

Holy Bible Readings – Sunday, January 6, 2019

Baptism of Our Lord (*Denho*)

Mark 1:1-11

- 1 The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ [the Son of God].
- 2 As it is written in Isaiah the prophet: “Behold, I am sending my messenger ahead of you; he will prepare your way.
- 3 A voice of one crying out in the desert: ‘Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight his paths.’”
- 4 John [the] Baptist appeared in the desert proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins.
- 5 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.
- 6 John was clothed in camel’s hair, with a leather belt around his waist. He fed on locusts and wild honey.
- 7 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.
- 8 I have baptized you with water; he will baptize you with the holy Spirit.”
- 9 It happened in those days that Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized in the Jordan by John.
- 10 On coming up out of the water he saw the heavens being torn open and the Spirit, like a dove, descending upon him.
- 11 And a voice came from the heavens, “You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased.”

Genesis 24:10-20

- 10 The servant then took ten of his master’s camels, and bearing all kinds of gifts from his master, he made his way to the city of Nahor in Aram Naharaim.
- 11 Near evening, at the time when women go out to draw water, he made the camels kneel by the well outside the city.
- 12 Then he said: “LORD, God of my master Abraham, let it turn out favorably for me today and thus deal graciously with my master Abraham.
- 13 While I stand here at the spring and the daughters of the townspeople are coming out to draw water,
- 14 if I say to a young woman, ‘Please lower your jug, that I may drink,’ and she answers, ‘Drink, and I will water your camels, too,’ then she is the one whom you have decided upon for your servant Isaac. In this way I will know that you have dealt graciously with my master.”

- 15 He had scarcely finished speaking when Rebekah—who was born to Bethuel, son of Milcah, the wife of Abraham’s brother Nahor—came out with a jug on her shoulder.
- 16 The young woman was very beautiful, a virgin, untouched by man. She went down to the spring and filled her jug. As she came up,
- 17 the servant ran toward her and said, “Please give me a sip of water from your jug.”
- 18 “Drink, sir,” she replied, and quickly lowering the jug into her hand, she gave him a drink.
- 19 When she had finished giving him a drink, she said, “I will draw water for your camels, too, until they have finished drinking.”
- 20 With that, she quickly emptied her jug into the drinking trough and ran back to the well to draw more water, until she had drawn enough for all the camels.

2 Kings 3:21-27

- 21 Meanwhile, all Moab had heard that the kings had come to war against them; troops from the youngest on up were mobilized and stationed at the border.
- 22 When they rose early that morning, the sun was shining across the water. The Moabites saw the water as red as blood,
- 23 and said, “This is blood! The kings have fought among themselves and killed one another. Quick! To the spoils, Moab!”
- 24 But when they reached the camp of Israel, the Israelites rose up and attacked the Moabites, who fled from them. They ranged through the countryside destroying Moab—
- 25 leveling the cities, each one casting the stones onto every fertile field and filling it, stopping up every spring, felling every fruit tree, until only the stones of Kir-hareseth remained. Then the slingers surrounded and attacked it.
- 26 When he saw that the battle was going against him, the king of Moab took seven hundred swordsmen to break through to the king of Edom, but he failed.
- 27 So he took his firstborn, who was to succeed him as king, and offered him as a burnt offering upon the wall. The wrath against Israel was so great that they gave up the siege and returned to their own land.

Ezekiel 47:1-12

- 1 Then he brought me back to the entrance of the temple, and there! I saw water flowing out from under the threshold of the temple toward the east, for the front of the temple faced east. The water flowed out toward the right side of the temple to the south of the altar.
- 2 He brought me by way of the north gate and around the outside to the outer gate facing east; there I saw water trickling from the southern side.

- 3 When he continued eastward with a measuring cord in his hand, he measured off a thousand cubits and had me wade through the water; it was ankle-deep.
- 4 He measured off another thousand cubits and once more had me wade through the water; it was up to the knees. He measured another thousand cubits and had me wade through the water; it was up to my waist.
- 5 Once more he measured off a thousand cubits. Now it was a river I could not wade across. The water had risen so high, I would have to swim—a river that was impassable.
- 6 Then he asked me, “Do you see this, son of man?” He brought me to the bank of the river and had me sit down.
- 7 As I was returning, I saw along the bank of the river a great many trees on each side.
- 8 He said to me, “This water flows out into the eastern district, runs down into the Arabah and empties into the polluted waters of the sea to freshen them.
- 9 Wherever it flows, the river teems with every kind of living creature; fish will abound. Where these waters flow they refresh; everything lives where the river goes.
- 10 Fishermen will stand along its shore from En-gedi to En-eglaim; it will become a place for drying nets, and it will abound with as many kinds of fish as the Great Sea.
- 11 Its marshes and swamps shall not be made fresh, but will be left for salt.
- 12 Along each bank of the river every kind of fruit tree will grow; their leaves will not wither, nor will their fruit fail. Every month they will bear fresh fruit because the waters of the river flow out from the sanctuary. Their fruit is used for food, and their leaves for healing.”

Isaiah 12:1-6

- 1 On that day, you will say: I give you thanks, O LORD; though you have been angry with me, your anger has abated, and you have consoled me.
- 2 God indeed is my salvation; I am confident and unafraid. For the LORD is my strength and my might, and he has been my salvation.
- 3 With joy you will draw water from the fountains of salvation,
- 4 And you will say on that day: give thanks to the LORD, acclaim his name; among the nations make known his deeds, proclaim how exalted is his name.
- 5 Sing praise to the LORD for he has done glorious things; let this be known throughout all the earth.
- 6 Shout with exultation, City of Zion, for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel!

Acts 19:1-7

- 1 While Apollos was in Corinth, Paul traveled through the interior of the country and came (down) to Ephesus where he found some disciples.

- 2 He said to them, "Did you receive the holy Spirit when you became believers?" They answered him, "We have never even heard that there is a holy Spirit."
- 3 He said, "How were you baptized?" They replied, "With the baptism of John."
- 4 Paul then said, "John baptized with a baptism of repentance, telling the people to believe in the one who was to come after him, that is, in Jesus."
- 5 When they heard this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.
- 6 And when Paul laid [his] hands on them, the holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke in tongues and prophesied.
- 7 Altogether there were about twelve men.

Titus 2:11-3:9

- 11 For the grace of God has appeared, saving all
- 12 and training us to reject godless ways and worldly desires and to live temperately, justly, and devoutly in this age,
- 13 as we await the blessed hope, the appearance of the glory of the great God and of our savior Jesus Christ,
- 14 who gave himself for us to deliver us from all lawlessness and to cleanse for himself a people as his own, eager to do what is good.
- 15 Say these things. Exhort and correct with all authority. Let no one look down on you.
- 1 Remind them to be under the control of magistrates and authorities, to be obedient, to be open to every good enterprise.
- 2 They are to slander no one, to be peaceable, considerate, exercising all graciousness toward everyone.
- 3 For we ourselves were once foolish, disobedient, deluded, slaves to various desires and pleasures, living in malice and envy, hateful ourselves and hating one another.
- 4 But when the kindness and generous love of God our savior appeared,
- 5 not because of any righteous deeds we had done but because of his mercy, he saved us through the bath of rebirth and renewal by the holy Spirit,
- 6 whom he richly poured out on us through Jesus Christ our savior,
- 7 so that we might be justified by his grace and become heirs in hope of eternal life.
- 8 This saying is trustworthy. Advice to Titus. I want you to insist on these points, that those who have believed in God be careful to devote themselves to good works; these are excellent and beneficial to others.
- 9 Avoid foolish arguments, genealogies, rivalries, and quarrels about the law, for they are useless and futile.

Matthew 3:13-17

- 13 Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan to be baptized by him.
- 14 John tried to prevent him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and yet you are coming to me?"
- 15 Jesus said to him in reply, "Allow it now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness." Then he allowed him.
- 16 After Jesus was baptized, he came up from the water and behold, the heavens were opened [for him], and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove [and] coming upon him.
- 17 And a voice came from the heavens, saying, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased."