

## Readings — September 6, 2015

### FIRST READING — Isaiah 35:4-7a

<sup>4</sup> Say to those who are of a fearful heart,

“Be strong, do not fear!

Here is your God.

He will come with vengeance,  
with terrible recompense.

He will come and save you.”

<sup>5</sup> Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,  
and the ears of the deaf unstopped;

<sup>6</sup> then the lame shall leap like a deer,  
and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy.

For waters shall break forth in the wilderness,  
and streams in the desert;

<sup>7a</sup> the burning sand shall become a pool,  
and the thirsty ground springs of water.

### Psalm 146

<sup>1</sup> Hal- | lelujah!

Praise the LORD, | O my soul!

<sup>2</sup> **I will praise the LORD as long | as I live;**

**I will sing praises to my God while I | have my being.**

<sup>3</sup> Put not your | trust in rulers,

in mortals in whom there | is no help.

<sup>4</sup> **When they breathe their last, they re- | turn to earth,  
and in that day | their thoughts perish.**

<sup>5</sup> Happy are they who have the God of Jacob | for their help,  
whose hope is in the | LORD their God;

<sup>6</sup> **who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that | is in them;  
who keeps promis- | es forever;**

<sup>7</sup> who gives justice to those who are oppressed, and food to | those who hunger.  
The LORD sets the | captive free.

<sup>8</sup> **The LORD opens the eyes of the blind; the LORD lifts up those who | are bowed down;  
the LORD | loves the righteous.**

<sup>9</sup> The LORD cares | for the stranger;

the LORD sustains the orphan and widow, but frustrates the way | of the wicked.

<sup>10</sup> **The LORD shall | reign forever,**

**your God, O Zion, throughout all generations. | Hallelujah!**

### Gospel: Mark 7:24-37

<sup>24</sup> [Jesus] set out and went away to the region of Tyre. He entered a house and did not want anyone to know he was there. Yet he could not escape notice,<sup>25</sup> but a woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit immediately heard about him, and she came and bowed down at his feet.<sup>26</sup> Now the woman was a Gentile, of Syrophenician origin. She begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter.<sup>27</sup> He said to her, “Let the children be fed first, for it is not fair to take the children’s food and throw it to the dogs.”<sup>28</sup> But she answered him, “Sir, even the dogs under the table eat the children’s crumbs.”<sup>29</sup> Then he said to her, “For saying that, you may go—the demon has left your daughter.”<sup>30</sup> So she went home, found the child lying on the bed, and the demon gone.

<sup>31</sup> Then he returned from the region of Tyre, and went by way of Sidon towards the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis.<sup>32</sup> They brought to him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they begged him to lay his hand on him.<sup>33</sup> He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, and put his fingers into his ears, and he spat and touched his tongue.<sup>34</sup> Then looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, “Ephphatha,” that is, “Be opened.”<sup>35</sup> And immediately his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly.<sup>36</sup> Then Jesus ordered them to tell no one; but the more he ordered them, the more zealously they proclaimed it.<sup>37</sup> They were astounded beyond measure, saying, “He has done everything well; he even makes the deaf to hear and the mute to speak.”