

Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 42:1–9

- ¹ Behold my servant, whom I uphold,
my chosen, in whom my soul
delights;
I have put my Spirit upon him;
he will bring forth justice to the
nations.
- ² He will not cry aloud or lift up his
voice,
or make it heard in the street;
³ a bruised reed he will not break,
and a faintly burning wick he will
not quench;
he will faithfully bring forth
justice.
- ⁴ He will not grow faint or be discouraged
till he has established justice in the
earth;
and the coastlands wait for his law.
- ⁵ Thus says God, the LORD,
who created the heavens and
stretched them out,
who spread out the earth and what
comes from it,
who gives breath to the people on it
and spirit to those who walk in it:
- ⁶ “I am the LORD; I have called you in
righteousness;
I will take you by the hand and keep
you;
I will give you as a covenant for the
people,
a light for the nations,
to open the eyes that are blind,
to bring out the prisoners from the
dungeon,
from the prison those who sit in
darkness.
- ⁸ I am the LORD; that is my name;
my glory I give to no other,
nor my praise to carved idols.
- ⁹ Behold, the former things have come
to pass,
and new things I now declare;
before they spring forth
I tell you of them.”

Epistle: Romans 6:1–11

¹What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin that grace may abound? ²By no means! How can we who died to sin still live in it? ³Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? ⁴We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life.

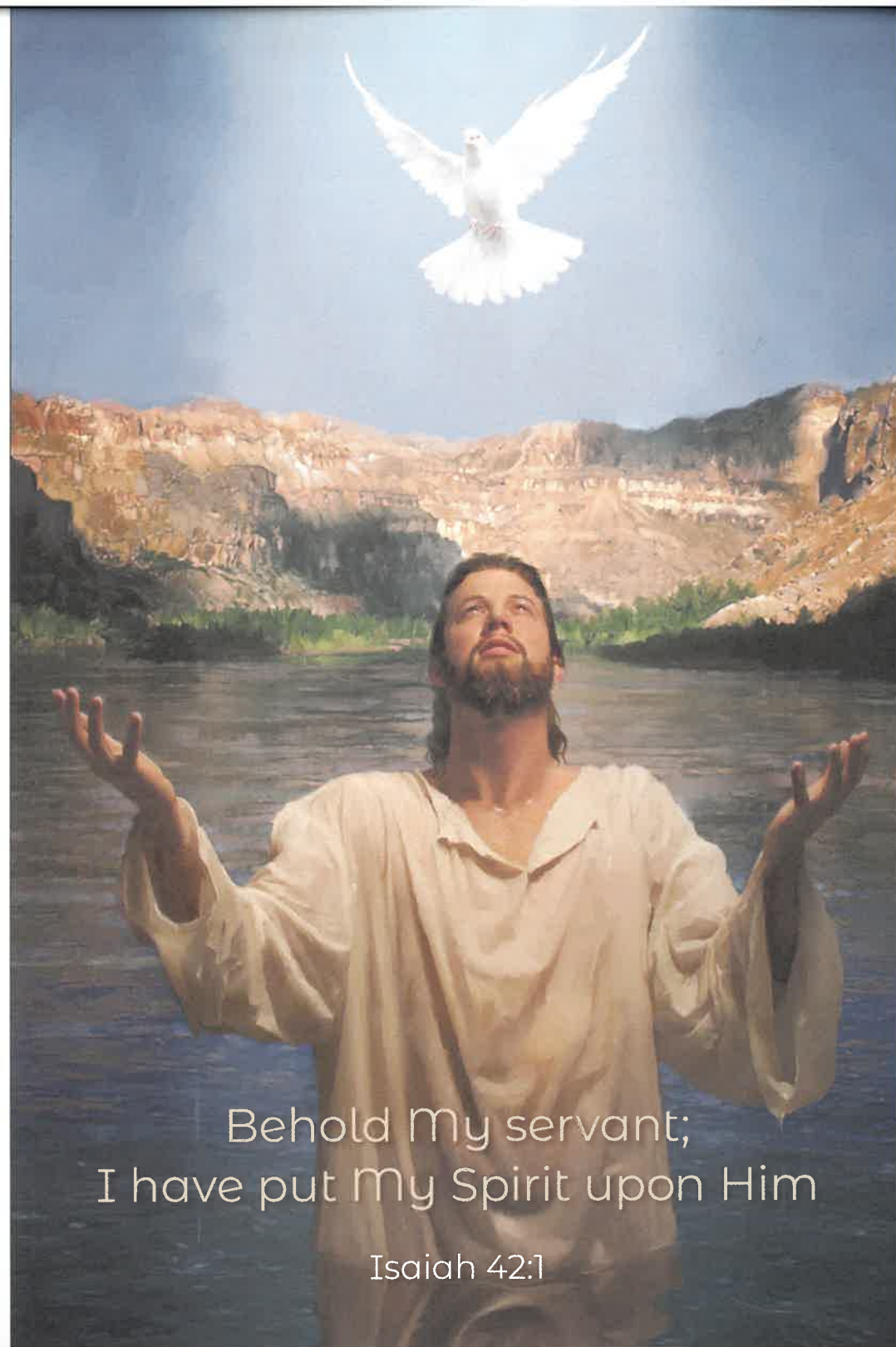
⁵For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. ⁶We know that our old self was crucified with him in order that the body of sin might be brought to nothing, so that we would no longer be enslaved to sin. ⁷For one who has died has been set free from sin. ⁸Now if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. ⁹We know that Christ being raised from the dead will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. ¹⁰For the death he died he died to sin, once for all, but the life he lives he lives to God. ¹¹So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

Holy Gospel: Matthew 3:13–17

¹³Then Jesus came from Galilee to the Jordan to John, to be baptized by him. ¹⁴John would have prevented him, saying, “I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?” ¹⁵But Jesus answered him, “Let it be so now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness.” Then he consented. ¹⁶And when Jesus was baptized, immediately he went up from the water, and behold, the heavens were opened to him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming to rest on him; ¹⁷and behold, a voice from heaven said, “This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased.”



About the Cover: When the Spirit descended upon Jesus at His Baptism in the Jordan, it marked the beginning of His public ministry and His mission to head to the cross to fulfill God's plan. Jesus is the servant mentioned in Isaiah. He followed the Father's will perfectly, even suffering for our sake. By our Baptism into Jesus, we have received all that Jesus accomplished in His mission because the same Spirit, through the Word, brings us to believe in Him.



Behold My servant;
I have put My Spirit upon Him

Isaiah 42:1