

Sunday 7 July - Sixth Sunday after Trinity

The Collect

Merciful God,
you have prepared for those who love you
such good things as pass our understanding:
pour into our hearts such love toward you
that we, loving you in all things and above all things,
may obtain your promises,
which exceed all that we can desire;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

First Reading: 2 Samuel 5:1-5, 9-10

¹All the tribes of Israel came to David at Hebron, and said, 'Look, we are your bone and flesh. ²For some time, while Saul was king over us, it was you who led out Israel and brought it in. The LORD said to you: It is you who shall be shepherd of my people Israel, you who shall be ruler over Israel.' ³So all the elders of Israel came to the king at Hebron; and King David made a covenant with them at Hebron before the LORD, and they anointed David king over Israel. ⁴David was thirty years old when he began to reign, and he reigned forty years. ⁵At Hebron he reigned over Judah seven years and six months; and at Jerusalem he reigned over all Israel and Judah thirty-three years. ⁹David occupied the stronghold, and named it the city of David. David built the city all around from the Millo inward. ¹⁰And David became greater and greater, for the LORD, the God of hosts, was with him.

Psalm 48

Great is the Lord and highly to be praised, *in the city of our God.

His holy mountain is fair and lifted high, *the joy of all the earth.

On Mount Zion, the divine dwelling place, *stands the city of the great king.

In her palaces God has shown himself *to be a sure refuge.

For behold, the kings of the earth assembled *and swept forward together.

They saw, and were dumbfounded; *dismayed, they fled in terror.

Trembling seized them there; they writhed like a woman in labour, *
as when the east wind shatters the ships of Tarshish.

As we had heard, so have we seen in the city of the Lord of hosts, the city of
our God: *

God has established her for ever.

We have waited on your loving-kindness, O God, *in the midst of your
temple.

As with your name, O God, so your praise reaches to the ends of the earth; *
your right hand is full of justice.

Let Mount Zion rejoice and the daughters of Judah be glad, *
because of your judgements, O Lord.

Walk about Zion and go round about her; count all her towers; *
consider well her bulwarks; pass through her citadels,

That you may tell those who come after that such is our God for ever and
ever. *

It is he that shall be our guide for evermore.

Second Reading: 2 Corinthians 12:2-10

²I know a person in Christ who fourteen years ago was caught up to the third
heaven – whether in the body or out of the body I do not know; God knows.

²And I know that such a person – whether in the body or out of the body I do
not know; God knows – ⁴was caught up into Paradise and heard things that
are not to be told, that no mortal is permitted to repeat. ⁵On behalf of such a
one I will boast, but on my own behalf I will not boast, except of my
weaknesses. ⁶But if I wish to boast, I will not be a fool, for I will be speaking
the truth. But I refrain from it, so that no one may think better of me than
what is seen in me or heard from me, ⁷even considering the exceptional
character of the revelations. Therefore, to keep me from being too elated, a
thorn was given me in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to torment me, to keep
me from being too elated. ⁸Three times I appealed to the Lord about this,

that it would leave me, ⁹but he said to me, 'My grace is sufficient for you, for power is made perfect in weakness.' So, I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may dwell in me. ¹⁰Therefore I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities for the sake of Christ; for whenever I am weak, then I am strong.

Gospel: Mark 6:1-13

¹Jesus came to his home town, and his disciples followed him. ²On the sabbath he began to teach in the synagogue, and many who heard him were astounded. They said, 'Where did this man get all this? What is this wisdom that has been given to him? What deeds of power are being done by his hands! ³Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary and brother of James and Joses and Judas and Simon, and are not his sisters here with us?' And they took offence at him. ⁴Then Jesus said to them, 'Prophets are not without honour, except in their home town, and among their own kin, and in their own house.' ⁵And he could do no deed of power there, except that he laid his hands on a few sick people and cured them. ⁶And he was amazed at their unbelief.

Then he went about among the villages teaching. ⁷He called the twelve and began to send them out two by two, and gave them authority over the unclean spirits. ⁸He ordered them to take nothing for their journey except a staff; no bread, no bag, no money in their belts; ⁹but to wear sandals and not to put on two tunics. ¹⁰He said to them, 'Wherever you enter a house, stay there until you leave the place. ¹¹If any place will not welcome you and they refuse to hear you, as you leave, shake off the dust that is on your feet as a testimony against them.' ¹²So they went out and proclaimed that all should repent. ¹³They cast out many demons, and anointed with oil many who were sick and cured them.