

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 31:7-14

⁷Thus says the LORD:

Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob,
and raise shouts for the chief of the nations;
proclaim, give praise, and say,
"Save, O LORD, your people,
the remnant of Israel."

⁸See, I am going to bring them from the land of
the north,
and gather them from the farthest parts of the
earth,

among them the blind and the lame,
those with child and those in labor, together;
a great company, they shall return here.

⁹With weeping they shall come,
and with consolations I will lead them back,
I will let them walk by brooks of water,
in a straight path in which they shall not stumble;
for I have become a father to Israel,
and Ephraim is my firstborn.

¹⁰Hear the word of the LORD, O nations,
and declare it in the coastlands far away;
say, "He who scattered Israel will gather him,
and will keep him as a shepherd a flock."

¹¹For the LORD has ransomed Jacob,
and has redeemed him from hands too strong
for him.

¹²They shall come and sing aloud on the height of
Zion,
and they shall be radiant over the goodness of
the LORD,
over the grain, the wine, and the oil,
and over the young of the flock and the herd;
their life shall become like a watered garden,
and they shall never languish again.

¹³Then shall the young women rejoice in the
dance,
and the young men and the old shall be merry.
I will turn their mourning into joy,
I will comfort them, and give them gladness for
sorrow.

¹⁴I will give the priests their fill of fatness,
and my people shall be satisfied with my
bounty,
says the LORD.

Psalm 147:12-20**SECOND READING: Ephesians 1:3-14**

³Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus
Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every
spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, ⁴just as he
chose us in Christ before the foundation of the
world to be holy and blameless before him in
love. ⁵He destined us for adoption as his children
through Jesus Christ, according to the good

pleasure of his will, ⁶to the praise of his glorious
grace that he freely bestowed on us in the
Beloved. ⁷In him we have redemption through his
blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according
to the riches of his grace ⁸that he lavished on us.
With all wisdom and insight ⁹he has made known to
us the mystery of his will, according to his good
pleasure that he set forth in Christ, ¹⁰as a plan for
the fullness of time, to gather up all things in him,
things in heaven and things on earth. ¹¹In Christ
we have also obtained an inheritance, having been
destined according to the purpose of him who
accomplishes all things according to his counsel
and will, ¹²so that we, who were the first to set our
hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his
glory. ¹³In him you also, when you had heard the
word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had
believed in him, were marked with the seal of the
promised Holy Spirit; ¹⁴this is the pledge of our
inheritance toward redemption as God's own
people, to the praise of his glory.

GOSPEL: John 1:[1-9] 10-18

[¹In the beginning was the Word, and the Word
was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was in
the beginning with God. ³All things came into being
through him, and without him not one thing came
into being. What has come into being ⁴in him was
life, and the life was the light of all people. ⁵The
light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did
not overcome it.

⁶There was a man sent from God, whose name
was John. ⁷He came as a witness to testify to the
light, so that all might believe through him. ⁸He
himself was not the light, but he came to testify to
the light. ⁹The true light, which enlightens
everyone, was coming into the world.]

¹⁰He was in the world, and the world came into
being through him; yet the world did not know
him. ¹¹He came to what was his own, and his own
people did not accept him. ¹²But to all who received
him, who believed in his name, he gave power to
become children of God, ¹³who were born, not of
blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of
man, but of God.

¹⁴And the Word became flesh and lived among
us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a
father's only son, full of grace and truth. ¹⁵(John
testified to him and cried out, "This was he of
whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead
of me because he was before me.'") ¹⁶From his
fullness we have all received, grace upon
grace. ¹⁷The law indeed was given through Moses;
grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. ¹⁸No
one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who
is close to the Father's heart, who has made him
known.