

This Week's Sermon: No Hard Hearts  
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## Scripture readings during worship

### [Psalm 95:6-11](#)

**6**

Come, let us bow down in worship,  
let us kneel before the Lord our Maker;

**7**

for he is our God  
and we are the people of his pasture,  
the flock under his care.

Today, if only you would hear his voice,

**8**

“Do not harden your hearts as you did at Meribah,  
as you did that day at Massah in the wilderness,

**9**

where your ancestors tested me;  
they tried me, though they had seen what I did.

**10**

For forty years I was angry with that generation;  
I said, ‘They are a people whose hearts go astray,  
and they have not known my ways.’

**11**

So I declared on oath in my anger,  
‘They shall never enter my rest.’”

## Sermon Scripture

### [Mark 6:31-56](#)

**31** Then, because so many people were coming and going that they did not even have a chance to eat, he said to them, “Come with me by yourselves to a quiet place and get some rest.”

**32** So they went away by themselves in a boat to a solitary place. **33** But many who saw them leaving recognized them and ran on foot from all the towns and got there ahead of them. **34** When Jesus landed and saw a large crowd, he had

compassion on them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd. So he began teaching them many things.

**35** By this time it was late in the day, so his disciples came to him. “This is a remote place,” they said, “and it’s already very late.” **36** Send the people away so that they can go to the surrounding countryside and villages and buy themselves something to eat.”

**37** But he answered, “You give them something to eat.”

They said to him, “That would take more than half a year’s wages! Are we to go and spend that much on bread and give it to them to eat?”

**38** “How many loaves do you have?” he asked. “Go and see.”

When they found out, they said, “Five—and two fish.”

**39** Then Jesus directed them to have all the people sit down in groups on the green grass. **40** So they sat down in groups of hundreds and

fifties. **41** Taking the five loaves and the two fish and looking up to heaven, he gave thanks and broke the loaves. Then he gave them to his disciples to distribute to the people. He also divided the two fish among them

all. **42** They all ate and were satisfied, **43** and the disciples picked up twelve basketfuls of broken pieces of bread and fish. **44** The number of the men who had eaten was five thousand.

### **Jesus Walks on the Water**

**45** Immediately Jesus made his disciples get into the boat and go on ahead of him to Bethsaida, while he dismissed the crowd. **46** After leaving them, he went up on a mountainside to pray. **47** Later that night, the boat was in the middle of the lake, and he was alone on land. **48** He saw the disciples straining at the oars, because the wind was against them. Shortly before dawn he went out to them, walking on the lake. He was about to pass by them, **49** but when they saw him walking on the lake, they thought he was a ghost. They cried out, **50** because they all saw him and were terrified. Immediately he spoke to them and said, “Take courage! It is I. Don’t be afraid.” **51** Then he climbed into the boat with them, and the wind died down. They were completely amazed, **52** for they had not understood about the loaves; their hearts were hardened.

**53** When they had crossed over, they landed at Gennesaret and anchored there. **54** As soon as they got out of the boat, people recognized Jesus. **55** They ran throughout that whole region and carried the sick on mats to wherever they heard he was. **56** And wherever he went—into villages, towns or countryside—they placed the sick in the marketplaces. They begged him to let them touch even the edge of his cloak, and all who touched it were healed.

Themes: We will continue in the theme of the gospel of Mark to examine how Jesus continued to teach his disciples with the feeding of 5,000 and walking on water. What lessons can we learn about the hardening of our hearts when it comes to bringing the kingdom of God to the world around us?