

**READING: Isaiah 43:16-21** (*Common English Bible*)

- <sup>16</sup> The LORD says—who makes a way in the sea  
and a path in the mighty waters,  
<sup>17</sup> who brings out chariot and horse,  
army and battalion;  
they will lie down together and will not rise;  
they will be extinguished, extinguished like a wick.  
<sup>18</sup> Don't remember the prior things;  
don't ponder ancient history.  
<sup>19</sup> Look! I'm doing a new thing;  
now it sprouts up; don't you recognize it?  
I'm making a way in the desert,  
paths in the wilderness.  
<sup>20</sup> The beasts of the field,  
the jackals and ostriches, will honor me,  
because I have put water in the desert  
and streams in the wilderness  
to give water to my people,  
my chosen ones,  
<sup>21</sup> this people whom I formed for myself,  
who will recount my praise.

**PSALM: Psalm 126**

*The psalm will be sung responsively by whole verse. Assembly sings verses in bold print.*

- <sup>1</sup>When the LORD restored the for- | tunes of Zion,  
then were we like | those who dream.  
<sup>2</sup>**Then was our mouth filled with laughter, and our tongue with | shouts of joy.**  
**Then they said among the nations, "The LORD has done great | things for them."**  
<sup>3</sup>The LORD has done great | things for us,  
and we are | glad indeed.  
<sup>4</sup>**Restore our for- | tunes, O LORD,**  
**like the watercourses | of the Negeb.**  
<sup>5</sup>Those who | sowed with tears  
will reap with | songs of joy.  
<sup>6</sup>**Those who go out weeping, carry- | ing the seed,**  
**will come again with joy, shoulder- | ing their sheaves.**

**GOSPEL: John 12:1-8**

The holy gospel according to St. John, the twelfth chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>1</sup>Six days before the Passover Jesus came to Bethany, the home of Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. <sup>2</sup>There they gave a dinner for him. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those at the table with him. <sup>3</sup>Mary took a pound of costly perfume made of pure nard, anointed Jesus' feet, and wiped them with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. <sup>4</sup>But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (the one who was about to betray him), said, <sup>5</sup>"Why was this perfume not sold for three hundred denarii and the money given to the poor?" <sup>6</sup>(He said this not because he cared about the poor, but because he was a thief; he kept the common purse and used to steal what was put into it.) <sup>7</sup>Jesus said, "Leave her alone. She bought it so that she might keep it for the day of my burial. <sup>8</sup>You always have the poor with you, but you do not always have me."

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**