

Readings June 28, 2026

Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

First Reading: Jeremiah 28:5-9

(The test of a true prophet)

⁵ The prophet Jeremiah spoke to the prophet Hananiah in the presence of the priests and all the people who were standing in the house of the LORD, ⁶ and the prophet Jeremiah said, "Amen! May the LORD do so; may the LORD fulfill the words that you have prophesied and bring back to this place from Babylon the vessels of the house of the LORD and all the exiles. ⁷ But listen now to this word that I speak in your hearing and in the hearing of all the people. ⁸ The prophets who preceded you and me from ancient times prophesied war, famine, and pestilence against many countries and great kingdoms. ⁹ As for the prophet who prophesies peace, when the word of that prophet comes true, then it will be known that the LORD has truly sent the prophet."

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 119:153-160

(Preserve my life from those who do not heed your law)

¹⁵³ Look on my misery and rescue me,
for I do not forget your law.

¹⁵⁴ **Plead my cause and redeem me;
give me life according to your promise.**

¹⁵⁵ Salvation is far from the wicked,
for they do not seek your statutes.

¹⁵⁶ **Great is your mercy, O LORD;
be gracious to me according to your justice.**

¹⁵⁷ Many are my persecutors and my adversaries,
yet I do not swerve from your decrees.

¹⁵⁸ **I look at the faithless with disgust
because they do not keep your commands.**

¹⁵⁹ Consider how I love your precepts;
be gracious to me according to your steadfast love.

¹⁶⁰ **The sum of your word is truth,
and every one of your righteous ordinances endures forever.**

Second Reading: Romans 7:1-13
(Released from the law, Bound to Christ)

¹ Or do you not know, brothers and sisters—for I am speaking to those who know the law—that the law is binding on a person only during that person's lifetime? ² Thus a married woman is bound by the law to her husband as long as he lives, but if her husband dies, she is discharged from the law concerning the husband. ³ Accordingly, she will be called an adulteress if she belongs to another man while her husband is alive. But if her husband dies, she is free from that law, and if she belongs to another man, she is not an adulteress.

⁴ In the same way, my brothers and sisters, you have died to the law through the body of Christ, so that you may belong to another, to him who was raised from the dead in order that we may bear fruit for God. ⁵ For while we were living in the flesh, our sinful passions, aroused by the law, were at work in our members to bear fruit for death. ⁶ But now we are discharged from the law, dead to that which held us captive, so that we are enslaved in the newness of the Spirit and not in the oldness of the written code.

⁷ What then are we to say? That the law is sin? By no means! Yet, if it had not been for the law, I would not have known sin. I would not have known what it is to covet if the law had not said, "You shall not covet." ⁸ But sin, seizing an opportunity through the commandment, produced in me all kinds of covetousness. For apart from the law sin lies dead. ⁹ I was once alive apart from the law, but when the commandment came, sin revived ¹⁰ and I died, and the very commandment that promised life proved to be death to me. ¹¹ For sin, seizing an opportunity in the commandment, deceived me and through it killed me. ¹² So the law is holy, and the commandment is holy and just and good.

¹³ Did what is good, then, bring death to me? By no means! It was sin that was working death in me through what is good, in order that it might be shown to be sin, so that through the commandment sin might become sinful beyond measure.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**