

Readings for July 4, 2021 United Church of Strafford In-Person and Zoom Service

Psalm 122:1-2, 6, 8

I was glad when they said unto me, "Let us go into the house of the Lord!"
Our feet are standing within your gates, O Jerusalem.
Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: "May they prosper who love you."
For the sake of my relatives and friends I will say, "Peace be within you."

from Ezekiel 2:1-5, 33:7

He said to me: O mortal, stand up on your feet, and I will speak with you. And when he spoke to me, a spirit entered into me and set me on my feet; and I heard him speaking to me. He said to me, Mortal, I am sending you to the people of Israel..., and you shall say to them, "Thus says your God." Whether they hear or refuse to hear (for they are a rebellious house), they shall know that there has been a prophet among them....

So you, mortal, I have made a sentinel for the house of Israel; whenever you hear a word from my mouth, you shall give them warning from me.

Mark 6:1-8, 12-13

He left that place and came to his hometown, and his disciples followed him. On the sabbath he began to teach in the synagogue, and many who heard him were astounded. They said, "Where did this man get all this? What is this wisdom that has been given to him? What deeds of power are being done by his hands! Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary and brother of James and Joses and Judas and Simon, and are not his sisters here with us?" And they took offense at him.

Then Jesus said to them, "Prophets are not without honor, except in their hometown, and among their own kin, and in their own house." And he could do no deed of power there, except that he laid his hands on a few sick people and cured them. And he was amazed at their unbelief. Then he went about among the villages teaching.

He called the twelve and began to send them out two by two, and gave them authority over the unclean spirits. He ordered them to take nothing for their journey except a staff; no bread, no bag, no money in their belts....

So they went out and proclaimed that all should repent. They cast out many demons, and anointed with oil many who were sick and cured them.