

## First Reading — Hosea 5:15-6:6

<sup>15</sup>“I will go. I will return to my place until they are judged guilty, and they seek my face in their distress.

They will seek me eagerly.”

<sup>6:1</sup>Come, let us return to the LORD.

He himself has torn us,

but he will heal us.

He is wounding us,

but he will bandage us.

<sup>2</sup>He will restore us to life after two days.

On the third day he will raise us so that we may live before him.

<sup>3</sup>We will know.

We will pursue knowledge of the LORD.

His coming forth is as sure as the coming of dawn.

He comes to us like the rain,

like the spring rain that waters the earth.

<sup>4</sup>“What will I do to you, Ephraim?

What will I do to you, Judah?

Your loyalty is like a mist in the morning,

like early morning dew that goes away.

<sup>5</sup>That is why I have cut them into pieces by the prophets.

I have killed them by the words of my mouth.

The judgments against you are spreading out like light.

<sup>6</sup>I desire mercy, and not sacrifice,

knowledge of God rather than burnt offerings.”

## Second Reading — Romans 4:18–25

<sup>18</sup>Hoping beyond what he could expect, he believed that he would become the father of many nations, just as he was told: “This is how many your descendants will be.” <sup>19</sup>He did not weaken in faith, even though he considered his own body as good as dead (because he was about one hundred years old), and even though he considered Sarah’s womb to be dead. <sup>20</sup>He did not waver in unbelief with respect to God’s promise, but he grew strong in faith, giving glory to God <sup>21</sup>and being fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. <sup>22</sup>This is why “it was credited to him as righteousness.”

<sup>23</sup>Now the statement “it was credited to him” was not written for him alone, <sup>24</sup>but also for us to whom it would be credited, namely, to us who

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believe in the one who raised our Lord Jesus from the dead. <sup>25</sup>He was handed over to death because of our trespasses and was raised to life because of our justification.

### **Gospel Reading — Matthew 9:9–13**

<sup>9</sup>As Jesus went on from there, he saw a man named Matthew sitting in the tax collector’s booth. He said to him, “Follow me.” Matthew got up and followed him.

<sup>10</sup>As Jesus was reclining at the table in Matthew’s house, many tax collectors and sinners were actually there too, eating with Jesus and his disciples. <sup>11</sup>When the Pharisees saw this, they said to his disciples, “Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?”

<sup>12</sup>When Jesus heard this, he said to them, “The healthy do not need a physician, but the sick do. <sup>13</sup>Go and learn what this means: ‘I desire mercy, and not sacrifice.’ In fact, I did not come to call the righteous, but sinners.”

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