

A bronze sculpture of two hands clasped in prayer, set against a clear blue sky. The hands are positioned with fingers interlaced, and the sculpture has a weathered, textured appearance. The text is overlaid on the image in white.

Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Year B

Esther 7:1-6, 9-10; 9:20-22 and Psalm 124
Numbers 11:4-6, 10-16, 24-29 and Psalm 19:7-14
James 5:13-20 • Mark 9:38-50

"What is your petition, Queen Esther?
It shall be granted you. And what is
your request? Even to the half of my
kingdom, it shall be fulfilled."

Esther 7:2



Esther and Mordecai -- Aert de Gelder, Brandeis University, Boston, MA

Then Queen Esther answered,
"If I have won your favor, O king ...
let my life be given me ... and the
lives of my people."

Esther 7:3ab



Esther and Ahasuerus

Charles Blakeman
Our Lady of Victories
London, England

Our help is in the name of the LORD,
who made heaven and earth.

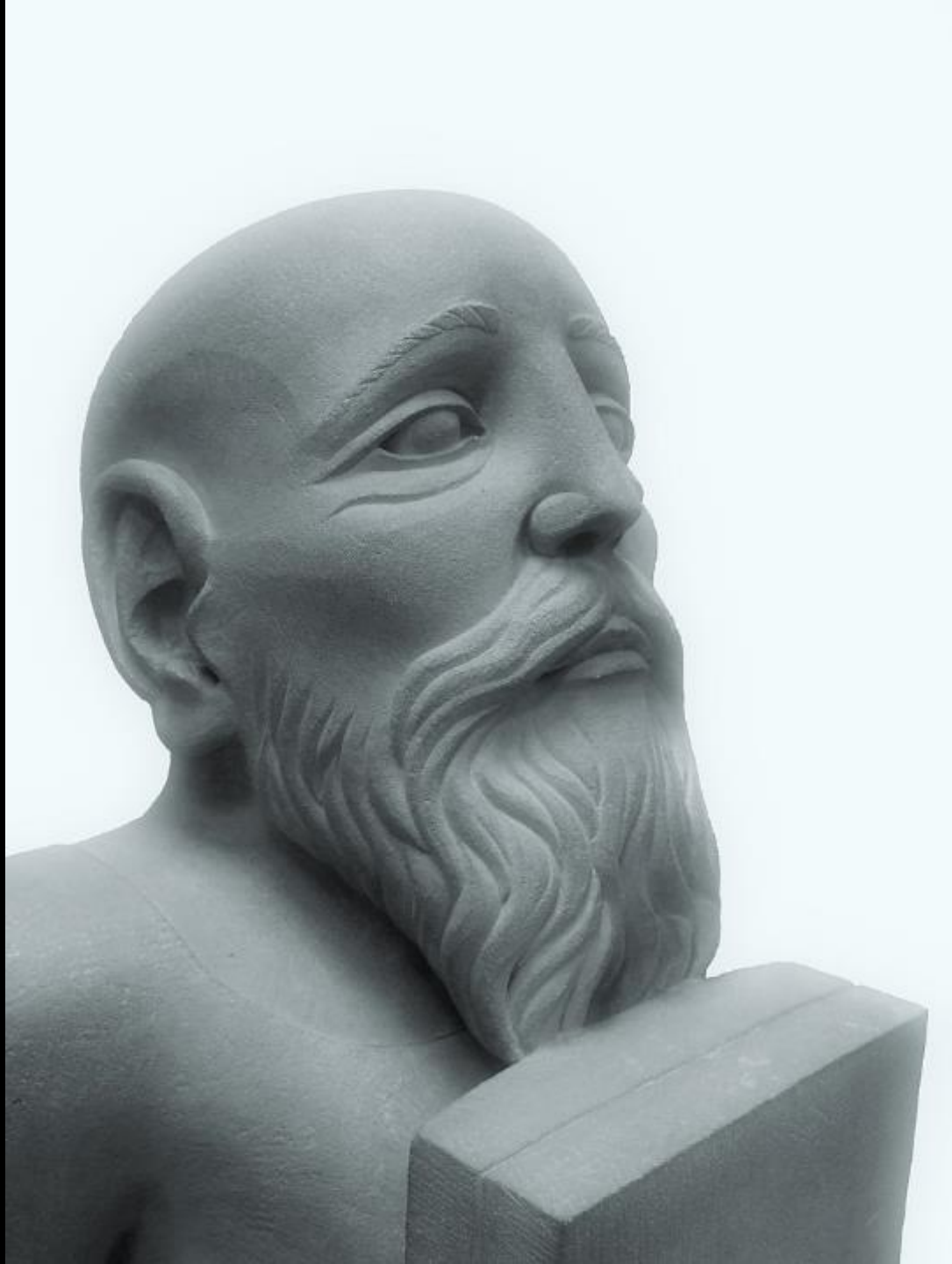
Psalm 124:8



Earth's Beauty-- Russian Ridge Open Space, California

So Moses said to the LORD ...
I am not able to carry all this
people alone, for they are too
heavy for me.

Numbers 11:11a, 14



Head of Moses

Unknown artist
1930s

Wolverhampton Art
Gallery
United Kingdom

Are any among you suffering? They should pray. Are any cheerful? They should sing songs of praise.

James 5:13



Woman Singing

Gerard van Honthorst
National Museum
Warsaw, Poland

Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord.

James 5:14



Healing by Laying On of
Hands

Maistre Robert
Wellcome Trust, UK

Therefore confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another ... prayer ... is powerful and effective.

James 5:16ac



Pilgrimage Prayer -- Seme, Senegal

John said to him, "Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him, because he was not following us."

Mark 9:38



Healing Hands -- Oral Roberts University, Tulsa, Oklahoma

But Jesus said, "Do not stop him ...
Whoever is not against us is for us."

Mark 9:39a, 40



The Ecumenical
Window

Old Stone Church
Cleveland, OH

Salt is good; but if salt has lost its saltiness, how can you season it? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another."

Mark 9:50



Looking for Peace (Mother Teresa, Nelson Mandela) -- Eduardo Kobra, Los Angeles, CA

Credits

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