 2021
Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

READING: 2 Samuel 6:1-5, 12b-19

¹David again gathered all the chosen men of Israel, thirty thousand. ²David and all the people with him set out and went from Baale-judah, to bring up from there the ark of God, which is called by the name of the LORD of hosts who is enthroned on the cherubim. ³They carried the ark of God on a new cart, and brought it out of the house of Abinadab, which was on the hill. Uzzah and Ahio, the sons of Abinadab, were driving the new cart ⁴with the ark of God; and Ahio went in front of the ark. ⁵David and all the house of Israel were dancing before the LORD with all their might, with songs and lyres and harps and tambourines and castanets and cymbals.

^{12b}So David went and brought up the ark of God from the house of Obed-edom to the city of David with rejoicing; ¹³and when those who bore the ark of the LORD had gone six paces, he sacrificed an ox and a fatling. ¹⁴David danced before the LORD with all his might; David was girded with a linen ephod. ¹⁵So David and all the house of Israel brought up the ark of the LORD with shouting, and with the sound of the trumpet.

¹⁶As the ark of the LORD came into the city of David, Michal daughter of Saul looked out of the window, and saw King David leaping and dancing before the LORD; and she despised him in her heart.

¹⁷They brought in the ark of the LORD, and set it in its place, inside the tent that David had pitched for it; and David offered burnt offerings and offerings of well-being before the LORD. ¹⁸When David had finished offering the burnt offerings and the offerings of well-being, he blessed the people in the name of the LORD of hosts, ¹⁹and distributed food among all the people, the whole multitude of Israel, both men and women, to each a cake of bread, a portion of meat, and a cake of raisins. Then all the people went back to their homes.

PSALM 24

- ¹The earth is the LORD's and all that is in it,
the world and those who dwell therein.
- ²For the LORD has founded it upon the seas
and established it upon the rivers.
- ³Who may ascend the mountain of the LORD,
and who may stand in God's holy place?
- ⁴Those of innocent hands and purity of heart,
who do not swear on God's being, nor do they pledge by what
is false.
- ⁵They shall receive blessing from the LORD
and righteousness from the God of their salvation.
- ⁶Such is the generation of those who seek you, O LORD,
of those who seek your face, O ¹ God of Jacob.
- ⁷Lift up your heads, O gates; and be lifted up, O everlasting
doors,
that the King of glory may come in.
- ⁸Who is this King of glory?
The LORD, strong and mighty, the LORD, mighty in battle!
- ⁹Lift up your heads, O gates; and be lifted up, O everlasting
doors,
that the King of glory ¹ may come in.
- ¹⁰Who is this King of glory?
Truly, the LORD of hosts is the King of glory.

GOSPEL: Mark 6:14-29

- ¹⁴King Herod heard of [the disciples' preaching,] for Jesus' name
had become known. Some were saying, "John the baptizer has
been raised from the dead; and for this reason these powers are at
work in him." ¹⁵But others said, "It is Elijah." And others said, "It is
a prophet, like one of the prophets of old." ¹⁶But when Herod heard
of it, he said, "John, whom I beheaded, has been raised."
- ¹⁷For Herod himself had sent men who arrested John, bound
him, and put him in prison on account of Herodias, his brother
Philip's wife, because Herod had married her. ¹⁸For John had been
telling Herod, "It is not lawful for you to have your brother's wife."
¹⁹And Herodias had a grudge against him, and wanted to kill him.
But she could not, ²⁰for Herod feared John, knowing that he was a

righteous and holy man, and he protected him. When he heard him, he was greatly perplexed; and yet he liked to listen to him.

²¹But an opportunity came when Herod on his birthday gave a banquet for his courtiers and officers and for the leaders of Galilee.

²²When his daughter Herodias came in and danced, she pleased Herod and his guests; and the king said to the girl, "Ask me for whatever you wish, and I will give it." ²³And he solemnly swore to her, "Whatever you ask me, I will give you, even half of my

kingdom." ²⁴She went out and said to her mother, "What should I ask for?" She replied, "The head of John the baptizer."

²⁵Immediately she rushed back to the king and requested, "I want you to give me at once the head of John the Baptist on a platter."

²⁶The king was deeply grieved; yet out of regard for his oaths and for the guests, he did not want to refuse her. ²⁷Immediately the king sent a soldier of the guard with orders to bring John's head.

He went and beheaded him in the prison, ²⁸brought his head on a platter, and gave it to the girl. Then the girl gave it to her mother.

²⁹When his disciples heard about it, they came and took his body, and laid it in a tomb.