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June 14, 2026

Eleventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

Ex 19:2-6a | Rom 5:6-11 | Mt 9:36—10:8

Written by
THE
FAITHFUL
DISCIPLE

GROW AS A DISCIPLE | PRAY, STUDY, ENGAGE, SERVE

Our first reading from Exodus contains a promise: “If you hearken to my voice and keep my covenant, you shall be my special possession, dearer to me than all other people.” God promises to make Israel “a kingdom of priests, a holy nation,” if they keep the covenant. Reading the rest of the Old Testament, we know how this turns out: humanity never fully keeps our part of the covenant. And yet God is faithful, despite our unfaithfulness. In the Gospel, Jesus sends his disciples not to pagan territory or any Samaritan towns, but to “the lost sheep of the house of Israel,” revealing that God never abandons his chosen ones. Indeed, this is the same point Paul makes when he says, “But God proves his love for us in that while we were still sinners Christ died for us.” Our discipleship begins from a deep awareness of the relentless love with which God pursues us. Even when we stray from our baptismal covenant with him, he comes looking to save us and bring us back to himself.

GO EVANGELIZE

PRAYER, INVITATION, WITNESS, ACCOMPANIMENT

Today’s Gospel ends with a powerful reminder to all evangelizers: “Without cost you have received; without cost you are to give.” Knowing the limitless mercy of God – how God has reconciled us to himself through Christ’s suffering and death, we are to imitate his generosity in bearing witness to the Gospel. Knowing the love which has saved us, our hearts are moved – as Jesus’ was at the sight of the crowd – to see that others come to know his love. Therefore, the generosity with which Jesus calls us to pour ourselves out for the sake of the Gospel is not an imposition from outside us, but a response to the love we have received that compels us from within to make him and his kingdom known.

PRAY

St. Ignatius of Loyola wrote a prayer now known as the Prayer for Generosity. Pray this prayer each day this week, asking the Lord to increase your generosity as you labor in his “harvest,” sharing the Good News of his kingdom. *Eternal Word, only begotten Son of God, teach me true generosity. Teach me to serve you as you deserve. To give without counting the cost, to fight heedless of wounds, to labor without seeking rest, to sacrifice myself without thought of any reward save the knowledge that I have done your will. Amen.*