

The Naming & Circumcision of Jesus

Year B

1st January 2021

White

Prayer of the Day

God our Father,
you gave to your incarnate Son the name of Jesus
to be a sign of our salvation:
may every tongue confess
that he, who for our sake became obedient to the law,
is both Lord and Christ,
to your eternal glory;
for he now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever. **Amen**

A reading from the Book of Numbers,

Chapter 6 beginning at Verse 22

²² The Lord spoke to Moses, saying: ²³ Speak to Aaron and his sons, saying, Thus you shall bless the Israelites: You shall say to them, ²⁴ The Lord bless you and keep you; ²⁵ the Lord make his face to shine upon you, and be gracious to you; ²⁶ the Lord lift up his countenance upon you, and give you peace.

²⁷ So they shall put my name on the Israelites, and I will bless them.

[NRSV Numbers 6:22-27]

Hear the word of the Lord, ***thanks be to God.***

Psalm 8

- 1 O Lord our Governor:
how glorious is your name in all the earth!
- 2 Your majesty above the heavens is yet recounted:
by the mouths of babes and sucklings.
- 3 You have founded a strong defence
against your adversaries:
to quell the enemy and the avenger.
- 4 When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers:
the moon and the stars which you have set in order,
- 5 What are we, that you should be mindful of us:
what are we, that you should care for us?

- ⁶ Yet you have made us little less than gods:
and have crowned us with glory and honour.
- ⁷ You have given us dominion over your handiwork:
and have put all things in subjection beneath our feet,
- ⁸ All sheep and oxen:
and all the creatures of the field,
- ⁹ The birds of the air and the fish of the sea:
and everything that moves
in the pathways of the great waters.
- ¹⁰ O Lord our Governor:
how glorious is your name in all the earth!

Sentence

**God spoke of old by the prophets; but in these last days he has spoken to us by a
Son.**

A reading from the Letter of Paul to the Galatians,

Chapter 4 beginning at Verse 4

⁴ But when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, ⁵ in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. ⁶ And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, 'Abba! Father!' ⁷ So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God. [NRSV Galatians 4:4-7]

Hear the word of the Lord, ***thanks be to God.***

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke,

Chapter 2 beginning at Verse 15

Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ

¹⁵ When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, 'Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.' ¹⁶ So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. ¹⁷ When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; ¹⁸ and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. ¹⁹ But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. ²⁰ The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

²¹ After eight days had passed, it was time to circumcise the child; and he was called Jesus, the name given by the angel before he was conceived in the womb.

[NRSV Luke 2:15-21]

This is the Gospel of the Lord, ***praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.***