

First Lesson: Isaiah 43:1-7

A reading from the Prophet Isaiah.

¹But now thus says the Lord, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. ²When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you. ³For I am the Lord your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior. I give Egypt as your ransom, Ethiopia and Seba in exchange for you. ⁴Because you are precious in my sight, and honored, and I love you, I give people in return for you, nations in exchange for your life. ⁵Do not fear, for I am with you; I will bring your offspring from the east, and from the west I will gather you; ⁶I will say to the north, "Give them up," and to the south, "Do not withhold; bring my sons from far away and my daughters from the end of the earth— ⁷everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made."

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm: Psalm 29 (Page 620)

- ¹ Ascribe to the Lord, you gods, *
ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.
- ² Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his Name; *
worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness.
- ³ The voice of the Lord is upon the waters;
the God of glory thunders; *
the Lord is upon the mighty waters.
- ⁴ The voice of the Lord is a powerful voice; *
the voice of the Lord is a voice of splendor.
- ⁵ The voice of the Lord breaks the cedar trees; *
the Lord breaks the cedars of Lebanon;
- ⁶ He makes Lebanon skip like a calf, *
and Mount Hermon like a young wild ox.
- ⁷ The voice of the Lord splits the flames of fire;
the voice of the Lord shakes the wilderness; *
the Lord shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.
- ⁸ The voice of the Lord makes the oak trees writhe *
and strips the forests bare.
- ⁹ And in the temple of the Lord *
all are crying, "Glory!"
- ¹⁰ The Lord sits enthroned above the flood; *
the Lord sits enthroned as King for evermore.
- ¹¹ The Lord shall give strength to his people; *
the Lord shall give his people the blessing of peace.

Second Lesson: Acts 8:14-17

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

¹⁴Now when the apostles at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them. ¹⁵The two went down and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit ¹⁶(for as yet the Spirit had not come upon any of them; they had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus). ¹⁷Then Peter and John laid their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Gospel: Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

¹⁵As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, ¹⁶John answered all of them by saying, “I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹⁷His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

²¹Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, ²²and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, “You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.”