

Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 49:1-7

- ¹ Listen to me, O coastlands,
and give attention, you peoples from
afar.
The LORD called me from the womb,
from the body of my mother he named
my name.
² He made my mouth like a sharp sword;
in the shadow of his hand he hid me;
he made me a polished arrow;
in his quiver he hid me away.
³ And he said to me, "You are my servant,
Israel, in whom I will be glorified."
⁴ But I said, "I have labored in vain;
I have spent my strength for nothing and
vanity;
yet surely my right is with the LORD,
and my recompense with my God."
⁵ And now the LORD says,
he who formed me from the womb to be
his servant,
to bring Jacob back to him;
and that Israel might be gathered to
him—
for I am honored in the eyes of the LORD,
and my God has become my strength—
⁶ he says:
"It is too light a thing that you should be
my servant
to raise up the tribes of Jacob
and to bring back the preserved of Israel;
I will make you as a light for the nations,
that my salvation may reach to the end
of the earth."
⁷ Thus says the LORD,
the Redeemer of Israel and his Holy One,
to one deeply despised, abhorred by the
nation,
the servant of rulers:
"Kings shall see and arise;
princes, and they shall prostrate
themselves;
because of the LORD, who is faithful,
the Holy One of Israel, who has chosen
you."

Epistle: 1 Corinthians 1:1-9

- ¹Paul, called by the will of God to be an apos-
tle of Christ Jesus, and our brother Sosthenes,
²To the church of God that is in Corinth,
to those sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to

be saints together with all those who in every
place call upon the name of our Lord Jesus
Christ, both their Lord and ours:

³Grace to you and peace from God our
Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

⁴I give thanks to my God always for you
because of the grace of God that was given you
in Christ Jesus, ⁵that in every way you were
enriched in him in all speech and all knowl-
edge—even as the testimony about Christ was
confirmed among you—⁷so that you are not
lacking in any spiritual gift, as you wait for
the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ, ⁸who
will sustain you to the end, guiltless in the day
of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁹God is faithful, by
whom you were called into the fellowship of
his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Holy Gospel: John 1:29-42a

²⁹The next day [John] saw Jesus coming
toward him, and said, "Behold, the Lamb of
God, who takes away the sin of the world!"
³⁰This is he of whom I said, 'After me comes
a man who ranks before me, because he was
before me.' ³¹I myself did not know him, but
for this purpose I came baptizing with water,
that he might be revealed to Israel." ³²And John
bore witness: "I saw the Spirit descend from
heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. ³³I
myself did not know him, but he who sent me
to baptize with water said to me, 'He on whom
you see the Spirit descend and remain, this is
he who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.' ³⁴And I
have seen and have borne witness that this is
the Son of God."

³⁵The next day again John was standing with
two of his disciples, ³⁶and he looked at Jesus as
he walked by and said, "Behold, the Lamb of
God!" ³⁷The two disciples heard him say this,
and they followed Jesus. ³⁸Jesus turned and saw
them following and said to them, "What are
you seeking?" And they said to him, "Rabbi"
(which means Teacher), "where are you stay-
ing?" ³⁹He said to them, "Come and you will
see." So they came and saw where he was
staying, and they stayed with him that day,
for it was about the tenth hour. ⁴⁰One of the
two who heard John speak and followed Jesus
was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother. ⁴¹He first
found his own brother Simon and said to him,
"We have found the Messiah" (which means
Christ). ^{42a}He brought him to Jesus.

About the Cover: In the Divine Service, we are called and also call. Every service begins with the Invocation, a reminder that God calls us His in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. In Baptism, we are all called saints and made holy by faith in the One who died and rose for us. The Lord has made us His. We call upon Him in prayer, praise, and thanksgiving!

