

GOSPEL READING

MARK 1:1-8

✠ A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

All: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Make straight the paths of the Lord.

The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ the Son of God.

As it is written in Isaiah the prophet:

Behold, I am sending my messenger ahead of you;

he will prepare your way.

A voice of one crying out in the desert:

“Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths.”

John the Baptist appeared in the desert proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. People of the whole Judean countryside and all the inhabitants of Jerusalem were going out to him and were being baptized by him in the Jordan River as they acknowledged their sins.

John was clothed in camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist. He fed on locusts and wild honey. And this is what he proclaimed:

“One mightier than I is coming after me. I am not worthy to stoop and loosen the thongs of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.”

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

COMMUNION ANTIPHON BARUCH 5:5; 4:36

Jerusalem, arise and stand upon the heights,
and behold the joy which comes to you from God.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Replenished by the food of spiritual nourishment,
we humbly beseech you, O Lord,
that, through our partaking in this mystery,
you may teach us to judge wisely the things of earth
and hold firm to the things of heaven.

Through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

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LIVING LITURGY™

Second Sunday of Advent

December 6, 2020



REFLECTION ON THE GOSPEL

The Liturgy of the Word puts the adult John before us today and next Sunday to block our view of “baby Jesus,” and so remind us that the Advent-Christmas mystery is less about the child and more about the adult Coming One and the mystery of his life, death, and resurrection that he offers to us as our own mystery. We are called to make our way down to the Jordan with the hopeful and curious crowds to see this wilderness man.

—Living Liturgy™, Second Sunday of Advent 2020

ENTRANCE ANTIPHON

CF. ISAIAH 30:19, 30

O people of Sion, behold,
the Lord will come to save the nations,
and the Lord will make the glory of his voice heard
in the joy of your heart.

COLLECT

Almighty and merciful God,
may no earthly undertaking hinder those
who set out in haste to meet your Son,
but may our learning of heavenly wisdom
gain us admittance to his company.
Who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

READING I

L 5 · ISAIAH 40:1–5, 9–11

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah

Prepare the way of the Lord.

Comfort, give comfort to my people, says your God.
 Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and proclaim to her
 that her service is at an end, her guilt is expiated;
 indeed, she has received from the hand of the LORD
 double for all her sins.

A voice cries out:

In the desert prepare the way of the LORD!

Make straight in the wasteland a highway for our God!
 Every valley shall be filled in, every mountain and hill shall be made low;
 the rugged land shall be made a plain, the rough country, a broad valley.
 Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed,
 and all people shall see it together;
 for the mouth of the LORD has spoken.

Go up onto a high mountain, Zion, herald of glad tidings;
 cry out at the top of your voice, Jerusalem, herald of good news!
 Fear not to cry out and say to the cities of Judah:

Here is your God!

Here comes with power the LORD God, who rules by his strong arm;
 here is his reward with him, his recompense before him.
 Like a shepherd he feeds his flock;
 in his arms he gathers the lambs,
 carrying them in his bosom, and leading the ewes with care.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.****RESPONSORIAL PSALM**

PSALM 85:9–10, 11–12, 13–14

℟. (8) Lord, let us see your kindness, and grant us your salvation.

I will hear what God proclaims;
 the LORD—for he proclaims peace to his people.
 Near indeed is his salvation to those who fear him,
 glory dwelling in our land. **℟.**

Kindness and truth shall meet;
 justice and peace shall kiss.

Truth shall spring out of the earth,
 and justice shall look down from heaven. **℟.**

The LORD himself will give his benefits;
 our land shall yield its increase.
 Justice shall walk before him,
 and prepare the way of his steps. **℟.**

READING II

2 PETER 3:8–14

A reading from the second Letter of Saint Peter

We await new heavens and a new earth.

Do not ignore this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is like a
 thousand years and a thousand years like one day.

The Lord does not delay his promise, as some regard “delay,” but he is
 patient with you, not wishing that any should perish but that all should
 come to repentance.

But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will
 pass away with a mighty roar and the elements will be dissolved by fire,
 and the earth and everything done on it will be found out.

Since everything is to be dissolved in this way, what sort of persons
 ought you to be, conducting yourselves in holiness and devotion,
 waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because
 of which the heavens will be dissolved in flames and the elements
 melted by fire.

But according to his promise we await new heavens and a new earth in
 which righteousness dwells.

Therefore, beloved, since you await these things, be eager to be found
 without spot or blemish before him, at peace.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.****GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

LUKE 3:4, 6

℟. Alleluia, alleluia.

℣. Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths:
 all flesh shall see the salvation of God. **℟.**