

## SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

### Proper 5

(7 June 2026)

Hosea 5:15–6:6

Romans 4:13–25

Matthew 9:9–13

### ***Jesus Calls Sinners to Repentance and Newness of Life in Accordance with His Mercy***

In calling Matthew the tax collector to follow Him, Jesus demonstrates that He has come *“not to call the righteous, but sinners”* (Matt. 9:9, 13). As a good physician, He comes not to confirm them in their sins, but to heal them with His grace, calling them to repentance, faith and newness of life (Matt. 9:12). He puts them to death by the preaching of His Law, in order to raise them with His Gospel, to live before Him in the righteousness of His resurrection (Hos. 6:1–2, 5). It is in this way that God *“gives life to the dead,”* that is, through faith in Jesus, *“who was delivered up for our trespasses and raised for our justification”* (Rom. 4:17, 24–25). Thus, sinners from all nations are called to share the same faith as Abraham, the father of all who trust in Jesus (Rom. 4:16–18). And as our Lord in mercy thus welcomes us poor sinners to recline at the table in His house, so does He *“desire steadfast love and not sacrifice”* (Matt. 9:10, 13; Hos. 6:6), that we should have mercy on our neighbors and forgive their sins against us for Jesus’ sake.