

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR SUNDAY Sept. 12, 2021
Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Psalm 116

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- 116 I love the Lord for hearing me,
for listening to my prayers.
- 2 Yes, he paid attention to me,
so I will always call to him whenever I need help.
- 3 Death's ropes were around me.
The grave was closing in on me.
I was worried and afraid.
- 4 Then I called on the Lord's name.
I said, "Lord, save me!"
- 5 The Lord is good and merciful;
our God is so kind.
- 6 The Lord takes care of helpless people.
I was without help, and he saved me.
- 7 My soul, relax!
The Lord is caring for you.
- 8 Lord, you saved my soul from death.
You stopped my tears.
You kept me from falling.
- 9 I will continue to serve the Lord
in the land of the living.
- 10 I continued believing even when I said,
"I am completely ruined!"
- 11 Yes, even when I was upset and said,
"There is no one I can trust!"
- 12 What can I give the Lord
for all that he has done for me?
- 13 He saved me,
so I will give him a drink offering,
and I will call on the Lord's name.
- 14 I will give the Lord what I promised.
I will go in front of all his people now.

15 Very dear to the Lord are the lives of his followers.
He cares when they face death.

16 Lord, I am your servant!
Yes, I am your slave, as my mother was.
You set me free from the chains of death.

17 I will give you a thank offering.
I will call on the Lord's name.

18 I will stand before the gathering of his people
and give the Lord what I promised.

19 I will do this in Jerusalem,
in the courtyards of the Lord's Temple.
Praise the Lord!

Gospel: Mark 8:27-38

²⁷Jesus went on with his disciples to the villages of Caesarea Philippi; and on the way he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that I am?" ²⁸And they answered him, "John the Baptist; and others, Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets." ²⁹He asked them, "But who do you say that I am?" Peter answered him, "You are the Messiah." ³⁰And he sternly ordered them not to tell anyone about him.

³¹Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. ³²He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. ³³But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

³⁴He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ³⁵For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. ³⁶For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? ³⁷Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? ³⁸Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels."

