

## **Scripture for June 20, 2021**

**From the Hebrew Bible / Old Testament:**

**Psalm 9:9-20 (adapted)**

The Lord is a stronghold for the oppressed,

a stronghold in times of trouble.

And those who know your name put their trust in you,

for you, O Lord, have not forsaken those who seek you.

The nations have sunk in the pit that they made;

in the net that they hid has their own foot been caught.

The Lord has been made known, he has executed judgment;

the wicked are snared in the work of their own hands.

The wicked shall depart to Sheol,

all the nations that forget God.

For the needy shall not always be forgotten,

nor the hope of the poor perish forever.

### **Luke 8:5-10 (Message Translation)**

Jesus continued according to plan, traveled to town after town, village after village, preaching God's kingdom, spreading the Message.

As they went, a lot of people joined in and traveled along. Jesus addressed them, using this story: "A farmer went out to sow his seed. Some of it fell on the road; it was tramped down and the birds ate it. Other seed fell in the gravel; it sprouted, but withered because it didn't have good roots. Other seed fell in the weeds; the weeds grew with it and strangled it. Other seed fell in rich earth and produced a bumper crop.

"Are you listening to this? Really listening?"

His disciples asked, "Why did you tell this story?"

He said, "You've been given insight into God's kingdom—you know how it works. There are others who need stories. But even with stories some of them aren't going to get it.