

**THIS WEEK'S SCRIPTURES**  
**June 21, 2020**  
**12th Sunday of Ordinary Time**  
**Jeremiah 20:10-13 † Romans 5:12-15 † Matthew 10:26-33**



**Reflection by: Pat Crowley, OP**

***We will stand up straight and proclaim your Word.*** (Introductory Prayers)

God knows us better than we know ourselves. Loving every part of us. God counts on us to spread the Word. But as we have seen in recent weeks and months we are distracted, we cannot breathe. We have no control of virus or climate, and there is a knee on our neck. "Have no fear," you say.

As your Spirit, The Wild Goose, pursues us, calls to us, we beg, breathe in us again and be our nerve and our backbone. Call us to stand up straight and proclaim your Word in a loud voice to all the people, in all the places, times and events of our lives. There is panic and as Jeremiah tells the people, "Praise the Lord! Sing!" When everything crashes around us, when there is terror on every side, let us not forget trust, trust in the Lord's mercy.

Christ tells us to "speak in the light" the truth that is needed to be spoken. Do we have the courage? "Prophets were the sirens in the night, the sowers of far-flung seeds, the eternal agitators in the soul of the people, of the nations, torches in the murk of confusion" (Joan Chittister, *The Time is Now*).

Is this the time? Are you standing tall? Can we hear your voice?

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