

## THE WORD OF THE LORD : TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

*At the Solemn Eucharist at 11 o'clock*

### THE SECOND SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

*The Old Testament lesson for today is provided by the second Servant Song from Isaiah. Its emphasis on the calling of the servant and his special vocation as a "light to the nations" makes it especially appropriate so soon after Epiphany. The psalm and the Epistle are similar in that both contain prayers of thanksgiving. In the psalm, thanksgiving finally prompts the psalmist to tell abroad the good news of deliverance. Of course, the Epistle has not been selected to relate thematically to the other readings, because it is the first of several semicontinuous readings from 1 Corinthians 1-4 that continue for seven weeks. The Gospel is the Johannine account of the baptism of Jesus. Because John's account is not used in any of the three years for the feast of the baptism of the Lord, it occurs here. Actually, it is not an account of the event in the strict sense, but more or less presupposes it.*

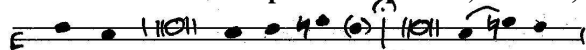
#### FIRST READING: Isaiah 49.1-7

Listen to me, O coastlands, pay attention, you peoples from far away! The Lord called me before I was born, while I was in my mother's womb he named me. He made my mouth like a sharp sword, in the shadow of his hand he hid me; he made me a polished arrow, in his quiver he hid me away. And he said to me, "You are my servant, Israel, in whom I will be glorified." But I said, "I have laboured in vain, I have spent my strength for nothing and vanity; yet surely my cause is with the Lord, and my reward with my God." And now the Lord says, who formed me in the womb to be his servant, to bring Jacob back to him, and that Israel might be gathered to him, for I am honoured in the sight of the Lord, and my God has become my strength — he says, "It is too light a thing that you should be my servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob and to restore the survivors of Israel; I will give you as a light to the nations, that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth." Thus says the Lord, the Redeemer of Israel and his Holy One, to one deeply despised, abhorred by the nations, the slave of rulers, "Kings shall see and stand up, princes, and they shall prostrate themselves, because of the Lord, who is faithful, the Holy One of Israel, who has chosen you."

The word of the Lord

*R/. Thanks be to God*

#### PSALM 40. 1-14—Expectans expectavi; Tone IV,8



- 1 I WAIT-ed patiently **for** the Lord : and he inclined unto me, and heard my **cäll**-ing.
- 2 He brought me also out of the horrible pit, out of the **mire** and clay :  
and set my feet upon the rock, and ordered my **gö**-ings.
- 3 And he hath put a new song **in** my mouth : even a thanksgiving unto **öür** God.
- 4 Many shall see **it** and fear : and shall put their trust in **thë** Lord.
- 5 Blessed is the man that hath set his hope **in** the Lord :  
and turned not unto the proud, and to such as go a-**böut** with **lies**.
- 6 O Lord my God, many are the wondrous works which thou hast **döne**,  
like as be also thy thoughts which **are** to us-ward : and there is none to be compared **ün-to** thee.
- 7 If I should declare them and **speak** of them : they should be more than I am able **tö** ex-press.
- 8 Sacrifice and offering thou **would**-est not : but mine ears hast thou **ö**-pen-ed.
- 9 Burnt offering and sacrifice for sin hast thou **not** re-quir-ed : then said I, **‘Lö, I** come;
- 10 In the volumn of the book it is written of **më**; I delight to fulfil thy will, **O** my God  
: yea, thy law is with-**in** my heart.'
- 11 I have declared thy righteousness in the great **con**-gre-ga-tion :  
lo, I will not refrain my lips, O Lord, and that thou **knöw**-est.

12 I have not hid thy righteousness with-**in** my heart : my talk hath been of thy truth and of thy sal-**vä**-tion.

13 I have not kept back thy loving mer-**cy** and truth : from the great congre-**gä**-tion.

14 Withdraw not thou thy mercies from **me**, O Lord :

let thy loving-kindness and thy truth always pre-**sërve** me.

#### SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 1.1-9

Paul, called to be an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and our brother Sosthenes, to the church of God that is in Corinth, to those who are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints, together with all those who in every place call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord and ours: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given to you in Christ Jesus, for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind — just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you — so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

The word of the Lord

*R/. Thanks be to God*

#### GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: John 1

Alleluia. Alleluia. The Word of God became flesh and dwelt among us. To all who receive him, he gave power to become children of God. Alleluia.

#### GOSPEL: John 1.29-42

*R/. Glory be to thee, O Lord*

The next day John seeth Jesus coming unto him, and saith, Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world. This is he of whom I said, After me cometh a man which is preferred before me: for he was before me. And I knew him not: but that he should be made manifest to Israel, therefore am I come baptizing with water. And John bare record, saying, I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it abode upon him. And I knew him not: but he that sent me to baptize with water, the same said unto me, Upon whom thou shalt see the Spirit descending, and remaining on him, the same is he which baptizeth with the Holy Ghost. And I saw, and bare record that this is the Son of God. Again the next day after John stood, and two of his disciples; And looking upon Jesus as he walked, he saith, Behold the Lamb of God! And the two disciples heard him speak, and they followed Jesus. Then Jesus turned, and saw them following, and saith unto them, What seek ye? They said unto him, Rabbi, (which is to say, being interpreted, Master,) where dwellest thou? He saith unto them, Come and see. They came and saw where he dwelt, and abode with him that day: for it was about the tenth hour. One of the two which heard John speak, and followed him, was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. He first findeth his own brother Simon, and saith unto him, We have found the Messiah, which is, being interpreted, the Christ. And he brought him to Jesus. And when Jesus beheld him, he said, Thou art Simon the son of Jona: thou shalt be called Cephas, which is by interpretation, A stone.

The Gospel of Christ

*R/. Praise be to thee, O Christ*