

About the 3rd Sunday after Pentecost (Proper 6—June 12-18)

Theme: Sin and Its Remedy

– *highlighting the Scriptures for the week* –

David was the King of Israel, but inwardly he was prisoner of his own sins, including adultery and murder. (2 Samuel) In His mercy the LORD sent Nathan, His prophet, to speak His word of judgment and grace, law and gospel. Confronting David in His sin, Nathan also spoke the LORD's own word of absolution: "The LORD has taken away your sin." The Apostle Paul, trained as a zealot Pharisee, also learned how one truly becomes righteous in the sight of God (Galatians). So it was that Jesus taught Simon the Pharisee about the relationship between faith and life. (Luke) *He who has been forgiven little loves little*; the forgiven sinner wiped Jesus' feet with her hair, while Simon did no deed of love. Because true righteousness comes from God, this means that all people in whatever circumstances can humbly throw themselves at the feet of God and beg for His mercy (Psalm 32). When we do not, we are lost. When we do, we are comforted (and saved).

WEEKLY BIBLE READING SCHEDULE

Use the schedule below in your personal devotion. The first three readings are the lessons read today; the last three will be read next Sunday. The Wednesday reading is the psalmody for the week. Each day you may want to pray that Psalm or the prayer printed in our service folder today, followed by the suggested reading and your personal requests and Thanksgivings to our Heavenly Father.

Sunday	2 Samuel 11:26-12:10; 12:13-14 Why was the LORD displeased with David? Why did the LORD send Nathan to David? What was the point of the story Nathan told? How did David respond? What did Nathan then announce to David? When do we hear the same announcement? What is the difference between punishment for sin and consequences of sin? What does this mean?
Monday	Galatians 2:15-21; 3:10-14 In what way are both Jews and Gentiles alike? How, then, is one justified (seen as 'righteous') by God? By what means did Jesus resolve our predicament? What does this mean?
Tuesday	Luke 7:36-8:3 Why was the Pharisee shocked to see Jesus' behavior at his table? What was the point of the story Jesus told him in response? Why had the woman shown such lavish devotion to Jesus, in other words? What did Jesus do about her sins? What does He do about ours? How, when, and where? What does this mean?
Wednesday	Psalm 32:1-7 What happens when we try and cover up our sins before God? What happens when He covers them up? How does He do that? Why is confessing your sins to God healthy thing to do? What happens when your pastor speaks God's forgiveness to you? (absolution) When therefore might you seek out your pastor for private confession/absolution? Where may we find protection in times of trouble? What happens to wicked people? What provides comfort to those who trust in the LORD?
Thursday	Isaiah 65:1-9 Why do people hide from God? What does God do in response? Why? How does the analogy about grape juice describe God's actions? What does this mean?
Friday	Galatians 3:23—4:7 What is the purpose of God's Law? Does it serve any purpose for those who have faith? How so (or not)? How does the inheritance analogy help one understand this? What does this mean for us today?
Saturday	Luke 8:26-39 Where is Jesus on this occasion? Why is this significant? Who does the speaking, the man or the demon possessing the man? What does this mean? Why does Jesus send the demon into the herd of pigs? ...the result? What were the consequences for the owners of the pigs? What might have been their resulting feelings toward Jesus? What does this mean?