

Second Sunday After the Epiphany

15th January, 2017

First Reading

Isaiah 49:1–7

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

¹ Listen to me, O coastlands,
pay attention, you peoples from far away!
The Lord called me before I was born,
while I was in my mother's womb he named me.
² He made my mouth like a sharp sword,
in the shadow of his hand he hid me;
he made me a polished arrow,
in his quiver he hid me away.
³ And he said to me, 'You are my servant,
Israel, in whom I will be glorified.'
⁴ But I said, 'I have laboured in vain,
I have spent my strength for nothing and vanity;
yet surely my cause is with the Lord,
and my reward with my God.'
⁵ And now the Lord says,
who formed me in the womb to be his servant,
to bring Jacob back to him,
and that Israel might be gathered to him,
for I am honoured in the sight of the Lord,
and my God has become my strength—
⁶ he says,
'It is too light a thing that you should be my servant
to raise up the tribes of Jacob
and to restore the survivors of Israel;
I will give you as a light to the nations,
that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth.'
⁷ Thus says the Lord,
the Redeemer of Israel and his Holy One,
to one deeply despised, abhorred by the nations,
the slave of rulers,
'Kings shall see and stand up,
princes, and they shall prostrate themselves,
because of the Lord, who is faithful,

the Holy One of Israel, who has chosen you.'

Hear the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 40:1-14

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¹ I waited patiently for the Lord:

and he inclined to me and heard my cry.

² He brought me up from the pit of roaring waters,
out of the mire and clay:

and set my feet upon a rock, and made firm my foothold.

³ And he has put a new song in my mouth:

even a song of thanksgiving to our God.

⁴ Many shall see it and fear:

and shall put their trust in the Lord.

⁵ Blessed are those who have made the Lord their hope:

who have not turned to the proud,

or to those who wander in deceit.

⁶ O Lord my God, great are the wonderful things

which you have done,

and your thoughts which are towards us:

there is none to be compared with you;

⁷ Were I to declare them and speak of them:

they are more than I am able to express.

⁸ Sacrifice and offering you do not desire:

but my ears you have marked for obedience;

⁹ Burnt-offering and sin-offering you have not required:

then said I, Lo, I come.

¹⁰ In the scroll of the book it is written of me,

that I should do your will:

O my God, I long to do it, your law delights my heart.

¹¹ I have declared your righteousness

in the great congregation:

I have not restrained my lips, O Lord,

and that you know.

¹² I have not hidden your righteousness in my heart:

I have spoken of your faithfulness and of your salvation.

¹³ I have not kept back your loving-kindness and your truth:

from the great congregation.

¹⁴ O Lord, do not withhold your mercy from me:

let your loving-kindness and your truth

ever preserve me.

Second Reading

1Cor. 1:1-9

A reading from the First Letter to the Corinthians

1 Paul, called to be an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and our brother Sosthenes, **2** To the church of God that is in Corinth, to those who are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints, together with all those who in every place call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord and ours: **3** Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. **4** I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, **5** for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind— **6** just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you— **7** so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. **8** He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. **9** God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Hear the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel

John 1:29-42

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John

- Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ

29 The next day he saw Jesus coming towards him and declared, 'Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! **30** This is he of whom I said, "After me comes a man who ranks ahead of me because he was before me." **31** I myself did not know him; but I came baptizing with water for this reason, that he might be revealed to Israel.' **32** And John testified, 'I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. **33** I myself did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water said to me, "He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain is the one who baptizes with the Holy Spirit." **34** And I myself have seen and have testified that this is the Son of God.' **35** The next day John again was standing with two of his disciples, **36** and as he watched Jesus walk by, he exclaimed, 'Look, here is the Lamb of God!' **37** The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. **38** When Jesus turned and saw them following, he said to them, 'What are you looking for?' They said to him, 'Rabbi'

(which translated means Teacher), 'where are you staying?' **39** He said to them, 'Come and see.' They came and saw where he was staying, and they remained with him that day. It was about four o'clock in the afternoon. **40** One of the two who heard John speak and followed him was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. **41** He first found his brother Simon and said to him, 'We have found the Messiah' (which is translated Anointed). **42** He brought Simon to Jesus, who looked at him and said, 'You are Simon son of John. You are to be called Cephas' (which is translated Peter).

The Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

Sentence

God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

1 Corinthians 1.9

Prayer of the Day

Almighty God,
whose Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ,
is the light of the world:
may your people,
illumined by your word and sacraments,
shine with the radiance of his glory,
that he may be known, worshipped,
and obeyed to the ends of the earth;
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Supplementary readings

Habakkuk 2.1-5, 12-14 Psalm 37.5-12 Romans 1.8-17

Prayer Response

Lord God, you call us to serve you.

Be our strength in all we do.