

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah:

The spirit of the Lord God is upon me,  
because the Lord has anointed me;  
He has sent me to bring good news to the afflicted,  
to bind up the brokenhearted,  
To proclaim liberty to the captives,  
release to the prisoners,  
To announce a year of favor from the Lord  
and a day of vindication by our God;  
To comfort all who mourn;  
to place on those who mourn in Zion  
a diadem instead of ashes,  
To give them oil of gladness instead of mourning,  
a glorious mantle instead of a faint spirit.

**Lector:      The Word of the Lord.**

**All:          Thanks be to God.**