

## Scripture Readings – January 7<sup>th</sup>

### **Genesis 1:1-5 - *Six Days of Creation and the Sabbath***

**1** In the beginning when God created<sup>[a]</sup> the heavens and the earth, **2** the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God<sup>[b]</sup> swept over the face of the waters. **3** Then God said, ‘Let there be light’; and there was light. **4** And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. **5** God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

### **Acts 19:1-7 - *Paul in Ephesus***

**19** While Apollos was in Corinth, Paul passed through the inland regions and came to Ephesus, where he found some disciples. **2** He said to them, ‘Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you became believers?’ They replied, ‘No, we have not even heard that there is a Holy Spirit.’ **3** Then he said, ‘Into what then were you baptized?’ They answered, ‘Into John’s baptism.’ **4** Paul said, ‘John baptized with the baptism of repentance, telling the people to believe in the one who was to come after him, that is, in Jesus.’ **5** On hearing this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. **6** When Paul had laid his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke in tongues and prophesied— **7** altogether there were about twelve of them.

## **Mark 1:4-11**

<sup>4</sup> John the baptizer appeared<sup>[a]</sup> in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. <sup>5</sup> And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. <sup>6</sup> Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. <sup>7</sup> He proclaimed, 'The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. <sup>8</sup> I have baptized you with<sup>[b]</sup> water; but he will baptize you with<sup>[c]</sup> the Holy Spirit.'

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

<sup>9</sup> In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. <sup>10</sup> And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. <sup>11</sup> And a voice came from heaven, 'You are my Son, the Beloved;<sup>[d]</sup> with you I am well pleased.'

The Word of God for the People of God.

**Thanks be to God.**