



Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Year A

Exodus 14:19-31 and Psalm 114 or Exodus 15:1b-11, 20-21 •

Genesis 50:15-21 and Psalm 103:(1-7), 8-13

Romans 14:1-12 • Matthew 18:21-35

Then Moses stretched out his hand
over the sea. The LORD drove the sea
back ... and the waters were divided.

Exodus 14:21ac



Moses and the Crossing of the Red Sea -- John August Swanson

The Israelites went into the sea on dry ground, the waters forming a wall for them on their right and on their left.

Exodus 14:22

Dixit Dñs ad Moysen Eleva virgam tuam & extende manum tuam
super mare & divide illud ut gradientur filii Israel in medio
mari per siccum



Crossing of the Red Sea -- Abbess of Hohenburg, Hortus Deliciarum

Thus the LORD saved Israel that day ...

Exodus 14:30a



Star of David -- Fourth century C.E., Byzantine Basilica, Shilo, Israel

Then the prophet Miriam, Aaron's sister, took a tambourine in her hand; and all the women went out after her with tambourines and with dancing.

Exodus 15:20

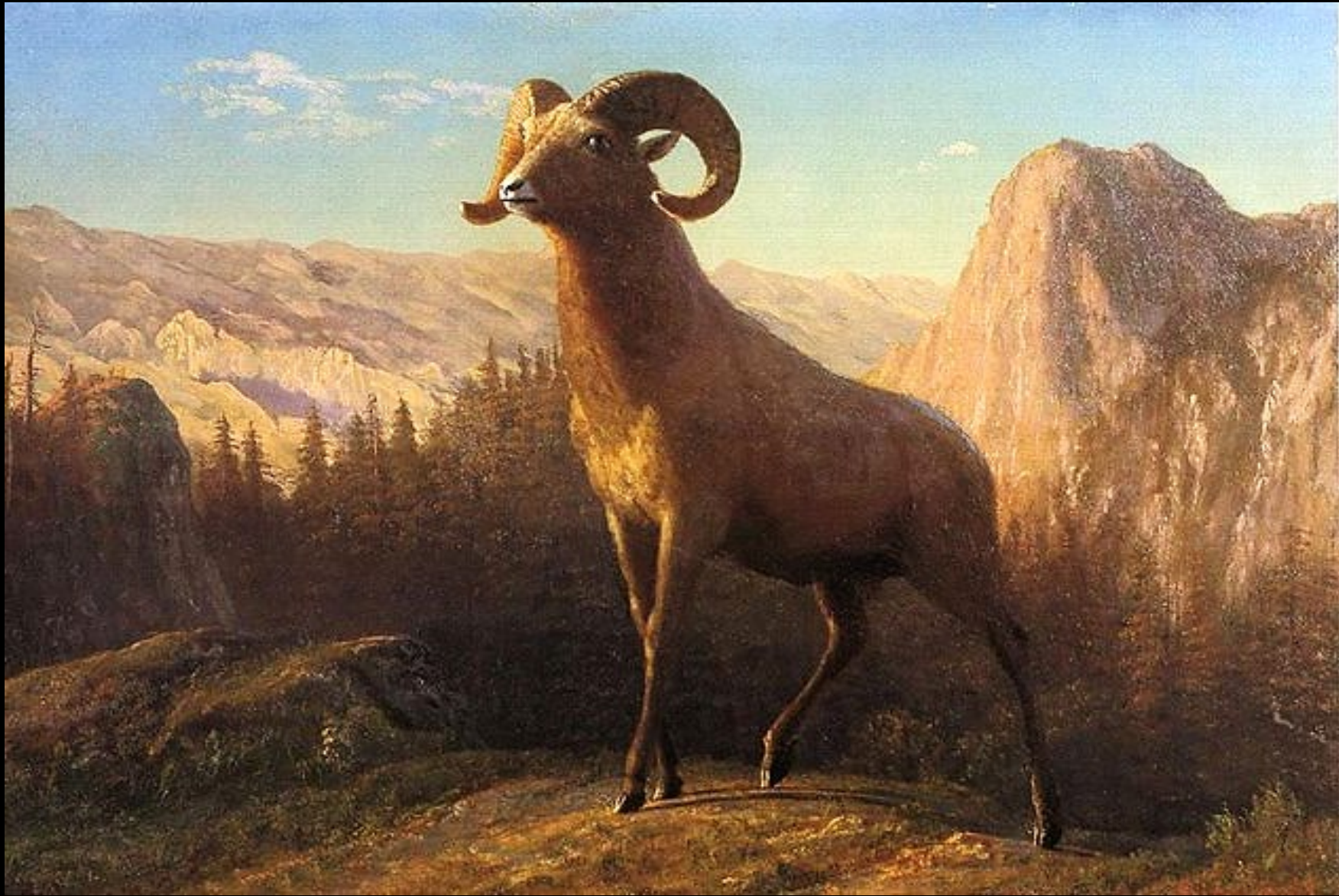


The Prophet Miriam

Anselm Feuerbach
Berlin State Museums
Berlin, Germany

Why is it, O sea, that you flee?
O mountains, that you skip like rams?
O hills, like lambs?

Psalm 114:5a, 6



A Rocky Mountain Sheep, Ovis, Montana -- Albert Bierstadt, lithograph

The LORD is merciful and gracious ...
He does not deal with us according to
our sins, nor repay us according to our
iniquities.

Psalm 103:8a, 10



Merciful Mother

Multi-media

As a father has compassion for his children, so the LORD has compassion for those who fear him.

Psalm 103:13



Depending on God -- Liz Valente

Why do you pass judgment on your brother or sister? Or you, why do you despise your brother or sister?

Romans 14:10



Tangled Blessing - Jacob and Esau -- Lauren Wright Pittman

Then Peter came and said to him, "Lord, if my brother or sister sins against me, how often should I forgive? As many as seven times?"

Matthew 18:21

It is easier to forgive an Enemy than to forgive a Friend:
 The man who permits you to injure him, does not your vengeance.
 He also will receive it: go Spectre obey my most secret desire:
 Which thou knowest without my speaking: Go to these Fields of Righteousness:
 Tell them to obey their Humanities, & not pretend Holiness;
 When they are murderers: as for as my Hammer & Anvil permit
 Go, tell them that the Worship of God, is honouring his gifts
 To other men: & loving the greatest men best, each according
 To his Genius: which is the Holy Ghost in Man; there is no other
 God, than that God who is the intellectual fountain of Humanity:
 He who envies or calumniates: which is murder & cruelty,
 Murders the Holy-one: Go tell them this & overthrow their cup,
 Their bread, their altar-table, their incense & their oath:
 Their marriage & their baptism, their burial & consecration:
 I have tried to make friends by corporeal gifts but have only
 Made enemies: I never made friends but by spiritual gifts:
 By severe contentions of friendship & the burning fire of thought:
 He who would see the Divinity must see him in his Children
 One first, in friendship & love; then a Divine Family, & in the mist
 Jesus will appear: so he who wishes to see a Vision; a perfect Whole
 Must see it in its Minute Particulars: Organized & not as thou
 O Friend of Reprehensiveness pretendest; there is a Disorganized
 And snowy cloud; broader of tempests & destructive War
 You smile with pomp & rigor: you talk of benevolence & virtue:
 You act with benevolence & virtue & get murdered time after time:
 You accumulate Particulars, & murder by analyzing, that you
 May take the aggregate; & you call the aggregate Moral Law;
 And you call that Swell'd & bloated Form; a Minute Particular.
 But General Forms have their vitality in Particulars: & every
 Particular is a Man; a Divine Member of the Divine Jesus.

So Los cried at his Anvil in the horrible darkness weeping:
 The Spectre builded stupendous Works, taking the Starry Heavens
 Like to a curtain & rolling them according to his will
 Repeating the Sinaraggaire Table of Firmes to draw Los down
 Into the Indefinite, refusing to believe without demonstration
 Los reads the Stars of Athos: the Spectre reads the Voids
 Between the Stars; amidst the arches of Athos, and sublime
 Rolling the Sea in rock pyramids: forming Lebanon
 And Behemoth; the War by Sea enormous & the War
 By Land astounding; erecting pillars in the deepest Hell,
 To reach the heavenly arches: Los beheld unaltered, furious
 His heavy hammer; he swung it round & at one blow,
 In unpeering ruin driving down the pyramids of pride,
 Smashing the Spectre on his Anvil & the integuments of his Eye
 And Ear unbinding in dire pain, with many blows,
 Of strict severity self-subduing, & with many tears labouring.
 Then he sent forth the Spectre all his pyramids were grains
 Of sand & his pillars; dust on the Fly's wing; & his Starry
 Heavens; a moth of gold & silver mocking his anxious grasp
 Thus Los altered his Spectre & every Ratio of his Reason
 He altered time after time, with dire pain & many tears
 Till he had completely divided him into a separate space.

Terrified Los sat to behold trembling & weeping & howling
 I care not whether a Man is Good or Evil; all that I care
 Is whether he is a Wise Man or a Fool, Go: put off Holiness
 And put on Intellect: or my thunderous Hammer shall drive thee
 To wrath which thou condemnest: till thou obey my voice

So Los terrified cries; trembling & weeping & howling! Beholding



"It is easier to forgive an enemy
 than to forgive a friend..."
 from *Jerusalem*

William Blake
 Yale Center for British Art
 New Haven, CT

Jesus said to him, "Not seven times,
but, I tell you, seventy-seven times.

Matthew 18:22

Reconciliation of Jacob and Esau

Peter Paul Rubens
National Gallery
Edinburgh, Scotland



And out of pity for him, the lord of that slave released him and forgave him the debt.

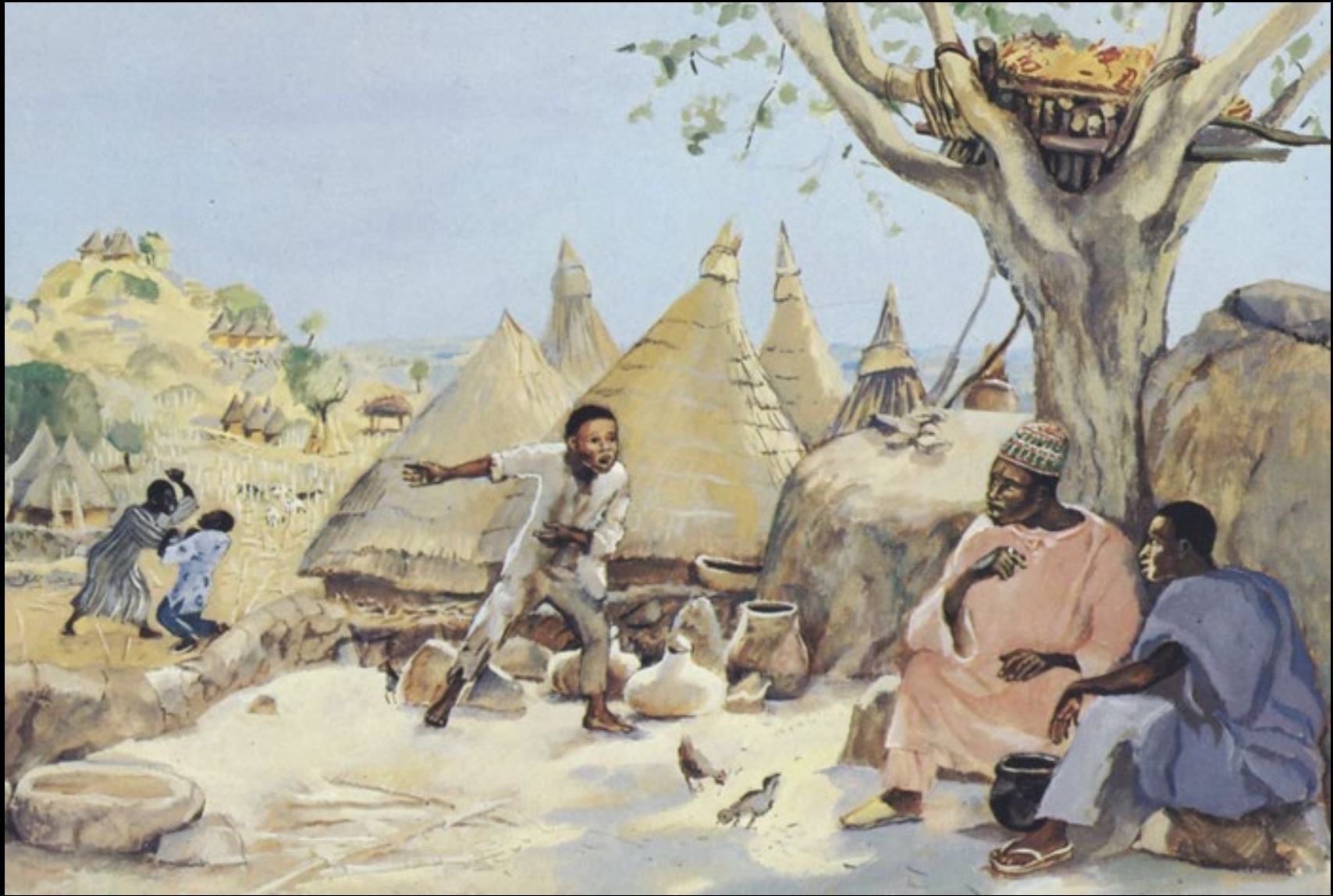
Matthew 18:27



St. Lawrence Distributing the Riches of the Church -- Master of the Osservanza, National Gallery, Washington, DC

But that same slave, as he went out,
came upon one of his fellow slaves ...
and seizing him by the throat, he said,
'Pay what you owe.'

Matthew 18:28ac



The Unforgiving Servant -- JESUS MAFA, Cameroon

Then his lord summoned
him and said to him ...
“Should you not have had
mercy on your fellow slave,
as I had mercy on you?”

Matthew 18:32a, 33

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