

Bouquet Caboodle



Highland Lectionary Series

June 14, 2026

Laughable

Genesis 18:1-15; Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19;
Romans 5:1-8; Matthew 9:35-10:8

Today's Big Idea

God likes to use the unlikely route to achieve His ends in order to dismantle human hubris, display the glory of His grace, and grow faith in us.

Old Age Baby and Galileean Disciples

The promise of an old age conception: Genesis 18:10

Abraham was 100 and Sarah was 90: Genesis 17:17

Jesus chooses His disciples from contemptible Galilee: John 7:40-52; John 1:46, Matthew 26:73

God works through the unexpected, underdog, against the odds, improbable, impossible vehicle

Can you think of other examples?

Why Does God Do This?

Display the glory of His grace: Ephesians 1:6

Dismantle human hubris: 1 Corinthians 1:26-29

Provide a fertile field for faith and trust in God to grow: Romans 4:19-22; Hebrews 11:1-7

The Laughable Prospect!

The laughter of **amazement** (hope, expectation, anticipation, excitement)

The laughter of **skepticism** (disbelief, unwilling to hope, protected against getting hurt)

The laughter of **mockery** (disdain for prospect, antagonism at the backward way, expression of disappointment for past let-downs, superiority)

The laughter of **joy** (belief, gratitude, wonder, affection, love)

Abraham's skeptical laughter in Genesis 17:17

Sarah's mocking laughter in Genesis 18:12

The joyful naming of Isaac: Genesis 21:1-7

Skepticism and mockery turn to amazement and joy

When facing the improbable or impossible, try laughing for joy first

Let's interact!

The Key Excerpts for This Week's Thematic Thread

| <i>Genesis 18:1-15</i> | <i>Psalms 116:1-2, 12-19</i> | <i>Romans 5:1-8</i> | <i>Matthew 9:35-10:8</i> |
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| <p>9 They said to him, "Where is your wife Sarah?" And he said, "There, in the tent." 10 Then one said, "I will surely return to you in due season, and your wife Sarah shall have a son." And Sarah was listening at the tent entrance behind him. 11 Now Abraham and Sarah were old, advanced in age; it had ceased to be with Sarah after the manner of women. 12 So Sarah laughed to herself, saying, "After I have grown old, and my husband is old, shall I be fruitful?" 13 The Lord said to Abraham, "Why did Sarah laugh and say, 'Shall I indeed bear a child, now that I am old?'" 14 Is anything too wonderful for the Lord? At the set time I will return to you, in due season, and Sarah shall have a son." 15 But Sarah denied, saying, "I did not laugh," for she was afraid. He said, "Yes, you did laugh."</p> | <p>1 I love the Lord because he has heard my voice and my supplications. 2 Because he inclined his ear to me, therefore I will call on him as long as I live. 12 What shall I return to the Lord for all his bounty to me? 13 I will lift up the cup of salvation and call on the name of the Lord; 14 I will pay my vows to the Lord in the presence of all his people. 15 Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his faithful ones. 16 O Lord, I am your servant; I am your serving girl. You have loosed my bonds. 17 I will offer to you a thanksgiving sacrifice and call on the name of the Lord. 18 I will pay my vows to the Lord in the presence of all his people, 19 in the courts of the house of the Lord, in your midst, O Jerusalem. Praise the Lord!</p> | <p>5 Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, 2 through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand, and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. 3 And not only that, but we also boast in our afflictions, knowing that affliction produces endurance, 4 and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, 5 and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us. 6 For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. 7 Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. 8 But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us.</p> | <p>35 Then Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and curing every disease and every sickness. 36 When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. 37 Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; 38 therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest." 10 Then Jesus summoned his twelve disciples and gave them authority over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to cure every disease and every sickness. 2 These are the names of the twelve apostles: first, Simon, also known as Peter, and his brother Andrew; James son of Zebedee and his brother John; 3 Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas and Matthew the tax collector; James son of Alphaeus and Thaddaeus; 4 Simon the Cananaean and Judas Iscariot, the one who betrayed him. 5 These twelve Jesus sent out with the following instructions: "Do not take a road leading to gentiles, and do not enter a Samaritan town, 6 but go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. 7 As you go, proclaim the good news, 'The kingdom of heaven has come near.'"</p> |

Next Week's Readings: What thread do you discern? June 21, 2026 - Genesis 21:8-21; Psalm 86:1-10, 16-17; Romans 6:1-11; Matthew 10:24-39