

A READING FROM THE ACTS OF THE APOSTLES [10:44-48]

While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word. The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles, for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said, "Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?" So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.

*The Word of the Lord.*

PSALM 98 (sung)

- <sup>1</sup> Sing to the LORD a new song, \*  
for he has done marvelous things.
- <sup>2</sup> With his right hand and his holy arm \*  
has he won for himself the victory.
- <sup>3</sup> The LORD has made known his victory; \*  
his righteousness has he openly shown in the sight of the nations.
- <sup>4</sup> He remembers his mercy and faithfulness to the house of Israel, \*  
and all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.
- <sup>5</sup> Shout with joy to the LORD, all you lands; \*  
lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.
- <sup>6</sup> Sing to the LORD with the harp, \*  
with the harp and the voice of song.
- <sup>7</sup> With trumpets and the sound of the horn \*  
shout with joy before the King, the LORD.
- <sup>8</sup> Let the sea make a noise and all that is in it, \*  
the lands and those who dwell therein.
- <sup>9</sup> Let the rivers clap their hands, \*  
and let the hills ring out with joy before the LORD,  
when he comes to judge the earth.
- <sup>10</sup> In righteousness shall he judge the world \*  
and the peoples with equity.

A READING FROM THE 1<sup>ST</sup> LETTER OF JOHN [5:1-6]

Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child. By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. For the love of God is this, that we obey his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome, for whatever is born of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world, our faith. Who is it that conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God? This is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the water only but with the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one that testifies, for the Spirit is the truth.

*The Word of the Lord.*