**FIRST READING** Isaiah 43:1-7;

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah

Israel, the Lord who created you says, “Do not be afraid—I will save you. I have called you by name—you are mine. When you pass through deep waters, I will be with you; your troubles will not overwhelm you. When you pass through fire, you will not be burned; the hard trials that come will not hurt you. For I am the Lord your God, the holy God of Israel, who saves you. I will give up Egypt to set you free; I will give up Ethiopia[a] and Seba. I will give up whole nations to save your life, because you are precious to me and because I love you and give you honour. Do not be afraid—I am with you! “From the distant east and the farthest west, I will bring your people home. I will tell the north to let them go and the south not to hold them back. Let my people return from distant lands, from every part of the world. They are my own people, and I created them to bring me glory.”

Psalm 29

**R The voice of the Lord is upon the waters**

Praise the Lord, you heavenly beings; praise his glory and power. Praise the Lord's glorious name; bow down before the Holy One when he appears. **R**

The voice of the Lord is heard on the seas; the glorious God thunders, and his voice echoes over the ocean. The voice of the Lord is heard in all its might and majesty. **R**

The voice of the Lord breaks the cedars, even the cedars of Lebanon. He makes the mountains of Lebanon jump like calves and makes Mount Hermon leap like a young bull. **R**

The voice of the Lord makes the lightning flash. His voice makes the desert shake; he shakes the desert of Kadesh. The Lord's voice shakes the oaks and strips the leaves from the trees while everyone in his Temple shouts, “Glory to God!” **R**

The Lord rules over the deep waters; he rules as king forever. The Lord gives strength to his people and blesses them with peace. **R**

**SECOND READING** Acts 8:14-17

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

The apostles in Jerusalem heard that the people of Samaria had received the word of God, so they sent Peter and John to them. When they arrived, they prayed for the believers that they might receive the Holy Spirit. For the Holy Spirit had not yet come down on any of them; they had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. Then Peter and John placed their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

**GOSPEL** Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

Hear the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

**Glory to you O Lord.**

People's hopes began to rise, and they began to wonder whether John perhaps might be the Messiah. So John said to all of them, “I baptize you with water, but someone is coming who is much greater than I am. I am not good enough even to untie his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. He has his winnowing shovel with him, to thresh out all the grain and gather the wheat into his barn; but he will burn the chaff in a fire that never goes out.” After all the people had been baptized, Jesus also was baptized. While he was praying, heaven was opened, and the Holy Spirit came down upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, “You are my own dear Son. I am pleased with you.”

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**