

SCRIPTURE READINGS

FIRST READING

Jeremiah 31:7-14

Thus says the Lord: Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob, and raise shouts for the chief of the nations; proclaim, give praise, and say, "Save, O Lord, your people, the remnant of Israel." See, I am going to bring them from the land of the north, and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth, among them the blind and the lame, those with child and those in labor, together; a great company, they shall return here. With weeping they shall come, and with consolations I will lead them back, I will let them walk by brooks of water, in a straight path in which they shall not stumble; for I have become a father to Israel, and Ephraim is my firstborn. Hear the word of the Lord, O nations, and declare it in the coastlands far away; say, "He who scattered Israel will gather him, and will keep him as a shepherd a flock." For the Lord has ransomed Jacob, and has redeemed him from hands too strong for him. They shall come and sing aloud on the height of Zion, and they shall be radiant over the goodness of the Lord, over the grain, the wine, and the oil, and over the young of the flock and the herd; their life shall become like a watered garden, and they shall never languish again. Then shall the young women rejoice in the dance, and the young men and the old shall be merry. I will turn their mourning into joy, I will comfort them, and give them gladness for sorrow. I will give the priests their fill of fatness, and my people shall be satisfied with my bounty, says the Lord.

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

PSALM 84:1-6

How dear to me is your dwelling, O Lord of hosts! *

My soul has a desire and

longing for the courts of the Lord;

my heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God.

The sparrow has found her a house

and the swallow a nest where she may lay her young; *

by the side of your altars, O Lord of hosts,

my King and my God.

Happy are they who dwell in your house! *

they will always be praising you.

Happy are the people whose strength is in you! *

whose hearts are set on the pilgrims' way.

Those who go through the desolate valley will find

it a place of springs, *

for the early rains have covered it

with pools of water.

They will climb from height to height, *

and the God of gods will reveal himself in Zion.

SECOND READING

Ephesians 1:3-6,15-19a

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according

to the good pleasure of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe.

The Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

THE HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 2:13-15,19-23

After the wise men had left, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, "Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you; for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him." Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother by night, and went to Egypt, and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet, "Out of Egypt I have called my son." When Herod died, an angel of the Lord suddenly appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt and said, "Get up, take the child and his mother, and go to the land of Israel, for those who were seeking the child's life are dead." Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother, and went to the land of Israel. But when he heard that Archelaus was ruling over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. And after being warned in a dream, he went away to the district of Galilee. There he made his home in a town called Nazareth, so that what had been spoken through the prophets might be fulfilled, "He will be called a Nazorean."



**WE REMEMBER BEFORE GOD ALL PEOPLE THROUGHOUT
THE WORLD WHOSE LIVES HAVE BEEN DISRUPTED
BY VIOLENCE OR WAR.**

**WE PRAY FOR THOSE WHO WORK FOR PEACE
AND FOR NEW BEGINNINGS.**

AS WE PRAY, LET US REMEMBER

✠ Those in special need, especially Pamela; Anthony; Nathan; Gail & her family; Karl; Yamile; Wally; Christopher; Teri; Kay; Krista; Roland; Brayden; Larry & Leslie; Keira .

✠ We pray for those who have died.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

This Saturday, 11 a.m., we will take down the Christmas decorations from our Sanctuary. So, let us gather and have fun, just as we did when we put them up for Christmas. Great refreshments will be available. Please sign up in the Parish Hall so that we can make sure we have enough refreshments for everyone!

OUR THRIFT SHOP IS BACK IN ACTION
THIS COMING WEEKEND

PLAN AHEAD!! Our Annual Meeting is January 26. We will have ONE service at 9 AM, followed by brunch and the meeting.

FOOD PANTRY

grape jelly, pancake mix & syrup
ravioli, spaghettios,
cookies

BLESSING BAGS

Travel size or individually wrapped please

Goldfish, snack size Oreos,
granola bars, fruit snacks

Our altar flowers are given by
Marc & Sarah Delhotal

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

Today	Healing Litany & Holy Eucharist Rite I	8 AM
	Nursery care	9:30–11:15 AM
	Sunday School (CH 2 & 8)	9:45 AM
	Youth Group (CH 6)	9:45 AM
	Healing Litany & Holy Eucharist Rite II	10 AM
	Praise Band Practice	11:30 AM
Tue.	Tuesday Night Bible Study	6 PM
	Joyful Noise practice	7 PM
Wed.	Bible Study	4:30 PM
	Holy Eucharist Rite II	6:30 PM
	Chancel Choir Rehearsal	7:15 PM
	Vestry meeting (CH 3)	7:15 PM
Thu.	FTTA (PH)	6:30 PM
Fri.	St. John's Closet/Thrift Shop (CH7)	9 AM—1 PM
Sat.	Taking down Sanctuary Christmas decorations	11 AM
	St. John's Closet/Thrift Shop (CH7)	9 AM—1 PM
	Crafters Ministry (PH)	9 AM
Sun.	Holy Eucharist Rite I	8 AM
	Nursery care	9:30–11:15 AM
	Sunday School (CH 2 & 8)	9:45 AM
	Youth Group (CH 6)	9:45 AM
	Holy Eucharist Rite II	10 AM
	Praise Band Practice	11:30 AM

St. John the Baptist is equipped with two types of hearing assistance devices: a receiver with an earbud or a neck loop (for use with telecoil-equipped hearing aids and cochlear implants). Either device can be used at any seat in the church. Please speak with an usher for assistance.