

Scriptures July 28, 2024

First Reading

Ephesians 3:14-21

That is why we kneel before Abba God, from whom every family in heaven and on earth takes its name. I pray that God, out of the riches of divine glory will strengthen you inwardly with power through the working of the Spirit. May Christ dwell in your hearts through faith, so that you being rooted and grounded in love, will be able to grasp the full breadth, length and height and depth of Christ's love and, with all of God's holy ones, experience the love that surpasses all understanding, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

To God-- whose power now at work in us can be immeasurably more than we ask or imagine-- to God be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus through all generations, world without end. Amen.

Second Reading

John 6:1-21 (NRSV)

Feeding the Five Thousand

6 After this Jesus went to the other side of the Sea of Galilee, also called the Sea of Tiberias.^[a] **2** A large crowd kept following him, because they saw the signs that he was doing for the sick. **3** Jesus went up the mountain and sat down there with his disciples. **4** Now the Passover, the festival of the Jews, was near. **5** When he looked up and saw a large crowd coming towards him, Jesus said to Philip, 'Where are we to buy bread for these people to eat?' **6** He said this to test him, for he himself knew what he was going to do. **7** Philip answered him, 'Six months' wages^[b] would not buy enough bread for each of them to get a little.' **8** One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter's brother, said to him, **9** 'There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish. But what are they among so many people?' **10** Jesus said, 'Make the people sit down.' Now there was a great deal of grass in the place; so they^[c] sat down, about five thousand in all. **11** Then Jesus took the loaves, and when he had given thanks, he distributed them to those who were seated; so also the fish, as much as they wanted. **12** When they were satisfied, he told his disciples, 'Gather up the fragments left over, so that nothing may be lost.' **13** So they gathered them up, and from the fragments of the five barley loaves, left by those who had eaten, they filled twelve baskets. **14** When the people saw the sign that

he had done, they began to say, 'This is indeed the prophet who is to come into the world.'

¹⁵ When Jesus realized that they were about to come and take him by force to make him king, he withdrew again to the mountain by himself.

Jesus Walks on the Water

¹⁶ When evening came, his disciples went down to the lake, ¹⁷ got into a boat, and started across the lake to Capernaum. It was now dark, and Jesus had not yet come to them. ¹⁸ The lake became rough because a strong wind was blowing. ¹⁹ When they had rowed about three or four miles,^[a] they saw Jesus walking on the lake and coming near the boat, and they were terrified. ²⁰ But he said to them, 'It is I;^[a] do not be afraid.' ²¹ Then they wanted to take him into the boat, and immediately the boat reached the land towards which they were going.