

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EPIPHANY

Anthem of the Chancel

I will bless the Lord always.

Blessed is God who sent his Beloved and delivered our nature.

His praises will be always in my mouth.

Blessed is God who sent his Beloved and delivered our nature.

The Lections

Numbers 11:23-end

And the LORD said to Moses, "Is the Lord's hand shortened? Now you shall see whether my word will come true for you or not."

So Moses went out and told the people the words of the LORD; and he gathered seventy men of the elders of the people, and placed them round about the tent. Then the LORD came down in the cloud and spoke to him, and took some of the spirit that was upon him and put it upon the seventy elders; and when the spirit rested upon them, they prophesied. But they did so no more. Now two men remained in the camp, one named Eldad, and the other named Medad, and the spirit rested upon them; they were among those registered, but they had not gone out to the tent, and so they prophesied in the camp. And a young man ran and told Moses, "Eldad and Medad are prophesying in the camp." And Joshua the son of Nun, the minister of Moses, one of his chosen men, said, "My lord Moses, forbid them." But Moses said to him, "Are you jealous for my sake? Would that all the Lord's people were prophets, that the LORD would put his spirit upon them!" And Moses and the elders of Israel returned to the camp.

And there went forth a wind from the LORD, and it brought quails from the sea, and let them fall beside the camp, about a day's journey on this side and a day's journey on the other side, round about the camp, and about two cubits above the face of the earth. And the people rose all that day, and all night, and all the next day, and gathered the quails; he who gathered least gathered ten homers; and they spread them out for themselves all around the camp. While the meat was yet between their teeth, before it was consumed, the anger of the LORD was kindled against the people, and the LORD smote the people with a very great plague. Therefore the name of that place was called

Kibrothhattaavah, because there they buried the people who had the craving. From Kibrothhattaavah the people journeyed to Hazereth; and they remained at Hazereth.

Isaiah 46:5-end

"To whom will you liken me and make me equal,
and compare me, that we may be alike?
Those who lavish gold from the purse,
and weigh out silver in the scales,
hire a goldsmith, and he makes it into a god;
then they fall down and worship!
They lift it upon their shoulders, they carry it,
they set it in its place, and it stands there;
it cannot move from its place.
If one cries to it, it does not answer
or save him from his trouble.
"Remember this and consider,
recall it to mind, you transgressors,
remember the former things of old;
for I am God, and there is no other;
I am God, and there is none like me,
declaring the end from the beginning
and from ancient times things not yet done,
saying, 'My counsel shall stand,
and I will accomplish all my purpose,'
calling a bird of prey from the east,
the man of my counsel from a far country.
I have spoken, and I will bring it to pass;
I have purposed, and I will do it.
"Hearken to me, you stubborn of heart,
you who are far from deliverance:
I bring near my deliverance, it is not far off,
and my salvation will not tarry;
I will put salvation in Zion,
for Israel my glory."

The Shuraya

Who is mighty as you are,
And your faithfulness round about you?
You rule over the splendor of the sea;
You still the tossing of its waves.
You bring down the boastful as though slain;
You have scattered your enemies with your mighty arm.
The heavens are yours, the earth also is yours;
The world in its fullness you have founded.

The Apostle

Hebrews 7:18-end

On the one hand, a former commandment is set aside because of its weakness and uselessness (for the law made nothing perfect); on the other hand, a better hope is introduced, through which we draw near to God.

And it was not without an oath. Those who formerly became priests took their office without an oath, but this one was addressed with an oath,

"The Lord has sworn
and will not change his mind,
"Thou art a priest for ever."

This makes Jesus the surety of a better covenant.

The former priests were many in number, because they were prevented by death from continuing in office; but he holds his priesthood permanently, because he continues for ever. Consequently he is able for all time to save those who draw near to God through him, since he always lives to make intercession for them.

For it was fitting that we should have such a high priest, holy, blameless, unstained, separated from sinners, exalted above the heavens. He has no need, like those high priests, to offer sacrifices daily, first for his own sins and then for those of the people; he did this once for all when he offered up himself. Indeed, the law appoints men in their weakness as high priests, but the word of the oath, which came later than the law, appoints a Son who has been made perfect for ever.

The Zumara

O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good, and his mercies endure for ever. O give thanks to the God of gods, for his mercies endure for ever.

To him who in his wisdom made the heavens, for his mercies endure for ever; to him who spread out the earth upon the waters, for his mercies endure for ever.

The Gospel

John 1:43-2:11

The next day Jesus decided to go to Galilee. And he found Philip and said to him, "Follow me." Now Philip was from Bethsaida, the city of Andrew and Peter. Philip found Nathanael, and said to him, "We have found him of whom Moses in the law and also the prophets wrote, Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Joseph." Nathanael said to him, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?" Philip said to him, "Come and see." Jesus saw Nathanael coming to him, and said of him, "Behold, an Israelite indeed, in whom is no guile!" Nathanael said to him, "How do you know me?" Jesus answered him, "Before Philip called you, when you were under the fig tree, I saw you." Nathanael answered him, "Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the King of Israel!" Jesus answered him, "Because I said to you, I saw you under the fig tree, do you believe? You shall see greater things than these." And he said to him, "Truly, truly, I say to you, you will see heaven opened, and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of man."

On the third day there was a marriage at Cana in Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there; Jesus also was invited to the marriage, with his disciples. When the wine failed, the mother of Jesus said to him, "They have no wine." And Jesus said to her, "O woman, what have you to do with me? My hour has not yet come." His mother said to the servants, "Do whatever he tells you." Now six stone jars were standing there, for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons. Jesus said to them, "Fill the jars with water." And they filled them up to the brim. He said to them, "Now draw some out, and take it to the steward of the feast." So they took it. When the steward of the feast tasted the water now become wine, and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), the steward of the feast called the bridegroom and said to him, "Every man serves the good wine first; and when men have drunk freely, then the poor wine; but you have kept the good wine until now." This, the first of his signs, Jesus did at Cana in Galilee, and manifested his glory; and his disciples believed in him.

Anthem of the Mysteries

Text: For you are great, and great is your name among the mighty.

Holy and fearful is his name.

Your Baptism in water sanctifies our souls and proclaims our resurrection. The spiritual ones with John stood in great wonder. The Sanctifier of the nations by his Baptism received Baptism from his servant that he might set free the race of mortals.

You brought us through fire and water.

Your Baptism in water sanctifies our souls and proclaims our resurrection. The spiritual ones with John stood in great wonder. The Sanctifier of the nations by his Baptism received Baptism from his servant that he might set free the race of mortals.

Anthem of the Bema

This is the absolving sacrifice which our Savior gave to us by which we may cleanse the spots of our bodies and the debts of our souls, and purify our consciences of doubts. Let us all receive it in friendship, unity, and love, saying, Hallelujah!

Verses:

Behold, receive freely the absolving gift and be pardoned by it.
Let us all receive it in friendship, unity, and love, saying, Hallelujah!