**Readings 14 June 2020**

***Exodus 8 At Mount Sinai***

**19**On the first day of the third month after the Israelites left Egypt – on that very day – they came to the Desert of Sinai. **2**After they set out from Rephidim, they entered the Desert of Sinai, and Israel camped there in the desert in front of the mountain.

**3**Then Moses went up to God, and the Lord called to him from the mountain and said, ‘This is what you are to say to the descendants of Jacob and what you are to tell the people of Israel: **4**“You yourselves have seen what I did to Egypt, and how I carried you on eagles’ wings and brought you to myself. **5**Now if you obey me fully and keep my covenant, then out of all nations you will be my treasured possession. Although the whole earth is mine, **6**you[[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Exodus+19&version=NIVUK#fen-NIVUK-2033a)] will be for me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.” These are the words you are to speak to the Israelites.’

**7**So Moses went back and summoned the elders of the people and set before them all the words the Lord had commanded him to speak. **8**The people all responded together, ‘We will do everything the Lord has said.’ So Moses brought their answer back to the Lord.

***Romans 5 New International Version - UK (NIVUK)***

Peace and hope

**5**Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we[[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Romans+5&version=NIVUK#fen-NIVUK-28049a)] have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, **2**through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand. And we[[b](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Romans+5&version=NIVUK#fen-NIVUK-28050b)] boast in the hope of the glory of God. **3**Not only so, but we[[c](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Romans+5&version=NIVUK#fen-NIVUK-28051c)] also glory in our sufferings, because we know that suffering produces perseverance; **4**perseverance, character; and character, hope. **5**And hope does not put us to shame, because God’s love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us.

**6**You see, at just the right time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for the ungodly. **7**Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous person, though for a good person someone might possibly dare to die. **8**But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

***Matthew 9 35-38***

The workers are few

**35**Jesus went through all the towns and villages, teaching in their synagogues, proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and healing every disease and illness. **36**When he saw the crowds, he had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. **37**Then he said to his disciples, ‘The harvest is plentiful but the workers are few. **38**Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field.