

**The First reading is from the Prophet ISAIAH Chapter 49 beginning at the first verse.**

**49** Listen to me, O coastlands; pay attention, you peoples from far away!

The LORD called me before I was born;

while I was in my mother's womb he named me.

<sup>2</sup> 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.

<sup>3</sup> And he said to me, "You are my servant, Israel, in whom I will be glorified."

<sup>4</sup> But I said, "I have laboured in vain;

I have spent my strength for nothing and vanity; yet surely my cause is with the LORD  
and my reward with my God."

<sup>5</sup> And now the LORD says, who formed me in the womb to be his servant,

to bring Jacob back to him, and that Israel might be gathered to him,

for I am honoured in the sight of the LORD, and my God has become my strength—

<sup>6</sup> he says, "It is too light a thing that you should be my servant

to raise up the tribes of Jacob and to restore the survivors of Israel;

I will give you as a light to the nations,

that my salvation may reach to the end of the earth."

*Hear the word of the Lord*

*Thanks be to God*

*Isaiah 49.1-6*

Psalm 139 Verses 1-11 Page 370

1 O Lord, you have searched me out and known me:  
you know when I sit or when I stand, you comprehend my thoughts long before.

**2 You discern my path and the places where I rest:  
you are acquainted with all my ways.**

3 For there is not a word on my tongue:  
but you, Lord, know it altogether.

**4 You have encompassed me behind and before:  
and have laid your hand upon me.**

5 Such knowledge is too wonderful for me:  
so high that I cannot endure it.

**6 Where shall I go from your spirit:  
or where shall I flee from your presence?**

7 If I ascend into heaven you are there:  
if I make my bed in the grave you are there also.

**8 If I spread out my wings towards the morning:  
or dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea,**

**9 Even there your hand shall lead me:  
and your right hand shall hold me.**

10 If I say 'Surely the darkness will cover me:  
and the night will enclose me',

**11 The darkness is no darkness with you, but the night is as clear as the day:  
the darkness and the light are both alike.**

**The Second Reading is from the ACTS OF THE APOSTLES , Chapter 13 beginning at the verse 22:-**

<sup>22</sup> When he had removed him, he made David their king. In his testimony about him he said, ‘I have found David, son of Jesse, to be a man after my heart, who will carry out all my wishes.’

<sup>23</sup> Of this man’s posterity God has brought to Israel a Saviour, Jesus, as he promised;  
<sup>24</sup> before his coming John had already proclaimed a baptism of repentance to all the people of Israel. <sup>25</sup> And as John was finishing his work, he said, ‘What do you suppose that I am? I am not he. No, but one is coming after me; I am not worthy to untie the strap of the sandals on his feet.’

<sup>26</sup> “Brothers and sisters, you descendants of Abraham’s family and others who fear God, to us the message of this salvation has been sent.

*Hear The Word of The Lord*

*Thanks be to God*

*Acts 13.22-26*

**The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to LUKE Chapter 1 verses 57-66,80.**

*Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ*

<sup>57</sup> Now the time came for Elizabeth to give birth, and she bore a son. <sup>58</sup> Her neighbours and relatives heard that the Lord had shown his great mercy to her, and they rejoiced with her.

<sup>59</sup> On the eighth day they came to circumcise the child, and they were going to name him Zechariah after his father. <sup>60</sup> But his mother said, “No; he is to be called John.” <sup>61</sup> They said to her, “None of your relatives has this name.” <sup>62</sup> Then they began motioning to his father to find out what name he wanted to give him. <sup>63</sup> He asked for a writing tablet and wrote, “His name is John.” And all of them were amazed. <sup>64</sup> Immediately his mouth was opened and his tongue freed, and he began to speak, praising God. <sup>65</sup> Fear came over all their neighbours, and all these things were talked about throughout the entire hill country of Judea. <sup>66</sup> All who heard them pondered them and said, “What then will this child become?” For indeed the hand of the Lord was with him.

<sup>80</sup> The child grew and became strong in spirit, and he was in the wilderness until the day he appeared publicly to Israel.

**For the Gospel of the Lord**

*Praise to You Lord Jesus Christ*

*Luke 1.57-66,80*