



June 6, 2021

HOPE
Chosen Family

Rev. Emma Chattin,
Preaching

First Reading ~ *Psalm 130*

Out of the depths I cry to you, YHWH!
God, hear my voice!
Let your ears be attentive to my voice, my cries for mercy!
If you kept track of our failings, YHWH,
who could stand before you?
But with you there is forgiveness, and for this we revere you

So I wait for you, YHWH – my soul waits,
and in you I place my trust.
My soul longs for you, YHWH,
more than sentinels long for the sunrise,
more than sentinels long for the sunrise.
Put your hope in YHWH,
for with YHWH there is abundant love and the fullness of deliverance.
God will deliver us from all our failings

Second Reading ~ *Mark 3:20-35*

Then Jesus went home, and again a crowd gathered so that he and his disciples were not even able to eat. When Jesus' family and relatives heard about this, they went out to take charge of him, thinking he had lost his mind. The religious scholars who had come down from Jerusalem said, "He is possessed by Beelzebub," and "He casts out demons through the ruler of demons."

Summoning them, Jesus spoke in parables: "How can Satan cast out Satan? If a realm is divided against itself, it cannot last. If a house is divided against itself, that house cannot stand. And if Satan has suffered mutiny in the ranks and is torn by dissension, the devil is finished and cannot endure. No attacker can enter a stronghold unless the defender is first put under restraint. Only then can the attacker plunder the stronghold."

"The truth is, every sin, failing, and blasphemy the people utter will be forgiven. But those who blaspheme against the Breath of God will never have forgiveness. They are guilty of an eternal transgression." Jesus spoke all this because they said, "He is possessed by an impure spirit."

Jesus' mother and brothers arrived and sent in a message asking for him. A crowd was sitting around Jesus and they said to him, "Your mother and brothers are outside looking for you." Jesus replied, "Who is my mother? Who is my family?" And looking around at everyone there, Jesus said, "This is my family! Anyone who does the will of God, that person is my sister, my brother, sibling, my mother."

Third Reading ~ *adapted from Hector Xtravaganza ("Grandfather of Ballroom")*

Blood does not family make. Those are relatives. Family are those with whom you share your good, bad, and ugly, and still love one another in the end. Those are the ones you choose.