



Week of June 28 – July 4, 2026

5<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

**FOCUS VERSE**

**Romans 6:18**

<sup>18</sup> *And having been set free from sin, have become slaves of righteousness.*

**SERMON NOTES:**

*What stood out in this week's sermon? (Theme, phrase, reference, etc.) What questions stir up within you? What do you want to explore further?*

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**FOR FURTHER THOUGHT** by Rev. Daniel Locke

In his book, *The Cost of Discipleship*, Dietrich Bonhoeffer writes about the difference between “cheap grace” and “costly grace.” Cheap Grace says, “God forgives me, so nothing really needs to change.” It treats grace as a spiritual loophole that allows me to keep sinning. Conversely, costly grace, frees us from one master so that we may belong to another. It is costly because it calls us to follow Jesus for the sake of our neighbor.

Paul’s language may seem strange because freedom and slavery seem like opposites. Yet Paul insists that freedom from sin is not freedom *for ourselves* but freedom *for God and our neighbor*.

**CONSIDER:**

Where in our life are we tempted to treat God’s grace as permission to remain unchanged rather than as an invitation to follow more deeply and love more boldly?

**BEYOND SUNDAY:**

*\*Readings intended to help you reflect and digest this week’s worship service.*

**MONDAY:** 1 Kings 21:1-16 (*Naboth’s Vineyard*)

Most **MEMORABLE** verse for you, in this passage, at this time?

What makes this verse so **MEANINGFUL**?

**TUESDAY:** 1 John 4:1-6 (*Testing the Spirits*)

Memorable: \_\_\_\_\_

Meaningful: \_\_\_\_\_

**WEDNESDAY:** Jeremiah 18:1-11 (*The Potter and the Clay*)

Memorable: \_\_\_\_\_

Meaningful: \_\_\_\_\_

**BEFORE SUNDAY READINGS:**

*\*Readings intended to help you prepare for the upcoming Sunday:*

**THURSDAY:** Genesis 25:19-27 (*The Birth and Youth of Esau and Jacob*)

Memorable: \_\_\_\_\_

Meaningful: \_\_\_\_\_

**FRIDAY:** Zechariah 2:6-13 (*Interlude: An Appeal to the Exiles*)

Memorable: \_\_\_\_\_

Meaningful: \_\_\_\_\_

**SATURDAY:** Luke 10:21-24 (*Jesus Rejoices*)

Memorable: \_\_\_\_\_

Meaningful: \_\_\_\_\_

**Read Ahead:** July 5, 2026 – 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost (Prop 9A)

Zechariah 9:9-12; Psalm 145:8-14; Romans 7:15-25a; Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30