July 2nd 2023

Collect

O God,

your Son has taught us that those who give a cup of water in his name

will not lose their reward:

open our hearts to the needs of your children, and in all things make us obedient to your will, so that in faith we may receive your gracious gift, eternal life in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**.

1st Reading

Exodus 14:10-18

- 10 As Pharaoh approached, the Israelites looked up, and there were the Egyptians, marching after them. They were terrified and cried out to the LORD.
- 11 They said to Moses, "Was it because there were no graves in Egypt that you brought us to the desert to die? What have you done to us by bringing us out of Egypt?
- 12 Didn't we say to you in Egypt, 'Leave us alone; let us serve the Egyptians'? It would have been better for us to serve the Egyptians than to die in the desert!"
- 13 Moses answered the people, "Do not be afraid. Stand firm and you will see the deliverance the LORD will bring you today. The Egyptians you see today you will never see again.
- 14 The LORD will fight for you; you need only to be still."
- 15 Then the LORD said to Moses, "Why are you crying out to me? Tell the Israelites to move on.
- 16 Raise your staff and stretch out your hand over the sea to divide the water so that the Israelites can go through the sea on dry ground.
- 17 I will harden the hearts of the Egyptians so that they will go in after them. And I will gain glory through Pharaoh and all his army, through his chariots and his horsemen.

18 The Egyptians will know that I am the LORD when I gain glory through Pharaoh, his chariots and his horsemen."

Psalm

Psalm 13

- ¹ How long, O Lord, will you so utterly forget me: how long will you hide your face from me?
- 2 How long must I suffer anguish in my soul, and be so grieved in my heart day and night: how long shall my enemy triumph over me?
- ³ Look upon me, O Lord my God, and answer me: lighten my eyes, lest I sleep in death;
- 4 Lest my enemy say 'I have prevailed': lest my foes exult at my overthrow.
- 5 Yet I put my trust in your unfailing love:O let my heart rejoice in your salvation.
- 6 And I will make my song to the Lord: because he deals so bountifully with me.

2nd Reading

Romans 6:1-18

- 1 What shall we say, then? Shall we go on sinning so that grace may increase?
- 2 By no means! We are those who have died to sin; how can we live in it any longer?
- 3 Or don't you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death?
- 4 We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life.
- 5 For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly also be united with him in a resurrection like his.
- 6 For we know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body ruled by sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves to sin—
- 7 because anyone who has died has been set free from sin.

- 8 Now if we died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him.
- 9 For we know that since Christ was raised from the dead, he cannot die again; death no longer has mastery over him.
- 10 The death he died, he died to sin once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God.
- 11 In the same way, count yourselves dead to sin but alive to God in Christ Jesus.
- 12 Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body so that you obey its evil desires.
- 13 Do not offer any part of yourself to sin as an instrument of wickedness, but rather offer yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life; and offer every part of yourself to him as an instrument of righteousness.
- 14 For sin shall no longer be your master, because you are not under the law, but under grace.
- 15 What then? Shall we sin because we are not under the law but under grace? By no means!
- 16 Don't you know that when you offer yourselves to someone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of the one you obey—whether you are slaves to sin, which leads to death, or to obedience, which leads to righteousness?
- 17 But thanks be to God that, though you used to be slaves to sin, you have come to obey from your heart the pattern of teaching that has now claimed your allegiance.
- 18 You have been set free from sin and have become slaves to righteousness.

Gospel

Matthew 6:19-24

- 19 "Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moths and vermin destroy, and where thieves break in and steal.
- 20 But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moths and vermin do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal.
- 21 For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.
- 22 "The eye is the lamp of the body. If your eyes are healthy, your whole body will be full of light.

- 23 But if your eyes are unhealthy, your whole body will be full of darkness. If then the light within you is darkness, how great is that darkness!
- 24 "No one can serve two masters. Either you will hate the one and love the other, or you will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money.