

## Scriptures: February 18, 2024

### First Reading

#### Genesis 9:8-17 (NRSV)

<sup>8</sup> Then God said to Noah and to his sons with him, <sup>9</sup> 'As for me, I am establishing my covenant with you and your descendants after you, <sup>10</sup> and with every living creature that is with you, the birds, the domestic animals, and every animal of the earth with you, as many as came out of the ark.<sup>[a]</sup> <sup>11</sup> I establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of a flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth.' <sup>12</sup> God said, 'This is the sign of the covenant that I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations: <sup>13</sup> I have set my bow in the clouds, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth. <sup>14</sup> When I bring clouds over the earth and the bow is seen in the clouds, <sup>15</sup> I will remember my covenant that is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh; and the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh. <sup>16</sup> When the bow is in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is on the earth.' <sup>17</sup> God said to Noah, 'This is the sign of the covenant that I have established between me and all flesh that is on the earth.'

## **Second Reading Mark 1:9-15 (NRSV)**

### **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>[a]</sup> with you I am well pleased.'

### **The Temptation of Jesus**

<sup>12</sup> And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. <sup>13</sup> He was in the wilderness for forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels waited on him.

### **The Beginning of the Galilean Ministry**

<sup>14</sup> Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news<sup>[b]</sup> of God,<sup>[c]</sup> <sup>15</sup> and saying, 'The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near;<sup>[d]</sup> repent, and believe in the good news.'<sup>[e]</sup>