## Old Testament Reading: Proverbs 8:1-4, 22-31

Does not wisdom call?

Does not understanding raise her voice?

On the heights beside the way, at the crossroads she takes her stand;

beside the gates in front of the town, at the entrance of the portals she cries aloud:

"To you, O men, I call,

and my cry is to the children of man. . . .

22 "The Lord possessed me at the beginning of his work,

the first of his acts of old.

23 Ages ago I was set up,

at the first, before the beginning of the earth.

24 When there were no depths I was brought forth, when there were no springs abounding with water.

25 Before the mountains had been shaped, before the hills, I was brought forth,

<sup>26</sup> before he had made the earth with its fields, or the first of the dust of the world.

<sup>27</sup> When he established the heavens, I was there: when he drew a circle on the face of the deep, 28 when he made firm the skies above,

when he established the fountains of the deep, 29 when he assigned to the sea its limit,

so that the waters might not transgress his command,

when he marked out the foundations of the earth,

then I was beside him, like a master workman, and I was daily his delight,

rejoicing before him always, 31 rejoicing in his inhabited world

and delighting in the children of man."

## Second Reading: Acts 2:14a, 22-36

<sup>14</sup>Peter, standing with the eleven, lifted up his voice and addressed them, . . .

<sup>22</sup>"Men of Israel, hear these words: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with mighty works and wonders and signs that God did through him in your midst, as you yourselves know-23this Jesus, delivered up according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of lawless men. 24God raised him up, loosing the pangs of death, because it was not possible for him to be held by it. 25For David says concerning him.

> "'I saw the Lord always before me, for he is at my right hand that I may not be shaken;

therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced;

my flesh also will dwell in hope.

For you will not abandon my soul to Hades, or let your Holy One see corruption.

You have made known to me the paths of life; you will make me full of gladness with your presence.'

<sup>29</sup>"Brothers, I may say to you with confidence about the patriarch David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. 30Being therefore a prophet, and knowing that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would set one of his descendants on his throne, 31he foresaw and spoke about the resurrection of the Christ, that he was not abandoned to Hades, nor did his flesh see corruption. 32This Jesus God raised up, and of that we all are witnesses. 33Being therefore exalted at the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, he has poured out this that you yourselves are seeing and hearing. 34For David did not ascend into the heavens, but he himself says,

"'The Lord said to my Lord, "Sit at my right hand,

until I make your enemies your footstool."'

36Let all the house of Israel therefore know for certain that God has made him both Lord and Christ, this Jesus whom you crucified."

## Holy Gospel: John 8:48-59

<sup>48</sup>The Jews answered [Jesus], "Are we not right in saving that you are a Samaritan and have a demon?" <sup>49</sup>Jesus answered, "I do not have a demon, but I honor my Father, and you dishonor me. 50Yet I do not seek my own glory; there is One who seeks it, and he is the judge. 51Truly, truly, I say to you, if anyone keeps my word, he will never see death." 52The Jews said to him, "Now we know that you have a demon! Abraham died, as did the prophets, yet you say, 'If anyone keeps my word, he will never taste death.' 53Are you greater than our father Abraham, who died? And the prophets died! Who do you make yourself out to be?" 54Jesus answered, "If I glorify myself, my glory is nothing. It is my Father who glorifies me, of whom you say, 'He is our God.' 55But you have not known him. I know him. If I were to say that I do not know him, I would be a liar like you, but I do know him and I keep his word. 56Your father Abraham rejoiced that he would see my day. He saw it and was glad." 57So the Jews said to him, "You are not yet fifty years old, and have you seen Abraham?" 58Jesus said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I am." 59So they picked up stones to throw at him, but Jesus hid himself and went out of the temple.



About the Cover: The beauty of the northern lights gives us a glimpse of the wonder of the Lord's handiwork in creation. Wisdom was there. That is, the Son was at the creation. The Spirit was there too. Three in One and One in Three, the triune God is majestic and beyond our limited abilities to fully understand Him. Yet, in God's wisdom, He has revealed and given us salvation through Christ dying on the cross and rising again. We marvel at the mighty work of our triune God to save us.

