

The Baptism of the Lord

January 10, 2021

Reflection on the Gospel

This gospel is a declaration of who Jesus is to Mark's church, a statement of their self-understanding as disciples of the new messianic times who are sons and daughters of the Father because they are baptized into the Spirit-filled and Beloved Son, and commissioned to serve in his name. Throughout Mark's gospel, those who follow Jesus will struggle to understand what is revealed to Jesus as he rises from the waters: that humanity, despite its sinfulness, is loved with the prodigal love of God.

—Living Liturgy™, *The Baptism of the Lord 2021*

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON (Cf. Matthew 3:16-17)

After the Lord was baptized, the heavens were opened, and the Spirit descended upon him like a dove, and the voice of the Father thundered:
This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased.

COLLECT

Almighty ever-living God,
who, when Christ had been baptized in the River Jordan and as the Holy Spirit descended upon him, solemnly declared him your beloved Son,
grant that your children by adoption,
reborn of water and the Holy Spirit,
may always be well pleasing to you.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever. **All: Amen.**

Or:

O God, whose Only Begotten Son
has appeared in our very flesh,
grant, we pray, that we may be inwardly transformed
through him whom we recognize as outwardly like ourselves.



Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever. **All: Amen.**

READING I (L 21) (Isaiah 42:1-4, 6-7) *for this year additional options can be found in the Lectionary*

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah

Behold my servant with whom I am well pleased.

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.**

The word of the Lord. All: Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM 29 *for this year additional options can be found in the Lectionary*



The Lord will bless his peo-ple with peace.

Text: Refrain, *Lectionary for Mass*, © 1969, 1981, 1997, ICEL
Music: *The Collegeville Psalter*, © 1975, 2017, Paul Inwood.

Published and administered by Liturgical Press, Collegeville, MN 56321. All rights reserved.

Psalm 29:1-2, 3-4, 3, 9-10

R7. (11b) The Lord will bless his people with peace.

Give to the LORD, you sons of God,
 give to the LORD glory and praise,
 give to the LORD the glory due his name;
 adore the LORD in holy attire. **R7.**

The voice of the LORD is over the waters,
 the LORD, over vast waters.

The voice of the LORD is mighty;
 the voice of the LORD is majestic. **R7.**

The God of glory thunders,
 and in his temple all say, "Glory!"
 The LORD is enthroned above the flood;
 the LORD is enthroned as king forever. **R7.**

*READING II (Acts of the Apostles 10:34-38) for this year
 additional options can be found in the Lectionary*

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

God anointed him with the Holy Spirit.

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."

The word of the Lord. **All:** Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL (Mark 1:7-11)

ALLELUIA (See Mark 9:7)

V. Alleluia, alleluia. **R7.** Alleluia, alleluia.

V. The heavens were opened and the voice of the Father
 thundered:

This is my beloved Son, listen to him. **R7.**

or:

ALLELUIA (See John 1:29)

V. Alleluia, alleluia. **R7.** Alleluia, alleluia.

V. John saw Jesus approaching him, and said:
 Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of
 the world. **R7.**

✠ A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

All: Glory to you, O Lord.

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

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."

The Gospel of the Lord. All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

Accept, O Lord, the offerings
 we have brought to honor the revealing of your beloved Son,
 so that the oblation of your faithful
 may be transformed into the sacrifice of him
 who willed in his compassion

PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS

We place before you with joy these offerings,
which bring eternal remedy, O Lord,
praying that we may both faithfully revere them
and present them to you, as is fitting,
for the salvation of all the world.
Through Christ our Lord. **All: Amen.**

COMMUNION ANTIPHON (Cf. Psalm 122[121]:3-4)

Jerusalem is built as a city bonded as one together.
It is there that the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord,
to praise the name of the Lord.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

O God, who enlighten everyone who comes into this world,
illuminate our hearts, we pray,
with the splendor of your grace,
that we may always ponder
what is worthy and pleasing to your majesty
and love you in all sincerity.
Through Christ our Lord. **All: Amen.**

Fifth Sunday of Lent

March 21, 2021

**Reflection on the Gospel**

Jesus tells the parable of a grain of wheat. When it is dropped into the earth, the seed “dies.” But in the warmth and moisture of the earth,

new life breaks out. If we wish to follow Jesus, we must empty ourselves of self-centeredness, of the instinct for self-preservation at the expense of our sisters and brothers. From seeds buried in the warm love and service of others, and watered by fidelity to our baptismal commitment, the Christian community grows into the mystery of the death and resurrection of Jesus.

—Living Liturgy™, Fifth Sunday of Lent 2021

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON (Cf. Psalm 43[42]:1-2)

Give me justice, O God,
and plead my cause against a nation that is faithless.
From the deceitful and cunning rescue me,
for you, O God, are my strength.

COLLECT

By your help, we beseech you, Lord our God,
may we walk eagerly in that same charity
with which, out of love for the world,
your Son handed himself over to death.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever. **All: Amen.**

The readings given for Year A, n. 34, may be used in place of these.

READING I (L 35-B) (Jeremiah 31:31-34)

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Jeremiah

I will make a new covenant and remember their sin no more.

The days are coming, says the LORD,
 when I will make a new covenant with the house of
 Israel
 and the house of Judah.
 It will not be like the covenant I made with their fathers
 the day I took them by the hand
 to lead them forth from the land of Egypt;
 for they broke my covenant,
 and I had to show myself their master, says the LORD.
 But this is the covenant that I will make
 with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD.
 I will place my law within them and write it upon their
 hearts;
 I will be their God, and they shall be my people.
 No longer will they have need to teach their friends and
 relatives
 how to know the LORD.
 All, from least to greatest, shall know me, says the LORD,
 for I will forgive their evildoing and remember their
 sin no more.

The word of the Lord. **All:** Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM 51



Cre-ate a clean heart in me, O God.

Text: Refrain, *Lectionary for Mass*, © 1969, 1981, 1997, ICEL
 Music: *The Collegeville Psalter*, © 2017, Paul Inwood.

Published and administered by Liturgical Press, Collegeville, MN 56321. All rights reserved.

Psalm 51:3-4, 12-13, 14-15

R. (12a) Create a clean heart in me, O God.

Have mercy on me, O God, in your goodness;
 in the greatness of your compassion wipe out my
 offense.
 Thoroughly wash me from my guilt
 and of my sin cleanse me. **R.**

A clean heart create for me, O God,
 and a steadfast spirit renew within me.
 Cast me not out from your presence,
 and your Holy Spirit take not from me. **R.**
 Give me back the joy of your salvation,
 and a willing spirit sustain in me.
 I will teach transgressors your ways,
 and sinners shall return to you. **R.**

READING II (Hebrews 5:7-9)

A reading from the Letter to the Hebrews

Christ learned obedience and became the source of eternal salvation.

In the days when Christ Jesus was in the flesh,
 he offered prayers and supplications with loud cries
 and tears
 to the one who was able to save him from death,
 and he was heard because of his reverence.
 Son though he was, he learned obedience from what he
 suffered;
 and when he was made perfect,
 he became the source of eternal salvation for all who
 obey him.

The word of the Lord. **All:** Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL (John 12:20-33)

VERSE BEFORE THE GOSPEL (John 12:26)

V. Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!
R. Glory to you, Word of God, Lord Jesus Christ!
V. Whoever serves me must follow me, says the Lord;
 and where I am, there also will my servant be. **R.**

✠ A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

All: Glory to you, O Lord.

If a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it produces much fruit.

Fifth Sunday of Easter

May 2, 2021



Reflection on the Gospel

To remain healthy and productive a vine must be pruned. We must accept not only the short, sharp pain of our Vinegrower God snipping from our lives the small and withering infidelities, but also the longer agony of more drastic pruning that is sometimes necessary. Sometimes God recognizes our potential for greater fruit-bearing, and with this the need for heavy pruning. After such pruning, a vine may bear no fruit for several years, waiting and confident in the tending of the Vine Grower, until both are rewarded with a tremendous, bursting yield.

—Living Liturgy™, Fifth Sunday of Easter 2021

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON (Cf. Psalm 98[97]:1-2)

O sing a new song to the Lord,
for he has worked wonders;
in the sight of the nations
he has shown his deliverance, alleluia.

COLLECT

Almighty ever-living God,
constantly accomplish the Paschal Mystery within us,
that those you were pleased to make new in Holy Baptism
may, under your protective care, bear much fruit
and come to the joys of life eternal.
Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever. **All: Amen.**

READING I (L 53-B) (Acts of the Apostles 9:26-31)

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

Barnabas reported to the Apostles how Saul had seen the Lord on the way.

When Saul arrived in Jerusalem he tried to join the disciples,
but they were all afraid of him,
not believing that he was a disciple.
Then Barnabas took charge of him and brought him to the apostles,
and he reported to them how he had seen the Lord,
and that he had spoken to him,
and how in Damascus he had spoken out boldly in the name of Jesus.

He moved about freely with them in Jerusalem,
and spoke out boldly in the name of the Lord.
He also spoke and debated with the Hellenists,
but they tried to kill him.

And when the brothers learned of this,
they took him down to Caesarea
and sent him on his way to Tarsus.

The church throughout all Judea, Galilee, and Samaria
was at peace.

It was being built up and walked in the fear of the Lord,
and with the consolation of the Holy Spirit it grew in numbers.

The word of the Lord. **All: Thanks be to God.**

RESPONSORIAL PSALM 22



I will praise you, Lord, in the as-sembly of your peo-ple.

Text: Refrain, *Lectionary for Mass*, © 1969, 1981, 1997, ICEL

Music: *The Collegeville Psalter*, © 2017, Paul Inwood.

Published and administered by Liturgical Press, Collegeville, MN 56321. All rights reserved.

Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

July 11, 2021

Reflection on the Gospel

If they are not well received, the disciples are to leave, not with harsh words, but merely shaking off from their feet the dust of the unwelcoming place. We all need to “take upon’s the mystery of things, / As if we were God’s spies,” said Shakespeare’s *King Lear*. In the Christian sense, we are to be “God’s spies,” reconnoitering the possibilities for announcing the reigning presence of God in human lives in our own situations. And we must be prepared to fail, as Jesus and his followers failed.

—Living Liturgy™, *Fifteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time 2021*



ENTRANCE ANTIPHON (Cf. Psalm 17[16]:15)

As for me, in justice I shall behold your face;
I shall be filled with the vision of your glory.

COLLECT

O God, who show the light of your truth to those who go astray, so that they may return to the right path, give all who for the faith they profess are accounted Christians the grace to reject whatever is contrary to the name of Christ and to strive after all that does it honor. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **All: Amen.**

READING I (L 104-B) (Amos 7:12-15)

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Amos

Go, prophesy to my people.

Amaziah, priest of Bethel, said to Amos,

“Off with you, visionary, flee to the land of Judah!

**There earn your bread by prophesying,
but never again prophesy in Bethel;
for it is the king’s sanctuary and a royal temple.”**
**Amos answered Amaziah, “I was no prophet,
nor have I belonged to a company of prophets;
I was a shepherd and a dresser of sycamores.
The LORD took me from following the flock, and said to
me,
Go, prophesy to my people Israel.”**

The word of the Lord. All: Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM 85

Lord, let us see your kind - ness, and
grant us your sal - va - tion.

Text: Refrain, *Lectionary for Mass*, © 1969, 1981, 1997, ICEL
Music: *The Collegeville Psalter*, © 2017, Paul Inwood.

Published and administered by Liturgical Press, Collegeville, MN 56321. All rights reserved.

Psalm 85:9-10, 11-12, 13-14

R⁷. (8) Lord, let us see your kindness, and grant us your salvation.

I will hear what God proclaims;
the LORD—for he proclaims peace.
Near indeed is his salvation to those who fear him,
glory dwelling in our land. **R⁷.**

Kindness and truth shall meet;
justice and peace shall kiss.
Truth shall spring out of the earth,
and justice shall look down from heaven. **R⁷.**

The LORD himself will give his benefits;
our land shall yield its increase.
Justice shall walk before him,
and prepare the way of his steps. **R⁷.**

READING II (Ephesians 1:3-14) or Shorter Form []
(Ephesians 1:3-10)

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Ephesians
God chose us in Christ, before the foundation of the world.

[Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
who has blessed us in Christ
with every spiritual blessing in the heavens,
as he chose us in him, before the foundation of the
world,
to be holy and without blemish before him.

In love he destined us for adoption to himself through
Jesus Christ,
in accord with the favor of his will,
for the praise of the glory of his grace
that he granted us in the beloved.

In him we have redemption by his blood,
the forgiveness of transgressions,
in accord with the riches of his grace that he lavished
upon us.

In all wisdom and insight, he has made known to us
the mystery of his will in accord with his favor
that he set forth in him as a plan for the fullness of
times,
to sum up all things in Christ, in heaven and on earth.]

In him we were also chosen,
destined in accord with the purpose of the One
who accomplishes all things according to the
intention of his will,
so that we might exist for the praise of his glory,
we who first hoped in Christ.

In him you also, who have heard the word of truth,
the gospel of your salvation, and have believed in him,
were sealed with the promised holy Spirit,
which is the first installment of our inheritance

toward redemption as God's possession, to the praise
of his glory.

The word of the Lord. **All:** Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL (Mark 6:7-13)

ALLELUIA (See Ephesians 1:17-18)

∇. Alleluia, alleluia. **R.** Alleluia, alleluia.

∇. May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ
enlighten the eyes of our hearts,
that we may know what is the hope that
belongs to our call. **R.**

✠ A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

All: Glory to you, O Lord.

He began to send them out.

Jesus summoned the Twelve and began to send them out
two by two

and gave them authority over unclean spirits.

He instructed them to take nothing for the journey

but a walking stick—

no food, no sack, no money in their belts.

They were, however, to wear sandals

but not a second tunic.

He said to them,

“Wherever you enter a house, stay there until you
leave.

Whatever place does not welcome you or listen to you,

leave there and shake the dust off your feet

in testimony against them.”

So they went off and preached repentance.

The Twelve drove out many demons,

and they anointed with oil many who were sick and
cured them.

The Gospel of the Lord. **All:** Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.