

**Sunday, January 7, 2024**

**Baptism of Our Lord / Lectionary 1, Year B**

First Reading            Genesis 1:1-5

Psalm                    Psalm 29

Second Reading        Acts 19:1-7

## **A READING FROM GENESIS**

<sup>1</sup>In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, <sup>2</sup>the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. <sup>3</sup>Then God said, "Let there be light"; and there was light. <sup>4</sup>And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. <sup>5</sup>God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

## **THE WORD OF THE LORD THANKS BE TO GOD**

*(If the Psalm is sung by the choir, you will not be required to lead the Psalm. Check the day's worship bulletin to confirm one way or the other)*

## **PLEASE JOIN ME IN READING THE 29<sup>th</sup> PSALM IN UNISON**

**<sup>1</sup>Ascribe to the | LORD, you gods,  
ascribe to the LORD glo- | ry and strength.**

**<sup>2</sup>Ascribe to the LORD the glory | due God's name;  
worship the LORD in the beau- | ty of holiness.**

**<sup>3</sup>The voice of the LORD is upon the waters; the God of | glory  
thunders;**

**the LORD is upon the | mighty waters.**

**<sup>4</sup>The voice of the LORD is a pow- | erful voice;  
the voice of the LORD is a | voice of splendor.**

**<sup>5</sup>The voice of the LORD breaks the | cedar trees;  
the LORD breaks the ce- | dars of Lebanon;**

**<sup>6</sup>the LORD makes Lebanon skip | like a calf,  
and Mount Hermon like a | young wild ox.**

**<sup>7</sup>The voice | of the LORD**

**bursts forth in lightning flashes.**

**<sup>8</sup>The voice of the LORD shakes the wilderness;  
the LORD shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.**

**<sup>9</sup>The voice of the LORD makes the oak trees writhe and strips the forests bare.**

**And in the temple of the LORD all are crying, "Glory!"**

**<sup>10</sup>The LORD sits enthroned above the flood;  
the LORD sits enthroned as king forevermore.**

**<sup>11</sup>O LORD, give strength to your people;  
give them, O LORD, the blessings of peace.**

## **A READING FROM ACTS**

<sup>1</sup>While Apollos was in Corinth, Paul passed through the interior regions and came to Ephesus, where he found some disciples. <sup>2</sup>He said to them, "Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you became believers?" They replied, "No, we have not even heard that there is a Holy Spirit." <sup>3</sup>Then he said, "Into what then were you baptized?" They answered, "Into John's baptism." <sup>4</sup>Paul said, "John baptized with the baptism of repentance, telling the people to believe in the one who was to come after him, that is, in Jesus." <sup>5</sup>On hearing this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. <sup>6</sup>When Paul had laid his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke in tongues and prophesied—<sup>7</sup>altogether there were about twelve of them.

## **THE WORD OF THE LORD THANKS BE TO GOD**

**Sunday, January 14, 2024**

**Second Sunday after Epiphany / Lectionary 2, Year B**

First Reading            1 Samuel 3:1-10 [11-20]  
Psalm                     Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18  
Second Reading        1 Corinthians 6:12-20

## **A READING FROM 1 SAMUEL**

<sup>1</sup>Now the boy Samuel was ministering to the LORD under Eli. The word of the LORD was rare in those days; visions were not widespread.

<sup>2</sup>At that time Eli, whose eyesight had begun to grow dim so that he could not see, was lying down in his room; <sup>3</sup>the lamp of God had not yet gone out, and Samuel was lying down in the temple of the LORD, where the ark of God was. <sup>4</sup>Then the LORD called, "Samuel! Samuel!" and he said, "Here I am!" <sup>5</sup>and ran to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." But he said, "I did not call; lie down again." So he went and lay down. <sup>6</sup>The LORD called again, "Samuel!" Samuel got up and went to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." But he said, "I did not call, my son; lie down again." <sup>7</sup>Now Samuel did not yet know the LORD, and the word of the LORD had not yet been revealed to him. <sup>8</sup>The LORD called Samuel again, a third time. And he got up and went to Eli, and said, "Here I am, for you called me." Then Eli perceived that the LORD was calling the boy. <sup>9</sup>Therefore Eli said to Samuel, "Go, lie down; and if he calls you, you shall say, 'Speak, LORD, for your servant is listening.'" So Samuel went and lay down in his place.

<sup>10</sup>Now the LORD came and stood there, calling as before, "Samuel! Samuel!" And Samuel said, "Speak, for your servant is listening." [<sup>11</sup>Then the LORD said to Samuel, "See, I am about to do something in Israel that will make both ears of anyone who hears of it tingle. <sup>12</sup>On that day I will fulfill against Eli all that I have spoken concerning his house, from beginning to end. <sup>13</sup>For I have told him that I am about to punish his house forever, for the iniquity that he knew, because his sons were blaspheming God, and he did not restrain them. <sup>14</sup>Therefore I swear to the house of Eli that the iniquity of Eli's house shall not be expiated by sacrifice or offering forever."

<sup>15</sup>Samuel lay there until morning; then he opened the doors of the house of the LORD. Samuel was afraid to tell the vision to Eli. <sup>16</sup>But Eli called Samuel and said, "Samuel, my son." He said, "Here I am." <sup>17</sup>Eli said, "What was it that he told you? Do not hide it from me. May God do so to you and more also, if you hide anything from me of all that he told you." <sup>18</sup>So

Samuel told him everything and hid nothing from him. Then he said, "It is the LORD; let him do what seems good to him."

<sup>19</sup>As Samuel grew up, the LORD was with him and let none of his words fall to the ground. <sup>20</sup>And all Israel from Dan to Beer-sheba knew that Samuel was a trustworthy prophet of the LORD.]

## **THE WORD OF THE LORD** **THANKS BE TO GOD**

*(If the Psalm is sung by the choir, you will not be required to lead the Psalm. Check the day's worship bulletin to confirm one way or the other)*

### **PLEASE JOIN ME IN READING THE 139<sup>th</sup> PSALM IN UNISON**

<sup>1</sup>LORD, you have | searched me out;  
O LORD, you | have known me.

<sup>2</sup>**You know my sitting down and my | rising up;  
you discern my thoughts | from afar.**

<sup>3</sup>You trace my journeys and my | resting-places  
and are acquainted with | all my ways.

<sup>4</sup>**Indeed, there is not a word | on my lips,  
but you, O LORD, know it | altogether. R**

<sup>5</sup>You encompass me, behind | and before,  
and lay your | hand upon me.

<sup>6</sup>**Such knowledge is too wonder- | ful for me;  
it is so high that I cannot at- | tain to it.**

<sup>13</sup>For you yourself created my | inmost parts;  
you knit me together in my | mother's womb.

<sup>14</sup>**I will thank you because I am mar- | velously made;  
your works are wonderful, and I | know it well. R**

<sup>15</sup>My body was not hid- | den from you,  
while I was being made in secret and woven in the depths | of the  
earth.

<sup>16</sup>**Your eyes beheld my limbs, yet unfinished in the womb; all of  
them were written | in your book;  
my days were fashioned before they | came to be.**

<sup>17</sup>How deep I find your | thoughts, O God!  
How great is the | sum of them!

<sup>18</sup>If I were to count them, they would be more in number | than the sand;  
to count them all, my life span would need to | be like yours. **R**

## **A READING FROM 1<sup>ST</sup> CORINTHIANS**

<sup>12</sup>“All things are lawful for me,” but not all things are beneficial. “All things are lawful for me,” but I will not be dominated by anything. <sup>13</sup>“Food is meant for the stomach and the stomach for food,” and God will destroy both one and the other. The body is meant not for fornication but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. <sup>14</sup>And God raised the Lord and will also raise us by his power. <sup>15</sup>Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Should I therefore take the members of Christ and make them members of a prostitute? Never! <sup>16</sup>Do you not know that whoever is united to a prostitute becomes one body with her? For it is said, “The two shall be one flesh.” <sup>17</sup>But anyone united to the Lord becomes one spirit with him. <sup>18</sup>Shun fornication! Every sin that a person commits is outside the body; but the fornicator sins against the body itself. <sup>19</sup>Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, which you have from God, and that you are not your own? <sup>20</sup>For you were bought with a price; therefore glorify God in your body.

**THE WORD OF THE LORD**  
***THANKS BE TO GOD***

**Sunday, January 21, 2024**

**Third Sunday after Epiphany / Lectionary 3, Year B**  
**Bold Women's Sunday**

First Reading            Joel 2:27-32  
Psalm                     Psalm 34: 1-8  
Second Reading        Hebrews 4:14-16

## **A READING FROM JOEL**

You shall know that I am in the midst of Israel, and that I, the LORD, am your God and there is no other. And my people shall never again be put to shame. Then afterward I will pour out my spirit on all flesh; your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, and your young men shall see visions. Even on the male and female slaves, in those days, I will pour out my spirit. I will show portents in the heavens and on the earth, blood and fire and columns of smoke. The sun shall be turned to darkness, and the moon to blood, before the great and terrible day of the LORD comes. Then everyone who calls on the name of the LORD shall be saved; for in Mount Zion and in Jerusalem there shall be those who escape, as the LORD has said, and among the survivors shall be those whom the LORD calls.

## **THE WORD OF THE LORD** **THANKS BE TO GOD**

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Check the day's worship bulletin to confirm one way or the other)*

## **PLEASE JOIN ME IN READING THE 34<sup>th</sup> PSALM IN UNISON**

I will bless the LORD | at all times;  
the praise of God shall ever be | in my mouth.  
I will glory | in the LORD;  
let the lowly hear | and rejoice. **R**  
Proclaim with me the greatness | of the LORD;  
let us exalt God's | name together.  
I sought the LORD, who | answered me  
and delivered me from | all my terrors.

Look upon the LORD | and be radiant,  
and let not your faces | be ashamed. **R**  
I called in my affliction, and | the LORD heard me  
and saved me from | all my troubles.  
The angel of the LORD encamps around those who | fear the LORD  
and de- | livers them.  
Taste and see that the | LORD is good;  
happy are they who take ref- | uge in God! **R**

### **A READING FROM HEBREWS 4:14-16**

Since, then, we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast to our confession. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who in every respect has been tested as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

**THE WORD OF THE LORD**  
***THANKS BE TO GOD***

**Sunday, January 28, 2024**

**Fourth Sunday after Epiphany / Lectionary 4, Year B**

First Reading            Deuteronomy 18:15-20

Psalm                    Psalm 111

Second Reading        1 Corinthians 8:1-13

## **A READING FROM DEUTERONOMY**

[Moses said:] <sup>15</sup>The LORD your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among your own people; you shall heed such a prophet. <sup>16</sup>This is what you requested of the LORD your God at Horeb on the day of the assembly when you said: "If I hear the voice of the LORD my God any more, or ever again see this great fire, I will die." <sup>17</sup>Then the LORD replied to me: "They are right in what they have said. <sup>18</sup>I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their own people; I will put my words in the mouth of the prophet, who shall speak to them everything that I command. <sup>19</sup>Anyone who does not heed the words that the prophet shall speak in my name, I myself will hold accountable. <sup>20</sup>But any prophet who speaks in the name of other gods, or who presumes to speak in my name a word that I have not commanded the prophet to speak—that prophet shall die."

## **THE WORD OF THE LORD**

### **THANKS BE TO GOD**

*(If the Psalm is sung by the choir, you will not be required to lead the Psalm. Check the day's worship bulletin to confirm one way or the other)*

## **PLEASE JOIN ME IN READING THE 111<sup>th</sup> PSALM IN UNISON**

<sup>1</sup>Hallelujah! I will give thanks to the LORD with <sup>l</sup> my whole heart,  
in the assembly of the upright, in the <sup>l</sup> congregation.

<sup>2</sup>**Great are your <sup>l</sup> works, O LORD,  
pondered by all who de- <sup>l</sup> light in them.**

<sup>3</sup>Majesty and splendor <sup>l</sup> mark your deeds,  
and your righteousness en- <sup>l</sup> dures forever.

<sup>4</sup>**You cause your wonders to <sup>l</sup> be remembered;  
you are gracious and full <sup>l</sup> of compassion. R**

<sup>5</sup>You give food to <sup>l</sup> those who fear you,  
remembering forev- <sup>l</sup> er your covenant.

<sup>6</sup>**You have shown your people the power <sup>l</sup> of your works**



**in giving them the lands | of the nations.**

<sup>7</sup>The works of your hands are faithful- | ness and justice;  
all of your pre- | cepts are sure.

<sup>8</sup>**They stand fast forev- | er and ever,  
because they are done in | truth and equity. R**

<sup>9</sup>You sent redemption to your people and commanded your cove- | nant  
forever;  
holy and awesome | is your name.

<sup>10</sup>**The fear of the LORD is the begin- | ning of wisdom;  
all who practice this have a good understanding. God's praise  
en- | dures forever. R**

## **A READING FROM 1<sup>ST</sup> CORINTHIANS**

<sup>1</sup>Now concerning food sacrificed to idols: we know that "all of us possess knowledge." Knowledge puffs up, but love builds up. <sup>2</sup>Anyone who claims to know something does not yet have the necessary knowledge; <sup>3</sup>but anyone who loves God is known by him.

<sup>4</sup>Hence, as to the eating of food offered to idols, we know that "no idol in the world really exists," and that "there is no God but one." <sup>5</sup>Indeed, even though there may be so-called gods in heaven or on earth—as in fact there are many gods and many lords—<sup>6</sup>yet for us there is one God, the Father, from whom are all things and for whom we exist, and one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom are all things and through whom we exist.

<sup>7</sup>It is not everyone, however, who has this knowledge. Since some have become so accustomed to idols until now, they still think of the food they eat as food offered to an idol; and their conscience, being weak, is defiled. <sup>8</sup>"Food will not bring us close to God." We are no worse off if we do not eat, and no better off if we do. <sup>9</sup>But take care that this liberty of yours does not somehow become a stumbling block to the weak. <sup>10</sup>For if others see you, who possess knowledge, eating in the temple of an idol, might they not, since their conscience is weak, be encouraged to the point of eating food sacrificed to idols? <sup>11</sup>So by your knowledge those weak believers for whom Christ died are destroyed. <sup>12</sup>But when you thus sin against members of your family, and wound their conscience when it is weak, you sin against Christ. <sup>13</sup>Therefore, if food is a cause of their falling, I will never eat meat, so that I may not cause one of them to fall.

**THE WORD OF THE LORD  
THANKS BE TO GOD**