Reading I • Is 49: 1-6

A

reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah

Hear me, O coast-lands, listen, O distant peoples. The Lord called me from birth, from my mother’s womb he gave me my name.

He made of me a sharp-edged sword and concealed me in the shadow of his arm. He made me a polished arrow, in his quiver he hid me. You are my servant, he said to me, Israel, through whom I show my glory. Though I thought I had toiled in vain, and for nothing, uselessly, spent my strength, yet my reward is with the Lord, my recollection is with my God.

For now the Lord has spoken who formed me as his servant
from the womb, that Ja-cob may be brought back to him and
Is-ra-ël gath-ered to him; and I am made glo-rious in the sight
of the Lord, and my God is now my strength! It is too lit-tle,
he says, for you to be my ser-vant, to raise up the tribes of
Ja-cob, and re-store the sur-vi-vors of Is-ra-el; I will make you a
light to the na-tions, that my sal-va-tion may reach to the ends
of the earth. The word of the Lord. R. Thanks be to God.
Paul said: "God raised up Da-vid as king; of him God tes-ti-fied,
I have found Da-vid, son of Jes-se, a man af-ter my own heart;
he will car-ry out my eve-ry wish. From this man’s de-scend-ants
God, ac-cord-ing to his prom-ise, has brought to Is-ra-ël a sav-ior,
Je-sus. John her-ald-ed his com-ing by pro-claim-ing a bap-tism of
re-pent-ance to all the peo-ple of Is-ra-el; and as John was
com-plet-ing his course, he would say, 'What do you sup-pose
that I am? I am not he. Be-hold, one is com-ing af-ter me;
I am not wor-thy to un-fas-ten the san-dals of his feet.’ My
brothers, sons of the family of Abraham, and those others among you who are God-fearing, to us this word of salvation has been sent." The word of the Lord. R. Thanks be to God.
Gospel • Luke 1: 57-66, 80 — TUESDAY

The Lord be with you. And with your spirit. A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke. Glory to you, O Lord. When the time arrived for Elizabeth to have her child, she gave birth to a son. Her neighbors and relatives heard that the Lord had shown his great mercy toward her, and they rejoiced with her. When they came on the eighth day to circumcise the child, they were going to call him Zachariah after his father, but his mother said in reply, "No. He will be called John." But they answered her, "There is no one among your relatives who has this name." So they made signs, asking his father what he
wished him to be called. He asked for a tablet and wrote, "John is his name," and all were amazed. Immediately his mouth was opened, his tongue freed, and he spoke blessing God. Then fear came upon all their neighbors, and all these matters were discussed throughout the hill country of Judea. All who heard these things took them to heart, saying, "What, then, will this child be?" For surely the hand of the Lord was with him. The child grew and became strong in spirit, and he was in the desert until the day of his manifestation to Israel.

The Gospel of the Lord. R. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.
Be-lov-èd, Pur-sue right-eous-ness, faith, love, and peace, a-long with those who call on the Lord with pu-ri-ty of heart. A-void fool-ish and ig-no-rant de-bates, for you know that they breed quar-rels.

A slave of the Lord should not quar-rel, but should be gen-tle with eve-ry-one, a-ble to teach, tol-er-ant, cor-rect-ing op-po-nents with kind-ness. It may be that God will grant them re-pent-ance that leads to knowl-edge of the truth, and that they may re-turn to their sens-es out of the Dev-il’s snare, where they are en-trapped by him, for his will. The word of the Lord. ▼• Thanks be to God.
The Lord be with you. And with your spirit. A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew. Glory to you, O Lord. Jesus said to the Twelve: "Do not be afraid of those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; rather, be afraid of the one who can destroy both soul and body in Gehenna. Are not two sparrows sold for a small coin? Yet not one of them falls to the ground without your Father's knowledge. Even all the hairs of your head are counted. So do not be afraid; you are worth more than many sparrows. Everyone who acknowledges me before others I will
ac-knowl-edge be-fore my heav-en-ly Fa-ther. But who-ev-er de-nies
me be-fore oth-ers, I will de-ny be-fore my heav-en-ly Fa-ther."

The Gos-pel of the Lord. R. Praise to you, Lord Je-sus Christ.
The Only Reading • Romans 5: 12, 17-19

Brothers and sisters: Through one man sin entered the world, and through sin, death, and thus death came to all men, inasmuch as all sinned. For if by the transgression of the one, the many died, how much more did the grace of God and the gracious gift of the one man Jesus Christ overflow for the many. And the gift is not like the result of the one who sinned. For after one sin there was the judgment that brought condemnation; but the gift, after many transgressions, brought acquittal. For if, by the transgression of the one, death came to
reign through that one, how much more will those who receive the abundance of grace and of the gift of justification come to reign in life through the one Jesus Christ. In conclusion, just as through one transgression condemnation came upon all, so, through one righteous act, acquittal and life came to all. For just as through the disobedience of the one man the many were made sinners, so, through the obedience of the one, the many will be made righteous. The word of the Lord. R. Thanks be to God.
The Lord be with you. And with your spirit. A reading from the holy Gospel according to John. Glory to you, O Lord. Standing by the cross of Jesus were his mother and his mother’s sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple there whom he loved he said to his mother, "Woman, behold, your son." Then he said to the disciple, "Behold, your mother." And from that hour the disciple took her into his home. The Gospel of the Lord. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.
A reading from the Book of Wisdom God did not make death, nor does he rejoice in the destruction of the living. For he fashioned all things that they might have being; and the creatures of the world are wholesome, and there is not a destructive drug among them nor any domain of the nether-world on earth, for justice is undying. For God formed man to be imperishable; the image of his own nature he made him. But by the envy of the devil, death entered the world, and they who belong to his company experience it. The word of the Lord. \textit{R.} Thanks be to God.
reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Corinthians. Brothers and sisters: As you excel in every respect,
in faith, discourse, knowledge, all earnestness, and in the love we have for you, may you excel in this gracious act also.

For you know the gracious act of our Lord Jesus Christ,
that though he was rich, for your sake he became poor, so
that by his poverty you might become rich. Not that others
should have relief while you are burdened, but that as a matter of equality your abundance at the present time should
supply their needs, so that their abundance may also supply
your needs, that there may be equality. As it is written:

Whoever had much did not have more, and whoever had little did not have less. The word of the Lord. R. Thanks be to God.
The Lord be with you. And with your spirit. A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark. Glory to you, O Lord. When Jesus had crossed again in the boat to the other side, a large crowd gathered around him, and he stayed close to the sea. One of the synagogue officials, named Jairus, came forward. Seeing him he fell at his feet and pleaded earnestly with him, saying, "My daughter is at the point of death. Please, come lay your hands on her that she may get well and live." He went off with him, and a large crowd followed him and pressed upon him. There was a woman afflicted
with hem-or-rhag-es for twelve years. She had suf-fered great-ly
at the hands of man-y doc-tors and had spent all that she
had. Yet she was not helped but on-ly grew worse. She had
heard a-bout Je-sus and came up be-hind him in the crowd
and touched his cloak. She said, "If I but touch his clothes,
I shall be cured." Im-me-di-ate-ly her flow of blood dried up.
She felt in her bod-y that she was healed of her af-flic-tion.
Je-sus, a-ware at once that pow’r had gone out from him,
turned a-round in the crowd and asked, "Who has touched my
clothes?" But his dis-ci-ples said to Je-sus, "You see how the crowd
is pressing upon you, and yet you ask, 'Who touched me?'"

And he looked around to see who had done it. The woman, realizing what had happened to her, approached in fear and trembling. She fell down before Jesus and told him the whole truth. He said to her, "Daughter, your faith has saved you. Go in peace and be cured of your affliction." While he was still speaking, people from the synagogue official's house arrived and said, "Your daughter has died; why trouble the teacher any longer?" Disregarding the message that was reported, Jesus said to the synagogue official, "Do not be afraid; just
have faith." He did not allow anyone to accompany him inside except Peter, James, and John, the brother of James.

When they arrived at the house of the synagogue official, he caught sight of a commotion, people weeping and wailing loudly. So he went in and said to them, "Why this commotion and weeping? The child is not dead but asleep." And they ridiculed him. Then he put them all out. He took along the child's father and mother and those who were with him and entered the room where the child was. He took the child by the hand and said to her, "Ta-li-tha koum," which means, "Little
girl, I say to you, a-rise!" The girl, a child of twelve, a-rose
im-me-di-ate-ly and walked a-round. At that they were ut-ter-ly
a-stound-ed. He gave strict or-ders that no one should know
this and said that she should be giv-en some-thing to eat.

The Gos-pel of the Lord. R. Praise to you, Lord Je-sus Christ.