

according to the hope of eternal life. The saying is sure. I desire that you insist on these things, so that those who have come to believe in God may be careful to devote themselves to good works; these things are excellent and profitable to everyone.

Hear the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

Glory to God in the highest,
peace to his people on earth.

Alleluia!

Gospel

Lk. 2:8-20

✠ The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke

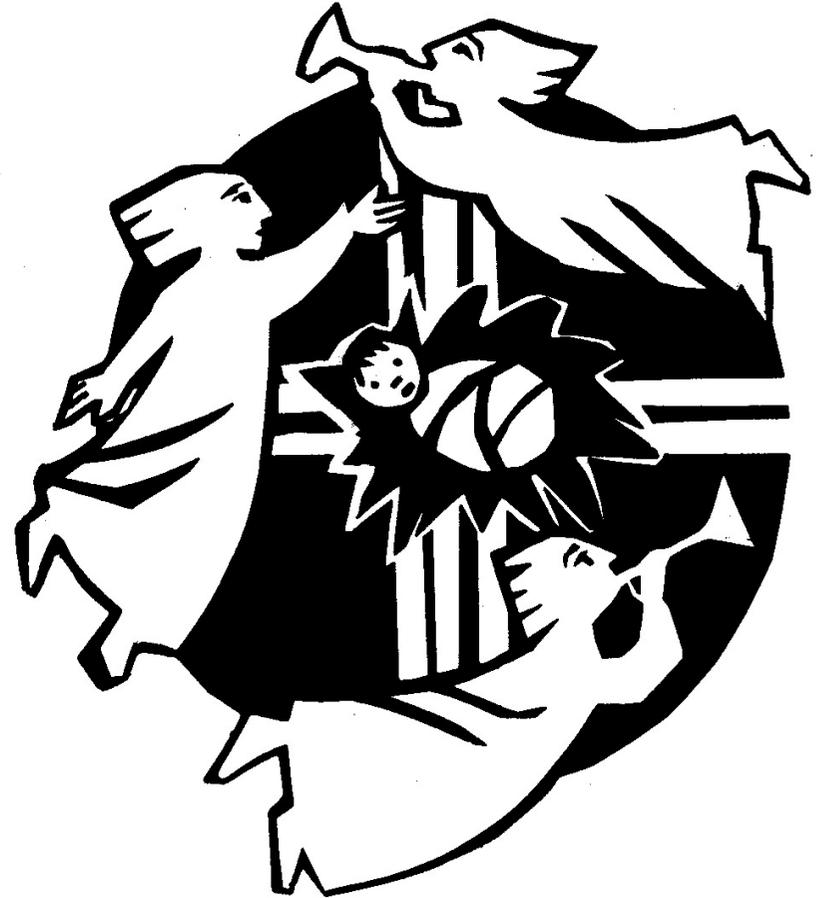
℟. **Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ**

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid; for see — I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.” And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, “Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favours!” When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.” So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

CHRISTMAS DAY (I) 2021



Sentence

This child will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High. He will reign over the house of Jacob for ever, and of his kingdom there will be no end.

Luke 1.32-33

Prayer of the day

Almighty God,
who gave your only begotten Son
to take our nature upon him
and as at this time to be born of the Virgin Mary:
grant that we being born again
and made your children by adoption and grace,
may daily be renewed by your Holy Spirit;
through the same our Lord Jesus Christ,
who lives and reigns with you and the same Spirit,
ever one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

or

All glory to you, gracious God,
for the gift of your Son,
whom you sent to save us.
With the angels, let us praise your name,
and tell the earth his story,
that all may believe, rejoice, and proclaim your love;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

First Reading

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

Isa. 62:6-12

Upon your walls, O Jerusalem, I have posted sentinels; all day and all night they shall never be silent. You who remind the Lord, take no rest, and give him no rest until he establishes Jerusalem and makes it renowned throughout the earth. The Lord has sworn by his right hand and by his mighty arm: I will not again give your grain to be food for your enemies, and foreigners shall not drink the wine for which you have laboured; but those who garner it shall eat it and praise the Lord, and those who gather it shall drink it in my holy courts. Go through, go through the gates, prepare the way for the people; build up, build up the highway, clear it of stones, lift up an ensign over the peoples. The Lord has proclaimed to the end of the earth: Say to daughter Zion, "See, your salvation comes; his reward is with him, and his recompense before him." They shall be called, "The Holy People, The Redeemed of the Lord"; and you shall be called, "Sought Out, A City Not Forsaken."

Hear the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 97 — A.P.B.A. page 324

1 The Lord is king let the earth rejoice:
let the multitude of islands be glad.
2 Clouds and darkness are round about him:
righteousness and justice
are the foundation of his throne.
3 Fire goes before him:
and burns up his enemies on every side.
4 His lightnings light the world:
the earth sees it and quakes.
5 The mountains melt like wax before his face:
from before the face of the Lord of all the earth.
6 The heavens have proclaimed his righteousness:
and all peoples have seen his glory.
7 They are ashamed all those who serve idols
and glory in mere nothings:
all gods bow down before him.
8 Zion heard and was glad,
and the daughters of Judah rejoiced:
because of your judgements O God.
9 For you Lord are most high over all the earth:
you are exalted far above all gods.
10 The Lord loves those that hate evil:
the Lord guards the life of the faithful,
and delivers them from the hand of the ungodly.
11 Light dawns for the righteous:
and joy for the true of heart.
12 Rejoice in the Lord you righteous:
and give thanks to his holy name.

Second Reading

A reading from the letter to Titus

Titus 3:4-8a

When the goodness and loving kindness of God our Saviour appeared, he saved us, not because of any works of righteousness that we had done, but according to his mercy, through the water of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit. This Spirit he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Saviour, so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life. The saying is sure. I desire that you insist on these things, so that those who have come to believe in God may be careful to devote themselves to good works; these things are excellent and profitable to everyone.

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