

### Sentence of Scripture

The Holy Spirit descended on Jesus in bodily form like a dove, and a voice came from heaven, 'You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.'

Luke 3:22

### Prayer of the day

Eternal God,  
 at the baptism of Jesus in the river Jordan  
 you proclaimed him your beloved Son,  
 and anointed him with the Holy Spirit:  
 grant that all who are baptised into his name  
 may keep the covenant they have made,  
 and boldly confess him as Lord and Saviour;  
 who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns,  
 one God, in glory everlasting. **Amen.**

### Readings

#### Isaiah 43:1-7

<sup>1</sup> But now thus says the LORD, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine. <sup>2</sup>When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you.

<sup>3</sup>For I am the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior. I give Egypt as your ransom, Ethiopia and Seba in exchange for you. <sup>4</sup>Because you are precious in my sight, and honored, and I love you, I give people in return for you, nations in exchange for your life. <sup>5</sup>Do not fear, for I am with you; I will bring your offspring from the east, and from the west I will gather you; <sup>6</sup>I will say to the north, "Give them up," and to the south, "Do not withhold; bring my sons from far away and my daughters from the end of the earth— <sup>7</sup>everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made."  
 (NRSV)

Hear the word of the Lord, **thanks be to God.**

#### Psalm 29

<sup>1</sup> Ascribe to the Lord, you powers of heaven:

**ascribe to the Lord glory and might.**

<sup>2</sup> Ascribe to the Lord the honour due to his name:

**O worship the Lord in the beauty of his holiness.**

<sup>3</sup> The voice of the Lord is upon the waters:

**the God of glory thunders, the Lord upon the great waters.**

<sup>4</sup> The voice of the Lord is mighty in operation:

**the voice of the Lord is a glorious voice.**

<sup>5</sup> The voice of the Lord breaks the cedar-trees:

**the Lord breaks in pieces the cedars of Lebanon.**

<sup>6</sup> He makes them skip like a calf:

**Lebanon and Sirion like a young wild ox.**

<sup>7</sup> 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.**

<sup>8</sup> The voice of the Lord rends the terebinth trees, and strips bare the forests:

**in his temple all cry 'Glory.'**

<sup>9</sup> The Lord sits enthroned above the water-flood:

**the Lord sits enthroned as a king for ever.**

<sup>10</sup> The Lord will give strength to his people:

**the Lord will give to his people the blessing of peace.**

### **Acts 8:14-17**

<sup>14</sup> Now when the apostles at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them. <sup>15</sup> The two went down and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit <sup>16</sup> (for as yet the Spirit had not come upon any of them; they had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus). <sup>17</sup> Then Peter and John laid their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

Hear the word of the Lord, **thanks be to God.**

(NRSV)

### **Luke 3:15-22**

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to . . .

**Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

<sup>15</sup> As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, <sup>16</sup> John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. <sup>17</sup> His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

<sup>18</sup> So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people. <sup>19</sup> But Herod the ruler, who had been rebuked by him because of Herodias, his brother's wife, and because of all the evil things that Herod had done, <sup>20</sup> added to them all by shutting up John in prison.

<sup>21</sup> Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, <sup>22</sup> and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

This is the Gospel of our Lord, **praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

(NRSV)