

## Readings May 21, 2023

### Seventh Sunday of Easter

#### First Reading: Acts 1:6-14

<sup>6</sup>When the apostles had come together, they asked Jesus, "Lord, is this the time when you will restore dominion to Israel?" <sup>7</sup>He replied, "It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by divine authority. <sup>8</sup>But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." <sup>9</sup>When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. <sup>10</sup>While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. <sup>11</sup>They said, "You Galileans, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven."

<sup>12</sup>Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a sabbath day's journey away. <sup>13</sup>When they had entered the city, they went to the room upstairs where they were staying, Peter, and John, and James, and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus, and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. <sup>14</sup>All these were constantly devoting themselves to prayer, together with certain women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, as well as his brothers.

## **Psalm: Psalm 68:1-10, 32-35**

<sup>1</sup>Let God arise, and let God's ene- | mies be scattered;  
let those who | hate God flee.

<sup>2</sup>**As smoke is driven away, so you should drive | them away;  
as the wax melts before the fire, so let the wicked perish at the  
pres- | ence of God.**

<sup>3</sup>But let the righteous be glad and rejoice | before God;  
let them also be mer- | ry and joyful.

<sup>4</sup>**Sing to God, sing praises to God's name; exalt the one who | rides  
the clouds;**

**I AM is that name, rejoice | before God! R**

<sup>5</sup>In your holy habita- | tion, O God,  
you are a father to orphans, defend- | er of widows;

<sup>6</sup>**you give the solitary a home and bring forth prisoners | into  
freedom;**

**but the rebels shall live in | desert places.**

<sup>7</sup>O God, when you went forth be- | fore your people,  
when you marched | through the wilderness,

<sup>8</sup>**the earth quaked, and the skies poured down rain, at the presence  
of God, the | God of Sinai,**

**at the presence of God, the | God of Israel.**

<sup>9</sup>You sent a bountiful | rain, O God;  
you restored your inheritance | when it languished.

<sup>10</sup>**Your people found their | home in it;  
in your goodness, O God, you have made provision | for the  
poor. R**

<sup>32</sup>Sing to God, O kingdoms | of the earth;  
sing praises | to the Lord.

<sup>33</sup>**You ride in the heavens, O God, in the | ancient heavens;  
you send forth your voice, your | mighty voice.**

<sup>34</sup>Ascribe pow- | er to God,  
whose majesty is over Israel; whose strength is | in the skies.

<sup>35</sup>**How wonderful you are in your holy places, O | God of Israel,  
giving strength and power to your people! | Blessed be God! R**

## **Second Reading: 1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11**

<sup>12</sup>Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery ordeal that is taking place among you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. <sup>13</sup>But rejoice insofar as you are sharing Christ's sufferings, so that you may also be glad and shout for joy when his glory is revealed. <sup>14</sup>If you are reviled for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the spirit of glory, which is the Spirit of God, is resting on you.

<sup>5:6</sup>Humble yourselves therefore under the mighty hand of God, so that God may exalt you in due time. <sup>7</sup>Cast all your anxiety on God, because God cares for you. <sup>8</sup>Discipline yourselves, keep alert. Like a roaring lion your adversary the devil prowls around, looking for someone to devour. <sup>9</sup>Resist the devil, steadfast in your faith, for you know that your brothers and sisters in all the world are undergoing the same kinds of suffering. <sup>10</sup>And after you have suffered for a little while, that very God of all grace, who has called you into eternal glory in Christ, will restore, support, strengthen, and establish you. <sup>11</sup>To God be the power forever and ever. Amen.

## **Gospel: John 17:1-11**

<sup>1</sup>After Jesus had spoken these words, he looked up to heaven and said, "Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, <sup>2</sup>since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. <sup>3</sup>And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent. <sup>4</sup>I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. <sup>5</sup>So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed.

<sup>6</sup>"I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. <sup>7</sup>Now they know that everything you have given me is from you; <sup>8</sup>for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you; and they have believed that you sent me. <sup>9</sup>I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world, but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. <sup>10</sup>All mine are yours, and yours are mine; and I have been glorified in them. <sup>11</sup>"And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one."