## INSPIRING WORSHIP ALL WEEK

K E Y	For Herod himself had given orders to have John arrested, and he had him bound and put in prison. He did this because of Herodias, his brother Phillip's wife, whom he had married. For John had been saying to Herod, "It is not lawful for you to have your brother's wife." Mark 6:17-18
R E A D I N G S	Preparing for Sunday, July 14 <sup>th</sup>
	Day 1— Amos 7:7-15
	Day 2— Psalm 85:8-13
	Day 3— Ephesians 1:3-14
	Day 4— Mark 6:14-29
	Day 5— 2 Samuel 6:1-19
	Day 6— Psalm 24
	*Sunday readings in bold.
A P L Y	Standing up to rich and powerful people for what we believe is right can sometimes get us into trouble. John the Baptist lost his life for standing up to Herod and Herodias. And in our Old Testament verse, the prophet Amos lost his life for prophesying negative things about Israel to Amaziah the priest. Amaziah reportedly beat Amos to death with a club. In our world today, we may not have our head served on a platter for standing up for what's right. But it can still be a difficult thing to defy those who would take advantage of others for their gain. Yet, as we have read about John the Baptist and Amos, the victory is not always in the success or failure of what we do, but rather it is in being obedient to God's call to act on what we know to be right.
P R A Y E R	God of power and might, give us strength when you call upon us to witness to justice in company with all those who have come before us, proclaiming God's saving love. Amen.