

The Baptism of Our Lord

8 January 2017

These readings are provided, first, so you can re-read and reflect on them during the week, and second, if you wish, to follow the readings during the service.

Isaiah 42.1-9

- ¹ Here is my servant, whom I uphold,
my chosen, in whom my soul delights;
I have put my spirit upon him;
he will bring forth justice to the nations.
- ² He will not cry or lift up his voice,
or make it heard in the street;
- ³ a bruised reed he will not break,
and a dimly burning wick he will not
quench;
he will faithfully bring forth justice.
- ⁴ He will not grow faint or be crushed
until he has established justice in the
earth;
and the coastlands wait for his teaching.
- ⁵ Thus says God, the Lord ,
who created the heavens and stretched
them out,
who spread out the earth and what
comes from it,
who gives breath to the people upon it
and spirit to those who walk in it:
- ⁶ I am the Lord , I have called you in
righteousness,
I have taken you by the hand and kept
you;
I have given you as a covenant to the
people,
a light to the nations,
- ⁷ to open the eyes that are blind,
to bring out the prisoners from the
dungeon,
from the prison those who sit in
darkness.
- ⁸ I am the Lord , that is my name;
my glory I give to no other,
nor my praise to idols.
- ⁹ See, the former things have come to pass,
and new things I now declare;

before they spring forth,
I tell you of them.

Psalm 29

¹ Ascribe to the Lord, you powers of
heaven:

ascribe to the Lord glory and might.

² Ascribe to the Lord the honour due to his
name:

O worship the Lord in the beauty of his
holiness.

³ The voice of the Lord is upon the waters:
the God of glory thunders,
the Lord upon the great waters.

⁴ The voice of the Lord is mighty in
operation:
the voice of the Lord is a glorious voice.

⁵ The voice of the Lord breaks the cedar-
trees:
the Lord breaks in pieces the cedars of
Lebanon.

⁶ He makes them skip like a calf:
Lebanon and Sirion like a young wild ox.

⁷ The voice of the Lord divides the
lightning-flash:
the voice of the Lord whirls the sands of
the desert,
the Lord whirls the desert of Kadesh.

⁸ The voice of the Lord rends the terebinth
trees,
and strips bare the forests:
in his temple all cry ‘Glory.’

⁹ The Lord sits enthroned above the water-
flood:
the Lord sits enthroned as a king for ever.

¹⁰ The Lord will give strength to his
people:
the Lord will give to his people the
blessing of peace.

Acts 10.34-43

³⁴ Then Peter began to speak to them: ‘I
truly understand that God shows no
partiality, ³⁵ but in every nation anyone
who fears him and does what is right is

acceptable to him. ³⁶ You know the
message he sent to the people of Israel,
preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is
Lord of all. ³⁷ That message spread
throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee
after the baptism that John announced:
³⁸ how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth
with the Holy Spirit and with power; how
he went about doing good and healing all
who were oppressed by the devil, for God
was with him. ³⁹ We are witnesses to all
that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem.
They put him to death by hanging him on a
tree; ⁴⁰ but God raised him on the third day
and allowed him to appear, ⁴¹ not to all the
people but to us who were chosen by God
as witnesses, and who ate and drank with
him after he rose from the dead. ⁴² He
commanded us to preach to the people and
to testify that he is the one ordained by
God as judge of the living and the dead.
⁴³ All the prophets testify about him that
everyone who believes in him receives
forgiveness of sins through his name.’

Matthew 3.13-17

¹³ Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at
the Jordan, to be baptized by him. ¹⁴ John
would have prevented him, saying, ‘I need
to be baptized by you, and do you come to
me?’ ¹⁵ But Jesus answered him, ‘Let it be
so now; for it is proper for us in this way to
fulfil all righteousness.’ Then he
consented. ¹⁶ And when Jesus had been
baptized, just as he came up from the
water, suddenly the heavens were opened
to him and he saw the Spirit of God
descending like a dove and alighting on
him. ¹⁷ And a voice from heaven said, ‘This
is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am
well pleased.’