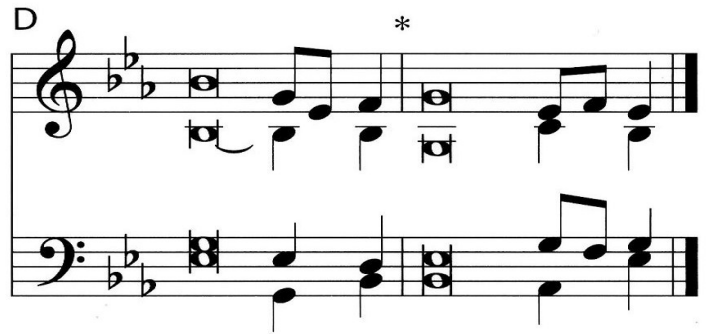


Isaiah 43:1–7

¹ But now thus says the Lord,
 he who created you, O Jacob,
 he who formed you, O Israel:
 "Fear not, for I have redeemed you;
 I have called you by name, you are mine.
² 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.
³ For I am the Lord your God,
 the Holy One of Israel, your Savior.
 I give Egypt as your ransom,
 Cush and Seba in exchange for you.
⁴ Because you are precious in my eyes,
 and honored, and I love you,
 I give men in return for you,
 peoples in exchange for your life.
⁵ Fear not, for I am with you;
 I will bring your offspring from the east,
 and from the west I will gather you.
⁶ I will say to the north, Give up,
 and to the south, Do not withhold;
 bring my sons from afar
 and my daughters from the end of the
 earth,
⁷ everyone who is called by my name,
 whom I created for my glory,
 whom I formed and made."

**Psalm 29**

¹ Ascribe to the Lord, O heavenly | beings,*
 ascribe to the Lord glo- | ry and strength.
² Ascribe to the Lord the glory | due his name;*
 worship the Lord in the splendor
 of | holiness.
³ The voice of the Lord is over the | waters,*
 the God of glory thunders,
 the Lord, over many | waters.
⁴ The voice of the Lord is | powerful;*
 the voice of the Lord is full of | majesty.
⁵ The voice of the Lord breaks the | cedars;*
 the Lord breaks the cedars of | Lebanon.
⁶ He makes Lebanon to skip | like a calf,*
 and Sirion like a young | wild ox.
⁷ The voice | of the Lord*
 flashes forth | flames of fire.
⁸ The voice of the Lord shakes the | wilderness;*
 the Lord shakes the wilderness |
 of Kadesh.
⁹ The voice of the Lord makes the deer give birth
 and strips the | forests bare,*
 and in his temple all cry, | "Glory!"
¹⁰ The Lord sits enthroned o- | ver the flood;*
 the Lord sits enthroned as king for- | ever.
¹¹ May the Lord give strength to his | people!*
 May the Lord bless his people |
 with peace!

Romans 6:1–11

¹What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin that grace may abound? ²By no means! How can we who died to sin still live in it? ³Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? ⁴We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life.

⁵For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. ⁶We know that our old self was crucified with him in order that the body of sin might be brought to nothing, so that we would no longer be enslaved to sin. ⁷For one who has died has been set free from sin. ⁸Now if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. ⁹We know that Christ being raised from the dead will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. ¹⁰For the death he died he died to sin, once for all, but the life he lives he lives to God. ¹¹So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

Luke 3:15–22

¹⁵As the people were in expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Christ, ¹⁶John answered them all, saying, "I baptize you with water, but he who is mightier than I is coming, the strap of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire. ¹⁷His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

¹⁸So with many other exhortations he preached good news to the people. ¹⁹But Herod the tetrarch, who had been reproved by him for Herodias, his brother's wife, and for all the evil things that Herod had done, ²⁰added this to them all, that he locked up John in prison.

²¹Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heavens were opened, ²²and the Holy Spirit descended on him in bodily form, like a dove; and a voice came from heaven, "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased."