

# Scriptures January 12, 2025

## Second Lesson

### Isaiah 43:1-7 NRSV

#### Restoration and Protection Promised

**43** But now thus says the Lord,  
he who created you, O Jacob,  
he who formed you, O Israel:

Do not fear, for I have redeemed you;  
I have called you by name, you are mine.

<sup>2</sup> When you pass through the waters, I will be with you;  
and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you;  
when you walk through fire you shall not be burned,  
and the flame shall not consume you.

<sup>3</sup> For I am the Lord your God,  
the Holy One of Israel, your Saviour.  
I give Egypt as your ransom,  
Ethiopia<sup>[a]</sup> and Seba in exchange for you.

<sup>4</sup> Because you are precious in my sight,  
and honoured, and I love you,  
I give people in return for you,  
nations in exchange for your life.

<sup>5</sup> Do not fear, for I am with you;  
I will bring your offspring from the east,  
and from the west I will gather you;

<sup>6</sup> I will say to the north, 'Give them up',  
and to the south, 'Do not withhold';  
bring my sons from far away  
and my daughters from the end of the earth—

<sup>7</sup> everyone who is called by my name,  
whom I created for my glory,  
whom I formed and made.'

## **Third Lesson**

### **Luke 3:15-17 NRSV**

<sup>15</sup> As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah,<sup>[a]</sup> <sup>16</sup> John answered all of them by saying, 'I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with<sup>[b]</sup> the Holy Spirit and fire. <sup>17</sup> His winnowing-fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing-floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.'

### **Luke 3:21-22 NRSV**

#### **The Baptism of Jesus**

<sup>21</sup> Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, <sup>22</sup> and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, 'You are my Son, the Beloved;<sup>[a]</sup> with you I am well pleased.'<sup>[b]</sup>