Jim de Jong

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Abstract

The king was greatly distressed, but because of his oaths and his dinner guests, he did not want to refuse her. So he immediately sent an executioner with orders to bring John’s head. The man went, beheaded John in the prison, and brought back his head on a platter. He presented it to the girl, and she gave it to her mother.
Mark 6 26-28

47B Pentecost 7B - Online Liturgy

Who and what rules our actions

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**Gospel**

*Mark 6:14-29*

14 King Herod heard about this, for Jesus’ name had become well known. Some were saying, “John the Baptist has been raised from the dead, and that is why miraculous powers are at work in him.”

15 Others said, “He is Elijah.”

And still others claimed, “He is a prophet, like one of the prophets of long ago.”

16 But when Herod heard this, he said, “John, whom I beheaded, has been raised from the dead!”

17 For Herod himself had given orders to have John arrested, and he had him bound and put in prison. He did this because of Herodias, his brother Philip’s wife, whom he had married. 18 For John had been saying to Herod, “It is not lawful for you to have your brother’s wife.” 19 So Herodias nursed a grudge against John and wanted to kill him. But she was not able to, 20 because Herod feared John and protected him, knowing him to be a righteous and holy man. When Herod heard John, he was greatly puzzled; yet he liked to listen to him.

21 Finally the opportune time came. On his birthday Herod gave a banquet for his high officials and military commanders and the leading men of Galilee. 22 When the daughter of Herodias came in and danced, she pleased Herod and his dinner guests.

The king said to the girl, “Ask me for anything you want, and I’ll give it to you.” 23 And he promised her with an oath, “Whatever you ask I will give you, up to half my kingdom.”

24 She went out and said to her mother, “What shall I ask for?”

“The head of John the Baptist,” she answered.

25 At once the girl hurried in to the king with the request: “I want you to give me right now the head of John the Baptist on a platter.”

26 The king was greatly distressed, but because of his oaths and his dinner guests, he did not want to refuse her. 27 So he immediately sent an executioner with orders to bring John’s head. The man went, beheaded John in the prison, 28 and brought back his head on a platter. He presented it to the girl, and she gave it to her mother. 29 On hearing of this, John’s disciples came and took his body and laid it in a tomb.

Response

For the word of the Lord

**Thanks be to God**

# 47B Pentecost 7B - Online Liturgy

## Who and what rules our actions

SUNDAY, JULY 11, 2021 | AFTER PENTECOST | PROPER 10 | YEAR B

Old Testament & Psalm, Option I

Old Testament 2 Samuel 6:1–5, 12b–19

Psalm Psalm 24

or

Old Testament & Psalm, Option II

Old Testament Amos 7:7–15

Psalm Psalm 85:8–13

New Testament Ephesians 1:3–14

Gospel Mark 6:14–29[[1]](#endnote-1)

John the Baptist has criticised Herod’s wife, Herodias. Therefore, she becomes angry and wants to kill John. Although Herod is enraged too, he respects John and knows that he is a holy man. At a party, Herod promises his stepdaughter anything she wants, and on her mother’s advice she asks for the head of John the Baptist. Although Herod doesn’t want to kill John, he has to keep a promise made in front of his guests.

It is a story that raises questions about who influences us, who we listen to, and what governs our actions.

This week we explore who and what rules our actions.[[2]](#endnote-2)

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|  | Pre-ServiceBabylon (by the waters- the waters of Babylon) by Don McLean back in the ’70s |
|  | Introit |
|  | GreetingMay the grace of our Lord Jesus ChristThe Love of Godand the fellowship of the Holy Spiritbe with us all**and also with us** |
|  | We GatherAs we come together today,let us be mindful of our words and actionsand the impact they have on those around us.Let us seek God’s wisdom and loveto guide us in all that we seek to do,today and in days to come.Acknowledgements*Let us pray*Almighty God, we praise youthat you show us how to use power wisely.Help us, as we worship together,to learn more of your ways,to understand that our actions have consequences,and to seek your wisdom in making decisionsthat may impact on others.This we ask in Jesus’ name.Amen. |
|  | We say sorryPowerful God, forgive uswhen we have not used our power to influence for good,but for our own purposes;when our actions have hurt and excluded others;when we have allowed greed, fear and prideto get in the way.God, forgive us.Let our thoughts, our words and our actionsglorify you and reveal your presence and purposes.Amen. |
|  | Words of AssuranceThe almighty and powerful God forgives your sins.When you have put yourself before others,God forgives you and heals you,giving you grace and mercyand the comfort of the Holy Spirit.Amen. |
|  | Hymn/songTIS #224 – “All hail the power of Jesus’ name” |
|  | WelcomeIf this week’s reading get’s made into a commercial movie I can only say it would have to have an MA+15rating, I don’t think I could watch it. I’m squeamish*Let us pray*All-powerful one,we come today to worship you,safe in the knowledge that you are in control.Amen. |
|  | ReadingsMark 6.14-29*respond*For the word of the Lord**Thanks be to God** |
|  |  |
|  | Hymn/SongTIS # 778 – “Longing for light, we wait in darkness” |
|  | Address |
|  | Hymn/songTIS #607 – “Make me a channel of your peace” |
|  | Offering |
|  | Notices |
|  | Prayers for all people |
|  | Lord’s Prayer |
|  | Hymn/songTIS #599 – “Take my life, and let it be” |
|  | We are sent outHeavenly Father,from the very beginning of Genesis,we see the relationship between word and action –you spoke and it was so.As we leave this place,may we be aware of our words and actions.May the Holy Spirit guide us,so that what we say and what we dobuilds up your kingdom,and breaks down barriers.This we ask in Jesus’ name.Amen.May the Lord bless us and keep usMay His face shine upon us and be gracious to usMay he lift up His countenance upon us and give us peace |
|  | BenedictionTIS #778 – “Shalom” |
|  | Thank you |
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1. https://app.logos.com/books/D [↑](#endnote-ref-1)
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