

FIRST READING Isaiah 6.1–8

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah, Chapter 6.

In the year that King Uzziah died,
I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lofty;
and the hem of his robe filled the temple.

Seraphs were in attendance above him;
each had six wings:

with two they covered their faces,
and with two they covered their feet,
and with two they flew.

And one called to another and said:

"Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts;
the whole earth is full of his glory."

The pivots on the thresholds shook at the voices of those who called,
and the house filled with smoke.

And I said:

"Woe is me! I am lost, for I am a man of unclean lips,
and I live among a people of unclean lips;
yet my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts!"

Then one of the seraphs flew to me,
holding a live coal that had been taken from the altar with a pair of tongs.
The seraph touched my mouth with it and said:

"Now that this has touched your lips,
your guilt has departed and your sin is blotted out."

Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying,

"Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?"

And I said, "Here am I; send me!"

For the Word of the LORD.

SECOND READING **Revelation 4**

A reading from the Revelation to Saint John the Divine Chapter 4.

After this I looked, and there in heaven a door stood open!

And the first voice,

which I had heard speaking to me like a trumpet, said,

"Come up here, and I will show you what must take place after this."

At once I was in the spirit,

and there in heaven stood a throne,

with one seated on the throne!

And the one seated there looks like jasper and carnelian,

and around the throne is a rainbow that looks like an emerald.

Around the throne are twenty-four thrones,

and seated on the thrones are twenty-four elders,

dressed in white robes, with golden crowns on their heads.

Coming from the throne are flashes of lightning,

and rumblings and peals of thunder,

and in front of the throne burn seven flaming torches,

which are the seven spirits of God;

and in front of the throne there is something like a sea of glass, like crystal.

Around the throne, and on each side of the throne,

are four living creatures, full of eyes in front and behind:

the first living creature like a lion,

the second living creature like an ox,

the third living creature with a face like a human face,

and the fourth living creature like a flying eagle.

And the four living creatures,

each of them with six wings,

are full of eyes all around and inside.

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Day and night without ceasing they sing,
"Holy, holy, holy, the Lord God the Almighty,
who was and is and is to come."

And whenever the living creatures give glory and honour and thanks
to the one who is seated on the throne,
who lives forever and ever,

the twenty-four elders fall before the one who is seated on the throne
and worship the one who lives forever and ever;

they cast their crowns before the throne, singing,

"You are worthy, our Lord and God,
to receive glory and honour and power,
for you created all things,
and by your will they existed and were created."

For the Word of the LORD.