

First Sunday after Denho

Mark 1:14-20

- 14 After John had been arrested, Jesus came to Galilee proclaiming the gospel of God:
15 "This is the time of fulfillment. The kingdom of God is at hand. Repent, and believe in the gospel."
16 As he passed by the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting their nets into the sea; they were fishermen.
17 Jesus said to them, "Come after me, and I will make you fishers of men."
18 Then they abandoned their nets and followed him.
19 He walked along a little farther and saw James, the son of Zebedee, and his brother John. They too were in a boat mending their nets.
20 Then he called them. So they left their father Zebedee in the boat along with the hired men and followed him.

Genesis 30:25-43

- 25 After Rachel gave birth to Joseph, Jacob said to Laban: "Allow me to go to my own region and land.
26 Give me my wives and my children for whom I served you and let me go, for you know the service that I rendered you."
27 Laban answered him: "If you will please! I have learned through divination that the LORD has blessed me because of you."
28 He continued, "State the wages I owe you, and I will pay them."
29 Jacob replied: "You know what work I did for you and how well your livestock fared under my care;
30 the little you had before I came has grown into an abundance, since the LORD has blessed you in my company. Now, when can I do something for my own household as well?"
31 Laban asked, "What should I give you?" Jacob answered: "You do not have to give me anything. If you do this thing for me, I will again pasture and tend your sheep.
32 Let me go through your whole flock today and remove from it every dark animal among the lambs and every spotted or speckled one among the goats. These will be my wages.
33 In the future, whenever you check on my wages, my honesty will testify for me: any animal that is not speckled or spotted among the goats, or dark among the lambs, got into my possession by theft!"
34 Laban said, "Very well. Let it be as you say."
35 That same day Laban removed the streaked and spotted he-goats and all the speckled and spotted she-goats, all those with some white on them, as well as every dark lamb, and he put them in the care of his sons.
36 Then he put a three days' journey between himself and Jacob, while Jacob was pasturing the rest of Laban's flock.

37 Jacob, however, got some fresh shoots of poplar, almond and plane trees, and he peeled white stripes in them by laying bare the white core of the shoots.

38 The shoots that he had peeled he then set upright in the watering troughs where the animals came to drink, so that they would be in front of them. When the animals were in heat as they came to drink,

39 the goats mated by the shoots, and so they gave birth to streaked, speckled and spotted young.

40 The sheep, on the other hand, Jacob kept apart, and he made these animals face the streaked or completely dark animals of Laban. Thus he produced flocks of his own, which he did not put with Laban's flock.

41 Whenever the hardier animals were in heat, Jacob would set the shoots in the troughs in full view of these animals, so that they mated by the shoots;

42 but with the weaker animals he would not put the shoots there. So the feeble animals would go to Laban, but the hardy ones to Jacob.

43 So the man grew exceedingly prosperous, and he owned large flocks, male and female servants, camels, and donkeys.

Exodus 3:1-15

1 Meanwhile Moses was tending the flock of his father-in-law Jethro, the priest of Midian. Leading the flock beyond the wilderness, he came to the mountain of God, Horeb.

2 There the angel of the LORD appeared to him as fire flaming out of a bush. When he looked, although the bush was on fire, it was not being consumed.

3 So Moses decided, "I must turn aside to look at this remarkable sight. Why does the bush not burn up?"

4 When the LORD saw that he had turned aside to look, God called out to him from the bush: Moses! Moses! He answered, "Here I am."

5 God said: Do not come near! Remove your sandals from your feet, for the place where you stand is holy ground.

6 I am the God of your father, he continued, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob. Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God.

7 But the LORD said: I have witnessed the affliction of my people in Egypt and have heard their cry against their taskmasters, so I know well what they are suffering.

8 Therefore I have come down to rescue them from the power of the Egyptians and lead them up from that land into a good and spacious land, a land flowing with milk and honey, the country of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Girgashites, the Hivites and the Jebusites.

9 Now indeed the outcry of the Israelites has reached me, and I have seen how the Egyptians are oppressing them.

10 Now, go! I am sending you to Pharaoh to bring my people, the Israelites, out of Egypt.

11 But Moses said to God, "Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?"

- 12 God answered: I will be with you; and this will be your sign that I have sent you. When you have brought the people out of Egypt, you will serve God at this mountain.
- 13 "But," said Moses to God, "if I go to the Israelites and say to them, 'The God of your ancestors has sent me to you,' and they ask me, 'What is his name?' what do I tell them?"
- 14 God replied to Moses: I am who I am. Then he added: This is what you will tell the Israelites: I AM has sent me to you.
- 15 God spoke further to Moses: This is what you will say to the Israelites: The LORD, the God of your ancestors, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you. This is my name forever; this is my title for all generations.

Psalms 147:1-11

- 1 Hallelujah! How good to sing praise to our God; how pleasant to give fitting praise.
- 2 The LORD rebuilds Jerusalem, and gathers the dispersed of Israel,
- 3 Healing the brokenhearted, and binding up their wounds.
- 4 He numbers the stars, and gives to all of them their names.
- 5 Great is our Lord, vast in power, with wisdom beyond measure.
- 6 The LORD gives aid to the poor, but casts the wicked to the ground.
- 7 Sing to the LORD with thanksgiving; with the lyre make music to our God,
- 8 Who covers the heavens with clouds, provides rain for the earth, makes grass sprout on the mountains,
- 9 Who gives animals their food and young ravens what they cry for.
- 10 He takes no delight in the strength of horses, no pleasure in the runner's stride.
- 11 Rather the LORD takes pleasure in those who fear him, those who put their hope in his mercy.

Isaiah 49:7-13

- 7 Thus says the LORD, the redeemer, the Holy One of Israel, to the one despised, abhorred by the nations, the slave of rulers: When kings see you, they shall stand up, and princes shall bow down because of the LORD who is faithful, the Holy One of Israel who has chosen you.
- 8 Thus says the LORD: In a time of favor I answer you, on the day of salvation I help you; I form you and set you as a covenant for the people, to restore the land and allot the devastated heritages,
- 9 To say to the prisoners: Come out! To those in darkness: Show yourselves! Along the roadways they shall find pasture, on every barren height shall their pastures be.
- 10 They shall not hunger or thirst; nor shall scorching wind or sun strike them; for he who pities them leads them and guides them beside springs of water.
- 11 I will turn all my mountains into roadway, and make my highways level.
- 12 See, these shall come from afar: some from the north and the west, others from the land of Syene.

13 Sing out, heavens, and rejoice, earth, break forth into song, you mountains, for the LORD comforts his people and shows mercy to his afflicted.

Acts 2:37-47

37 Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart, and they asked Peter and the other apostles, "What are we to do, my brothers?"

38 Peter [said] to them, "Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you will receive the gift of the holy Spirit.

39 For the promise is made to you and to your children and to all those far off, whomever the Lord our God will call."

40 He testified with many other arguments, and was exhorting them, "Save yourselves from this corrupt generation."

41 Those who accepted his message were baptized, and about three thousand persons were added that day.

42 They devoted themselves to the teaching of the apostles and to the communal life, to the breaking of the bread and to the prayers.

43 Awe came upon everyone, and many wonders and signs were done through the apostles.

44 All who believed were together and had all things in common;

45 they would sell their property and possessions and divide them among all according to each one's need.

46 Every day they devoted themselves to meeting together in the temple area and to breaking bread in their homes. They ate their meals with exultation and sincerity of heart,

47 praising God and enjoying favor with all the people. And every day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

Ephesians 1:3-14

3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavens,

4 as he chose us in him, before the foundation of the world, to be holy and without blemish before him. In love

5 he destined us for adoption to himself through Jesus Christ, in accord with the favor of his will,

6 for the praise of the glory of his grace that he granted us in the beloved.

7 In him we have redemption by his blood, the forgiveness of transgressions, in accord with the riches of his grace

8 that he lavished upon us. In all wisdom and insight,

9 he has made known to us the mystery of his will in accord with his favor that he set forth in him

10 as a plan for the fullness of times, to sum up all things in Christ, in heaven and on earth.

11 In him we were also chosen, destined in accord with the purpose of the One who
accomplishes all things according to the intention of his will,
12 so that we might exist for the praise of his glory, we who first hoped in Christ.
13 In him you also, who have heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and have
believed in him, were sealed with the promised holy Spirit,
14 which is the first installment of our inheritance toward redemption as God's possession,
to the praise of his glory.

Mathew 4:12-22

12 When he heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew to Galilee.
13 He left Nazareth and went to live in Capernaum by the sea, in the region of Zebulun and
Naphtali,
14 that what had been said through Isaiah the prophet might be fulfilled:
15 "Land of Zebulun and land of Naphtali, the way to the sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of
the Gentiles,
16 the people who sit in darkness have seen a great light, on those dwelling in a land
overshadowed by death light has arisen."
17 From that time on, Jesus began to preach and say, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven
is at hand."
18 As he was walking by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon who is called Peter,
and his brother Andrew, casting a net into the sea; they were fishermen.
19 He said to them, "Come after me, and I will make you fishers of men."
20 At once they left their nets and followed him.
21 He walked along from there and saw two other brothers, James, the son of Zebedee, and
his brother John. They were in a boat, with their father Zebedee, mending their nets. He
called them,
22 and immediately they left their boat and their father and followed him.