



water



O heavenly Father, you
have filled the world

with beauty: Open our eyes to
behold your gracious hand in all your
works; that, rejoicing in your whole
creation, we may learn to serve you
with gladness; for the sake of him
through whom all things were made,
your Son Jesus Christ
our Lord. Amen.



THE *readings*

A reading from portions of Genesis 6-9.

¹ There began to be many human beings on the earth.

⁵ The Lord saw how bad the sins of everyone on earth had become. They only thought about evil things. ⁶ The Lord was very sad that he had made human beings on the earth. His heart was filled with pain.

⁸ But the Lord was very pleased with Noah.

⁹ Noah was a godly man. He was without blame among the people of his time. He walked faithfully with God.

¹¹ The earth was very sinful in God's eyes. It was full of people who did mean and harmful things. ¹² God saw how sinful the earth had become. All its people

were living very sinful lives. ¹³ So God said to Noah, "I am going to put an end to everyone. They have filled the earth with their harmful acts. I am certainly going to destroy them and the earth. ¹⁴ So make yourself an ark out of cypress wood.

¹⁷ I am going to bring a flood on the earth. It will destroy all life under the sky. It will destroy every living creature that breathes. Everything on earth will die. ¹⁸ But I will make my covenant with you. You will go into the ark. Your sons and your wife and your sons' wives will enter it with you. ¹⁹ Bring a male and a female of every living thing into the ark. They will be kept alive with you.

²² Noah did everything just as God commanded him.

¹¹ Noah was 600 years old. It was the 17th day of the second month of the year. On that day all of the springs at the bottom of the oceans burst open. God opened the windows of the sky. ¹² Rain fell on the earth for 40 days and 40 nights.

¹⁷ For 40 days the flood kept coming on the earth.

¹ But God showed concern for Noah. He also showed concern for all the wild animals and livestock that were with Noah in the ark. So God sent a wind to sweep over the earth. And the waters began to go down.

¹⁵ Then God said to Noah, ¹⁶ "Come out of the ark. Bring your wife and your sons and their wives with you. ¹⁷ Bring out every kind of living thing that is with you. Bring the birds, the animals, and all the creatures that move along the ground. Then they can multiply on the earth. They can have little ones and the number of them can increase."

¹⁸ So Noah came out of the ark. His sons and his wife and his sons' wives were with him. ¹⁹ All the animals came out of the ark. The creatures that move along the ground also came out. So did all the birds. Everything that moves on land came out of the ark, one kind after another.

²⁰ Then Noah built an altar to honor the Lord. . . . [The Lord] said to himself, "I will never put a curse on the ground again because of human beings. I will not do it even though their hearts are always directed

toward evil. Their thoughts are evil from the time they are young. I will never destroy all living things again, as I have just done.”

⁸ Then God spoke to Noah and to his sons who were with him. He said, ⁹ “I am now making my covenant with you and with all your children who will be born after you. ¹⁰ I am making it also with every living creature that was with you in the ark. I am making my covenant with the birds, the livestock and all the wild animals. I am making it with all the creatures that came out of the ark with you. In fact, I am making it with every living thing on earth. ¹¹ Here is my covenant I am making with you. The waters of a flood will never again destroy all life. A flood will never again destroy the earth.”

¹² God continued, “My covenant is between me and you and every living creature with you. It is a covenant for all time to come. Here is the sign of the covenant I am making. ¹³ I have put my rainbow in the clouds. It will be the sign of the covenant between me and the earth. ¹⁴ Sometimes when I bring clouds over the earth, a rainbow will appear in them. ¹⁵ Then I will remember my covenant between

me and you and every kind of living creature. The waters will never again become a flood to destroy all life. ¹⁶ When the rainbow appears in the clouds, I will see it. I will remember that my covenant will last forever. It is a covenant between me and every kind of living creature on earth.”

¹⁷ So God said to Noah, “The rainbow is the sign of my covenant. I have made my covenant between me and all life on earth.”

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.



A reading from 1 Corinthians 6:11.

¹¹ Some of you used to do those things. But your sins were washed away. You were made holy. You were made right with God. All of this was done in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ. It was also done by the Spirit of our God.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

A reading from Hebrews 10:21-23.

²¹ We also have a great priest over the house of God.
²² So let us come near to God with a sincere heart. Let us come near boldly because of our faith. Our hearts have been sprinkled. Our minds have been cleansed from a sense of guilt. Our bodies have been washed with pure water. ²³ Let us hold firmly to the hope we claim to have. The God who promised is faithful.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.



THE *wonderings*

*what do you wonder about
because of what you've read or heard?*

THE *observations*

***what do you notice about water?
as you think about water and baptism,
what do you observe about God? Jesus? the Holy Spirit?***

THE *connections*

***what does today's conversation make you think of?
are there other stories from the Bible that come to mind?***

THE *response*

*what do you want to draw or write or remember
because of what you read or heard or saw?*

THE *prayers*

***what do you want to say to God
because of what you read or heard or saw?***

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy Name.
Thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
Lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power,
and the glory,
forever and ever.
Amen.

**THE DOXOLOGY**

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

God knows you! He's crazy about you! He goes with you everywhere!