

Readings and Psalm for Sunday, January 15

Isaiah 49:1-7

¹Listen to me, O coastlands,
pay attention, you peoples from far away!
The Lord called me before I was born,
and while I was in my mother's womb God named me.

²The Lord made my mouth like a sharp sword;
I was hid in the shadow of God's hand.

The Lord made me a polished arrow;
I was hid away in God's quiver.

³And the Lord said to me, "You are my servant,
Israel, in whom I will be glorified."

⁴But I said, "I have labored in vain,
I have spent my strength for nothing and vanity;
yet surely my cause is with the Lord,
and my reward with my God."

⁵And now the Lord says,
who formed me as a servant in the womb,
to bring Jacob back to God,
and that Israel might be gathered to the Lord,
for I am honored in the sight of the Lord,
and my God has become my strength—

⁶the Lord says,
"It is too light a thing that you should be my servant
to raise up the tribes of Jacob
and to restore the survivors of Israel;
I will give you as a light to the nations,
that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth."

⁷Thus says the Lord,
the Redeemer of Israel, the Holy One of Israel,
to one deeply despised, abhorred by the nations,
the slave of rulers,
"Monarchs shall see and stand up,
chieftains, and they shall prostrate themselves,
because of the Lord, who is faithful,
the Holy One of Israel, who has chosen you."

Psalm 40:1-11

¹I waited patiently up- | on the LORD,
who stooped to me and | heard my cry.

²**The LORD lifted me out of the desolate pit, out of the | miry clay,
and set my feet upon a high cliff, making my | footing sure.**

³The LORD put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise | to our God;
many shall see, and stand in awe, and put their trust | in the LORD.

⁴**Happy are they who trust | in the LORD!**

They do not turn to enemies or to those who | follow lies. R

⁵Great are the wonders you have done, O LORD my God! In your plans
for us, none can be com- | pared with you!

Oh, that I could make them known and tell them! But they are more
than | I can count.

⁶**Sacrifice and offering you do | not desire;**

**you have opened my ears: burnt-offering and sin-offering you
have | not required. R**

⁷And so I said, “Here I | am; I come.

In the scroll of the book it is writ- | ten of me:

⁸**‘I love to do your will, | O my God;
your law is | deep within me.’”**

⁹I proclaimed righteousness in the | great assembly;

I have not restrained my lips, O | LORD, you know.

¹⁰**I have not hidden your righteousness in my heart; I have spoken of
your faithfulness and | your deliverance;**

**I have not concealed your steadfast love and truth from the | great
assembly.**

¹¹You are the LORD; do not withhold your compas- | sion from me;

may your steadfast love and your truth continually | keep me safe. R

1 Corinthians 1:1-9

¹Paul, called to be an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, and our brother Sosthenes,

²To the church of God that is in Corinth, to those who are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints, together with all those who in every place call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord and ours:

³Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

⁴I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, ⁵for in every way you have been enriched in Christ, in speech and knowledge of every kind—⁶just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you—⁷so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁸God will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁹God is faithful, by whom you were called into the communion of the Son of God, Jesus Christ our Lord.

John 1:29-42

²⁹John the Baptist saw Jesus coming toward him and declared, "Here is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!" ³⁰This is the one of whom I said, 'After me comes a man who ranks ahead of me because he was before me.' ³¹I myself did not know him; but I came baptizing with water for this reason, that he might be revealed to Israel." ³²And John testified, "I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. ³³I myself did not know him, but the one who sent me to baptize with water said to me, 'The one on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain is the one who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.' ³⁴And I myself have seen and have testified that this is the Son of God."

³⁵The next day John again was standing with two of his disciples, ³⁶and as he watched Jesus walk by, he exclaimed, "Look, here is the Lamb of God!" ³⁷The two disciples heard him say this, and they followed Jesus. ³⁸When Jesus turned and saw them following, he said to them, "What are you looking for?" They said to him, "Rabbi" (which translated means Teacher), "where are you staying?" ³⁹He said to them, "Come and see." They came and saw where Jesus was staying, and they remained with him that day. It was about four o'clock in the afternoon. ⁴⁰One of the two who heard John speak and followed him was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. ⁴¹Andrew first found his brother Simon and said to him, "We have found the Messiah" (which is translated Anointed). ⁴²He brought Simon to Jesus, who looked at him and said, "You are Simon son of John. You are to be called Cephas" (which is translated Peter).