

Scripture Reading for July 19  
Micah 3:9-4:5, Common English Bible

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Today's reading comes from the book of Micah, chapter 3 verse 9 through chapter 4 verse 5:

Hear this, leaders of the house of Jacob,  
rulers of the house of Israel,  
you who reject justice and make crooked all that is straight,  
10 who build Zion with bloodshed and Jerusalem with injustice!  
11 Her officials give justice for a bribe,  
and her priests teach for hire.  
Her prophets offer divination for silver,  
yet they rely on the Lord, saying,  
"Isn't the Lord in our midst?  
Evil won't come upon us!"  
12 Therefore, because of you, Zion will be plowed like a field,  
Jerusalem will become piles of rubble,  
and the temple mount will become an overgrown mound.  
But in the days to come,  
the mountain of the Lord's house  
will be the highest of the mountains;  
it will be lifted above the hills;  
peoples will stream to it.  
2 Many nations will go and say:  
"Come, let's go up to the mountain of the Lord,  
to the house of Jacob's God,  
so that he may teach us his ways  
and we may walk in God's paths!"  
Instruction will come from Zion  
and the Lord's word from Jerusalem.  
3 God will judge between the nations  
and settle disputes of mighty nations,  
which are far away.  
They will beat their swords into iron plows  
and their spears into pruning tools.  
Nation will not take up sword against nation;  
they will no longer learn how to make war.  
4 All will sit underneath their own grapevines,  
under their own fig trees.  
There will be no one to terrify them;  
for the mouth of the Lord of heavenly forces has spoken.  
5 Each of the peoples walks in the name of their own god;

but as for us, we will walk in the name of the Lord our God  
forever and always.

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Hear what the spirit is saying to the church. Thanks be to God. Amen.