

**FIRST READING: 2 Kings 5:1-14** The healing of Naaman (NCV)

<sup>1</sup> Naaman was commander of the army of the king of Aram. He was honoured by his master, and he had much respect because the LORD used him to give victory to Aram. He was a mighty and brave man, but he had a skin disease. <sup>2</sup> The Arameans had gone out to raid the Israelites and had taken a little girl as a captive. This little girl served Naaman's wife. <sup>3</sup> She said to her mistress, "I wish my master would meet the prophet who lives in Samaria. He would cure him of his disease." <sup>4</sup> Naaman went to the king and told him what the girl from Israel had said. <sup>5</sup> The king of Aram said, "Go ahead, and I will send a letter to the king of Israel." So Naaman went and took with him silver weighing as much as ten men, 6,000 pieces of gold, and ten changes of clothes. <sup>6</sup> He brought the letter to the king of Israel, which read, "I am sending my servant Naaman to you so you can heal him of his skin disease." <sup>7</sup> When the king of Israel read the letter, he tore his clothes to show how upset he was. He said, "I'm not God! I can't kill and make alive again! Why does this man send someone with a skin disease for me to heal? You can see that the king of Aram is trying to start trouble with me." <sup>8</sup> When Elisha, the man of God, heard that the king of Israel had torn his clothes, he sent the king this message: "Why have you torn your clothes? Let Naaman come to me. Then he will know there is a prophet in Israel." <sup>9</sup> So Naaman went with his horses and chariots to Elisha's house and stood outside the door. <sup>10</sup> Elisha sent Naaman a messenger who said, "Go and wash in the Jordan River seven times. Then your skin will be healed, and you will be clean." <sup>11</sup> Naaman became angry and left. He said, "I thought Elisha would surely come out and stand before me and call on the name of the LORD his God. I thought he would wave his hand over the place and heal the disease. <sup>12</sup> The Abana and the Pharpar, the rivers of Damascus, are better than all the waters of Israel. Why can't I wash in them and become clean?" So Naaman went away very angry. <sup>13</sup> Naaman's servants came near and said to him, "My father, if the prophet had told you to do some great thing, wouldn't you have done it? Doesn't it make more sense just to do it? After all, he only told you, 'Wash, and you will be clean.'" <sup>14</sup> So Naaman went down and dipped in the Jordan seven times, just as Elisha had said. Then his skin became new again, like the skin of a child. And he was clean.

**PSALM: Psalm 30** (NIV)

<sup>1</sup> I will exalt you, LORD, for You lifted me out of the depths and did not let my enemies gloat over me. <sup>2</sup> LORD my God, I called to You for help, and You healed me. <sup>3</sup> You, LORD, brought me up from the realm of the dead; You spared me from going down to the pit. <sup>4</sup> Sing the praises of the LORD, you His faithful people; praise His holy name. <sup>5</sup> For His anger lasts only a moment, but His favour lasts a lifetime; weeping may stay for the night, but rejoicing comes in the morning. <sup>6</sup> When I felt secure, I said, 'I shall never be shaken.' <sup>7</sup> LORD, when You favoured me, You made my royal mountain stand firm; but when You hid Your face, I was dismayed. <sup>8</sup> To You, LORD, I called; to the Lord I cried for mercy: <sup>9</sup> 'What is gained if I am silenced, if I go down to the pit? Will the dust praise You? Will it proclaim Your faithfulness? <sup>10</sup> Hear, LORD, and be merciful to me; LORD, be my help.' <sup>11</sup> You turned my wailing into dancing; You removed my sackcloth and clothed me with joy, <sup>12</sup> that my heart may sing Your praises and not be silent. LORD my God, I will praise You for ever.

**SECOND READING: Galatians 6:1-16** Do good to all (ESV)

<sup>1</sup> Brothers and sisters, if a person is discovered in some sin, you who are spiritual restore such a person in a spirit of gentleness. Pay close attention to yourselves, so that you are not tempted

too. <sup>2</sup> Carry one another's burdens, and in this way you will fulfil the law of Christ. <sup>3</sup> For if anyone thinks they are something when they are is nothing, that person deceives themselves. <sup>4</sup> Let each one examine their own work. Then they can take pride in themselves and not compare themselves with someone else. <sup>5</sup> For each one will carry their own load. <sup>6</sup> Now the one who receives instruction in the word must share all good things with the one who teaches it. <sup>7</sup> Do not be deceived. God will not be made a fool. For a person will reap what they sow, <sup>8</sup> because the person who sows to their own flesh will reap corruption from the flesh, but the one who sows to the Spirit will reap eternal life from the Spirit. <sup>9</sup> So we must not grow weary in doing good, for in due time we will reap, if we do not give up. <sup>10</sup> So then, whenever we have an opportunity, let us do good to all people, and especially to those who belong to the family of faith. <sup>11</sup> See what big letters I make as I write to you with my own hand! <sup>12</sup> Those who want to make a good showing in external matters are trying to force you to be circumcised. They do so only to avoid being persecuted for the cross of Christ. <sup>13</sup> For those who are circumcised do not obey the law themselves, but they want you to be circumcised so that they can boast about your flesh. <sup>14</sup> But may I never boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, through which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. <sup>15</sup> For neither circumcision nor uncircumcision counts for anything; the only thing that matters is a new creation! <sup>16</sup> And all who will behave in accordance with this rule, peace and mercy be on them, and on the Israel of God.

**GOSPEL: Luke 10:1-20** Jesus sends out the 70 (72) (NRSV)

<sup>1</sup> After this the Lord appointed seventy others and sent them on ahead of Him in pairs to every town and place where He Himself intended to go. <sup>2</sup> He said to them, 'The harvest is plentiful, but the labourers are few; therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out labourers into His harvest. <sup>3</sup> Go on your way. See, I am sending you out like lambs into the midst of wolves. <sup>4</sup> Carry no purse, no bag, no sandals; and greet no one on the road. <sup>5</sup> Whatever house you enter, first say, "Peace to this house!" <sup>6</sup> And if anyone is there who shares in peace, your peace will rest on that person; but if not, it will return to you. <sup>7</sup> Remain in the same house, eating and drinking whatever they provide, for the labourer deserves to be paid. Do not move about from house to house. <sup>8</sup> Whenever you enter a town and its people welcome you, eat what is set before you; <sup>9</sup> cure the sick who are there, and say to them, "The kingdom of God has come near to you." <sup>10</sup> But whenever you enter a town and they do not welcome you, go out into its streets and say, <sup>11</sup> "Even the dust of your town that clings to our feet, we wipe off in protest against you. Yet know this: the kingdom of God has come near." <sup>12</sup> I tell you, on that day it will be more tolerable for Sodom than for that town. <sup>13</sup> 'Woe to you, Chorazin! Woe to you, Bethsaida! For if the deeds of power done in you had been done in Tyre and Sidon, they would have repented long ago, sitting in sackcloth and ashes. <sup>14</sup> But at the judgement it will be more tolerable for Tyre and Sidon than for you. <sup>15</sup> And you, Capernaum, will you be exalted to heaven? No, you will be brought down to Hades. <sup>16</sup> 'Whoever listens to you listens to Me, and whoever rejects you rejects Me, and whoever rejects Me rejects the one who sent Me.' <sup>17</sup> The seventy returned with joy, saying, 'Lord, in Your name even the demons submit to us!' <sup>18</sup> He said to them, 'I watched Satan fall from heaven like a flash of lightning. <sup>19</sup> See, I have given you authority to tread on snakes and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy; and nothing will hurt you. <sup>20</sup> Nevertheless, do not rejoice at this, that the spirits submit to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven.'