

THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

FIRST READING (*Isaiah 42: 1-4, 6-7*)

Thus says the LORD:

Here is my servant whom I uphold, my chosen one with whom I am pleased, upon whom I have put my spirit; he shall bring forth justice to the nations, not crying out, not shouting, not making his voice heard in the street. a bruised reed he shall not break, and a smoldering wick he shall not quench, until he establishes justice on the earth; the coastlands will wait for his teaching.

I, the LORD, have called you for the victory of justice, I have grasped you by the hand; I formed you, and set you as a covenant of the people, a light for the nations, to open the eyes of the blind, to bring out prisoners from confinement, and from the dungeon, those who live in darkness.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM (*Psalms 29*)

The Lord will bless his people with peace.

SECOND READING (*Acts 10: 34-38*)

Peter proceeded to speak to those gathered in the house of Cornelius, saying:

“In truth, I see that God shows no partiality.

Rather, in every nation whoever fears him and acts uprightly is acceptable to him. You know the word that he sent to the Israelites as he proclaimed peace through Jesus Christ, who is Lord of all, what has happened all over Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John preached, how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and power. He went about doing good and healing all those oppressed by the devil, for God was with him.”

GOSPEL (*Mark 1: 7-11*)

This is what John the Baptist proclaimed:

“One mightier than I is coming after me.

I am not worthy to stoop and loosen the thongs of his sandals.

I have baptized you with water;

he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.”

It happened in those days that Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized in the Jordan by John.

On coming up out of the water he saw the heavens being torn open and the Spirit, like a dove, descending upon him.

And a voice came from the heavens,

“You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased.”



MASS HYMNS

ENTRANCE - On Jordan's Bank

1. On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry Announces that the Lord is nigh;
Awake and hearken, for he brings Glad tidings of the King of kings.
2. Then cleansed be every life from sin; Make straight the way for God within,
And let each heart prepare a home Where such a mighty guest may come.
3. For you are our salvation, Lord, Our refuge and our great reward;
Without your grace we waste away Like flowers that wither and decay.

OFFERTORY - Songs of Thankfulness and Praise

1. Songs of thankfulness and praise, Jesus, Lord, to you we raise.
Manifested by the star to the sages from afar;
Branch of royal David's stem in your birth at Bethlehem.
Anthems be to you addressed, God in flesh made manifest.
2. Manifest at Jordan's stream, Prophet, Priest, and King supreme;
And at Cana, wedding guest, In your God-head manifest;
Manifest in pow'r divine, Changing water into wine;
Anthems be to you addressed, God in Flesh made manifest.
3. Manifest in making whole Palsied limbs and fainting soul;
Manifest in valiant fight, Quelling all the devil's might;
Manifest in gracious will, Ever bringing good from ill;

COMMUNION - It Came Upon a Midnight Clear

1. It came upon the midnight clear, That glorious song of old,
From angels bending near the earth To touch their harps of gold:
"Peace on the earth, good will to all From heaven's all gracious King."
The world in solemn stillness lay, To hear the angels sing.
2. Still through the cloven skies they come, With peaceful wings unfurled,
And still their heav'nly music floats O'er all the weary world.
Above its sad and lowly plains They bend on hov'ring wing,
And ever o'er its Babel sounds The blessed angels sing.
3. Yet with the woes of sin and strife The world has suffered long;
Beneath the heav'nly hymn have rolled Two thousand years of wrong;
And warring humankind hears not The tidings which they bring;
O hush the noise and cease your strife And hear the angels sing.

CLOSING - God Rest You Merry, Gentleman

1. God rest you merry, gentlemen, Let nothing you dismay
Remember Christ our Savior was born on Christmas day
To save us all from Satan's pow'r when we were gone astray
O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy; O tidings of comfort and joy!
3. From God our heav'nly Father a blessed angel came
And unto certain shepherds brought tidings of the same,
How that in Bethlehem was born the Song of God by name