



good news; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good news; lift it up, fear not; say to the cities of Judah, "Behold your God!" Behold, the Lord GOD comes with might, and His arm rules for Him; behold, His reward is with Him, and His recompense before Him. He will tend His flock like a shepherd; He will gather the lambs in His arms; He will carry them in His bosom, and gently lead those that are with young.

**GRADUAL:** [Zechariah 9:9]; Psalm 118:26 P. 190

R: Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion.

**C: Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem.**

R: Behold, your King is coming to you;

**C: righteous and having salvation.**

R: Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.

**C: From the house of the Lord we bless You.**

**EPISTLE READING:** 2 Peter 3:8–14 P. 190

R: But do not overlook this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day. The Lord is not slow to fulfill His promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance. But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a roar, and the heavenly bodies will be burned up and dissolved, and the earth and the works that are done on it will be exposed. Since all these things are thus to be dissolved, what sort of people ought you to be in lives of holiness and godliness, waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set on fire and dissolved, and the heavenly bodies will melt as they burn! But according to His promise we are waiting for new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells. Therefore, beloved, since you are waiting for these, be diligent to be found by Him without spot or blemish, and at peace.

**\*ALLELUIA** P. 190

**\*THE HOLY GOSPEL:** Mark 1:1–8 P. 190–191

P: The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. As it is written in Isaiah the prophet, "Behold, I send my messenger before your face, who will prepare your way, the voice of one crying in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make His paths straight,'" John appeared,

baptizing in the wilderness and proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And all the country of Judea and all Jerusalem were going out to him and were being baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel's hair and wore a leather belt around his waist and ate locusts and wild honey. And he preached, saying, "After me comes He who is mightier than I, the strap of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie. I have baptized you with water, but He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

**\*APOSTLES' CREED** P. 192

**HYMN OF THE DAY:** "Comfort, Comfort Ye My People" # 347

**SERMON:** The Savior Who Comforts His People

**HYMN OF RESPONSE:** "Children of the Heavenly Father" # 725

**OFFERING – \*OFFERTORY** P. 192–193  
*(as the offerings are being gathered to glorify our Lord, please sign and pass the red attendance booklet found in the pew)*

**\*PRAYER OF THE CHURCH** P. 193

**\*LORD'S PRAYER**

**Turn to Page 201:** *(where the service concludes when there is no communion)*

**\*CONCLUDING COLLECT – \*BENEDICTION** P. 201–202

**\*CLOSING HYMN:** "Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies" # 873