**July 4, 2021**

**First Reading: 2 Samuel 5:1-5, 9-10**

Then all the tribes of Israel came to David at Hebron, and said, “Look, we are your bone and flesh. **2**For some time, while Saul was king over us, it was you who led out Israel and brought it in. The Lord said to you: It is you who shall be shepherd of my people Israel, you who shall be ruler over Israel.” **3**So all the elders of Israel came to the king at Hebron; and King David made a covenant with them at Hebron before the Lord, and they anointed David king over Israel. **4**David was thirty years old when he began to reign, and he reigned forty years. **5**At Hebron he reigned over Judah seven years and six months; and at Jerusalem he reigned over all Israel and Judah thirty-three years.

**9**David occupied the stronghold, and named it the city of David. David built the city all around from the Millo inward. **10**And David became greater and greater, for the Lord, the God of hosts, was with him.

**Second Reading: Psalm 48**

**1**Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised in the city of our God.
His holy mountain, **2**beautiful in elevation, is the joy of all the earth,
Mount Zion, in the far north, the city of the great King.
**3**Within its citadels God has shown himself a sure defense.

**4**Then the kings assembled, they came on together.
**5**As soon as they saw it, they were astounded;
    they were in panic, they took to flight;
**6**trembling took hold of them there, pains as of a woman in labor,
**7**as when an east wind shatters the ships of Tarshish.
**8**As we have heard, so have we seen in the city of the Lord of hosts,
in the city of our God, which God establishes forever.*Selah*

**9**We ponder your steadfast love, O God,
    in the midst of your temple.
**10**Your name, O God, like your praise, reaches to the ends of the earth.
Your right hand is filled with victory.
**11**    Let Mount Zion be glad, let the towns[[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Psalm+48&version=NRSV#fen-NRSV-14646a)] of Judah rejoice
    because of your judgments.

**12**Walk about Zion, go all around it, count its towers,
**13**consider well its ramparts; go through its citadels,
that you may tell the next generation
**14**    that this is God, our God forever and ever.
    He will be our guide forever.

**Sermon Scripture: 1 Corinthians 1:3-9**

**3**Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

**4**I give thanks to my[[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+Corinthians+1%3A3-9&version=NRSV#fen-NRSV-28352a)] God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, **5**for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind— **6**just as the testimony of[[b](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+Corinthians+1%3A3-9&version=NRSV#fen-NRSV-28354b)] Christ has been strengthened among you— **7**so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. **8**He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. **9**God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.