

NATIVITY OF THE LORD, PROPER III

December 24-25, 2023

Year B, Revised Common Lectionary

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Alleluia, Thomas Cooper Gotch, 1896, Wikimedia.

Isaiah 52:7-10 How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of the messenger who announces peace, who brings good news, who announces salvation, who says to Zion, “Your God reigns.” Listen! Your sentinels lift up their voices; together they shout for joy, for in plain sight they see the return of the LORD to Zion. Break forth; shout together for joy, you ruins of Jerusalem, for the LORD has comforted his people; he has redeemed Jerusalem. The LORD has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the nations, and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

Psalm 98

- ✘ O sing to the LORD a new song, for he has done marvelous things.
- ✘ His right hand and his holy arm have gotten him victory.
- ✘ The LORD has made known his victory; he has revealed his vindication in the sight of the nations.
- ✘ He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel.
- ✘ All the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.
- ✘ Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises.
- ✘ Sing praises to the LORD with the lyre, with the lyre and the sound of melody.
- ✘ With trumpets and the sound of the horn make a joyful noise before the King, the LORD.
- ✘ Let the sea roar and all that fills it, the world and those who live in it.
- ✘ Let the floods clap their hands; let the hills sing together for joy at the presence of the LORD, for he is coming to judge the earth.
- ✘ He will judge the world with righteousness and the peoples with equity.

Hebrews 1:1-4, (5-12) Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. He is the reflection of God’s glory and the exact imprint of God’s very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs. For to which of the angels did God ever say, “You are my Son; today I have begotten you”? Or again, “I will be his Father, and he will be my Son”? And again, when he brings the firstborn into the world, he says, “Let all God’s angels worship him.” Of the angels he says, “He makes his angels winds and his servants flames of fire.” But of the Son he says, “Your throne, O God, is forever and ever, and the scepter of righteousness is the scepter of your kingdom. You have loved righteousness and hated lawlessness; therefore God, your God, has anointed you with the oil of gladness beyond your companions.” And, “In the beginning, Lord, you founded the earth, and the heavens are the work of your hands; they will perish, but you remain; they will all wear out like clothing; like a cloak you will roll them up, and like clothing they will be changed. But you are the same, and your years will never end.”

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