

Readings for the Military & First Responders' Prayer Service

May 26th, 2021 Outdoor 7pm Service

AUGUSTINE OF CANTERBURY, BISHOP AND MISSIONARY (26 MAY 605)

Collect: O Lord our God, who by your Son Jesus Christ called your servant Augustine to preach the Gospel to the English people: We pray that all whom you call and send may do your will, bide your time, and see your glory; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Reading: 2 Corinthians 5:17-21

So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself,* not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

Psalm 66

1 Be joyful in God, all you lands; * sing the glory of his Name;
sing the glory of his praise.

2 Say to God, "How awesome are your deeds! * because of your great strength
your enemies cringe before you.

3 All the earth bows down before you, * sings to you, sings out your Name."

4 Come now and see the works of God, * how wonderful he is in his doing toward
all people.

5 He turned the sea into dry land, so that they went through the water on foot, *
and there we rejoiced in him.

6 In his might he rules for ever; his eyes keep watch over the nations; *
let no rebel rise up against him.

7 Bless our God, you peoples; * make the voice of his praise to be heard;

8 Who holds our souls in life, * and will not allow our feet to slip.

9 For you, O God, have proved us; * you have tried us just as silver is tried.

10 You brought us into the snare; * you laid heavy burdens upon our backs.

11 You let enemies ride over our heads; we went through fire and water; *
but you brought us out into a place of refreshment.

12 I will enter your house with burnt-offerings and will pay you my vows, *
which I promised with my lips and spoke with my mouth when I was in trouble.

13 I will offer you sacrifices of fat beasts with the smoke of rams; *
I will give you oxen and goats.

14 Come and listen, all you who fear God, * and I will tell you what he has done
for me.

15 I called out to him with my mouth, * and his praise was on my tongue.

16 If I had found evil in my heart, * the Lord would not have heard me;

17 But in truth God has heard me; * he has attended to the voice of my prayer.

18 Blessed be God, who has not rejected my prayer, * nor withheld his love from
me.

Gospel: Luke 5:1-11

Once while Jesus* was standing beside the lake of Gennesaret, and the crowd was pressing in on him to hear the word of God, he saw two boats there at the shore of the lake; the fishermen had gone out of them and were washing their nets. He got into one of the boats, the one belonging to Simon, and asked him to put out a little way from the shore. Then he sat down and taught the crowds from the boat. When he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, 'Put out into the deep water and let down your nets for a catch.' Simon answered, 'Master, we have worked all night long but have caught nothing. Yet if you say so, I will let down the nets.' When they had done this, they caught so many fish that their nets were beginning to break. So they signalled to their partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both boats, so that they began to sink. But when Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, 'Go away from me, Lord, for I am a sinful man!' For he and all who were with him were amazed at the catch of fish that they had taken; and so also were James and John, sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon. Then Jesus said to Simon, 'Do not be afraid; from now on you will be catching people.' When they had brought their boats to shore, they left everything and followed him.