

## February 2, 2025 – Epiphany IV

### FIRST READING – Jeremiah 1:4-10

- <sup>4</sup> Now the word of the LORD came to me saying,  
<sup>5</sup> “Before I formed you in the womb I knew you,  
and before you were born I consecrated you;  
I appointed you a prophet to the nations.”  
<sup>6</sup> Then I said, “Ah, Lord GOD! Truly I do not know how to speak, for I am  
only a boy.” <sup>7</sup> But  
the LORD said to me,  
“Do not say, ‘I am only a boy,’  
for you shall go to all to whom I send you,  
and you shall speak whatever I command you.  
<sup>8</sup> Do not be afraid of them,  
for I am with you to deliver you,  
says the LORD.”  
<sup>9</sup> Then the LORD put out his hand and touched my mouth, and the LORD  
said to me,  
“Now I have put my words in your mouth.  
<sup>10</sup> See, today I appoint you over nations and over kingdoms,  
to pluck up and to pull down,  
to destroy and to overthrow,  
to build and to plant.”

Reader: This is the word of the Lord

People: **Thanks be to God.**

### PSALM 71:1-6

- <sup>1</sup> In you, O LORD, have I taken refuge;  
let me never be put to shame.  
<sup>2</sup> **In your righteousness, deliver me and set me free;  
incline your ear to me and save me.**  
<sup>3</sup> Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me safe;  
you are my crag and my stronghold.  
<sup>4</sup> **Deliver me, my God, from the hand of the wicked,  
from the clutches of the evildoer and the oppressor.**  
<sup>5</sup> For you are my hope, O Lord GOD,  
my confidence since I was young.  
<sup>6</sup> **I have been sustained by you ever since I was born; from my  
mother’s womb you have been my strength; my praise shall be  
always of you.**

## SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 12:31b-13:13

<sup>31b</sup> And I will show you a still more excellent way.

<sup>1</sup> If I speak in the tongues of humans and of angels but do not have love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. <sup>2</sup> And if I have prophetic powers and understand all mysteries and all knowledge and if I have all faith so as to remove mountains but do not have love, I am nothing. <sup>3</sup> If I give away all my possessions and if I hand over my body so that I may boast but do not have love, I gain nothing.

<sup>4</sup> Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant <sup>5</sup> or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable; it keeps no record of wrongs; <sup>6</sup> it does not rejoice in wrongdoing but rejoices in the truth. <sup>7</sup> It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

<sup>8</sup> Love never ends. But as for prophecies, they will come to an end; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will come to an end. <sup>9</sup> For we know only in part, and we prophesy only in part, <sup>10</sup> but when the complete comes, the partial will come to an end. <sup>11</sup> When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became an adult, I put an end to childish ways. <sup>12</sup> For now we see only a reflection, as in a mirror, but then we will see face to face. Now I know only in part; then I will know fully, even as I have been fully known. <sup>13</sup> And now faith, hope, and love remain, these three, and the greatest of these is love.

Reader: This is the word of the Lord

**People: Thanks be to God.**