

FEBRUARY 13, 2022
SIXTH SUNDAY
AFTER EPIPHANY



Trust in God alone.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

These passages are related to the Lectionary texts for this Sunday.

Sunday	Luke 6:17-26	Sermon on the plain
Monday	Jeremiah 17:5-10	Trust in the Lord
Tuesday	1 Corinthians 15:12-20	The resurrection of the dead
Wednesday	Proverbs 3:1-6	Trust and honor God
Thursday	Matthew 6:25-34	Do not worry
Friday	Joshua 1:1-9	The Lord speaks to Joshua
Saturday	Psalms 1	The way of the faithful
Sunday	Luke 6:27-38	Love for enemies

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

Blessed are those who trust in the LORD, whose trust is the LORD.
Jeremiah 17:7 (NRSV)

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

Almighty God, please give us the strength to trust in you alone and support our hope in the days to come through Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

God gives us food, God gives us drink, God gives us all, more than we think. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May the Lord bless you with hope and good courage.



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HYMN OF THE WEEK

*My Hope is Built on
Nothing Less*



WEEKLY MILESTONES

Take a moment to tell or think about a recent mountain high and/or valley low in your life.

CARING CONVERSATIONS

Discuss in your home, small group, or use for personal reflections:

- What is something that makes you happy and you enjoy doing?
- How does God bring you joy and happiness?

DEVOTIONS

Read: Jeremiah 17:5-10.

Pleasures and personal security in life are fleeting. They can easily become a memory from the past. When the difficult times arrive, we long for the stability that only God gives. Momentary pleasures are like the shrubs in the wilderness, vulnerable to the desert heat. The hearts of those who trust in human strength turn away from God and trust the superficial joys found on the surface of the desert. Jeremiah offers an image of the tree planted by a stream in the desert. The tree's shoots are not seen, but they go deep into the earth so that even when drought happens, the tree is green and fruitful. The people to whom Jeremiah was originally speaking were in a drought situation. The wealth of the nation's resources and leadership had been cast into exile in Babylon. The future of Israel looked grim. When we experience tough times, trusting in the promises of our gracious God is the only sure foundation—not wealth, not fame, nor momentary pleasures.

Discuss: How does God bring you comfort and give you courage to trust in God alone?

Pray: **God of promise, help us not to put our confidence in things that do not last and to put our trust in your steadfast love and faithfulness through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

SERVICE

Jesus calls us to serve our neighbor in love. Based on the Daily Bible Readings and theme for this week, when someone is experiencing tough times, how can you comfort them?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

The Greek word, *makarioi*, means blessed or happy. A blessing announces God's love and care for others. We are blessed to be followers of Jesus. Establishing the ritual of blessing those in our home and those who visit builds trusted, caring relationships. Use this blessing as you greet and say farewell to family and friends: **May God bless you with hope and joy.**



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