

May 14, 2023

Psalm 66: 8-20

<sup>8</sup> Bless our God, O peoples;  
let the sound of his praise be heard,  
<sup>9</sup> who has kept us among the living  
and has not let our feet slip.

<sup>10</sup> **For you, O God, have tested us;  
you have tried us as silver is tried.**

<sup>11</sup> You brought us into the net;  
You laid affliction on our loins;

<sup>12</sup> **you let people ride over our heads;  
we went through fire and through water;  
yet you have brought us forth to a spacious place.**

<sup>13</sup> I will come into your house with burnt offerings;  
I will pay you my vows,

<sup>14</sup> that which my lips uttered  
and my mouth promised when I was in trouble.

<sup>15</sup> **I will offer to you burnt offerings of fatlings,  
with the smoke of the sacrifice of rams;  
I will make an offering of bulls and goats.**

<sup>16</sup> Come and hear, all you who worship God,  
and I will tell what God has done for me.

<sup>17</sup> **I cried aloud to God,  
who was highly praised with my tongue.**

<sup>18</sup> If I had cherished iniquity in my heart,  
the Lord would not have listened.

<sup>19</sup> **But truly God has listened;  
and has given heed to the voice of my prayer.**

<sup>20</sup> **Blessed be God,  
who has not rejected my prayer  
or removed his steadfast love from me.**

### 1 Peter 3: 13-22

<sup>13</sup> And who is he who will harm you if you become followers of what is good? <sup>14</sup> But even if you should suffer for righteousness' sake, you are blessed. "And do not be afraid of their threats, nor be troubled." <sup>15</sup> But sanctify the Lord God in your hearts, and always be ready to give a defense to everyone who asks you a reason for the hope that is in you, with meekness and fear; <sup>16</sup> having a good conscience, that when they defame you as evildoers, those who revile your good conduct in Christ may be ashamed. <sup>17</sup> For it is better, if it is the will of God, to suffer for doing good than for doing evil.

<sup>18</sup> For Christ also suffered once for sins, the just for the unjust, that He might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive by the Spirit, <sup>19</sup> by whom also He went and preached to the spirits in prison, <sup>20</sup> who formerly were disobedient, when once the Divine longsuffering waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was being prepared, in which a few, that is, eight souls, were saved through water. <sup>21</sup> There is also an antitype which now saves us—baptism (not the removal of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God), through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, <sup>22</sup> who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, angels and authorities and powers having been made subject to Him.

### St John 14: 15-21

<sup>15</sup> "If you love Me, keep My commandments. <sup>16</sup> And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may abide with you forever— <sup>17</sup> the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him; but you know Him, for He dwells with you and will be in you. <sup>18</sup> I will not leave you orphans; I will come to you. <sup>19</sup> "A little while longer and the world will see Me no more, but you will see Me. Because I live, you will live also. <sup>20</sup> At that day you will know that I am in My Father, and you in Me, and I in you. <sup>21</sup> He who has My commandments and keeps them, it is he who loves Me. And he who loves Me will be loved by My Father, and I will love him and manifest Myself to him."

