

1st reading

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah.

On this mountain the Lord of hosts
will provide for all peoples
a feast of rich foods.

On this mountain he will destroy
the veil that veils all peoples.

The web that is woven over all nations,
He will destroy death forever.

The Lord God will wipe away
the tears from all faces.

The reproach of his people he will remove
from the whole earth, for the Lord has spoken.

On that day it will be said:

“Behold our God, to whom we looked to save us!
This is the Lord for whom we looked,
let us rejoice and be glad that he has saved us!”

The Word of the Lord!

--Thanks be to God.

1st reading

A reading from the Book of Lamentations.

The favors of the Lord are not exhausted,
His mercies are not spent.
They are renewed each morning,
so great is his faithfulness.
My portion is the Lord, says my soul,
therefore will I hope in him.

Good is the Lord to one who waits for him,
to the soul that seeks him.
It is good to hope in silence
for the saving help of the Lord.

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A reading from the Book of Wisdom.

The souls of the just are in the hand of God,
and no torment shall touch them.
They seemed, in the view of the foolish, to be dead;
and their passing away was thought an affliction,
and their going forth from us, utter destruction.
But they are in peace.

For if before men, indeed, they be punished,
yet is their hope full of immortality.
Chastised a little, they shall be greatly blessed,
because God tried them
and found them to be worthy of himself.
As gold in the furnace, he proved them,
and as sacrificial offerings he took them to himself.
Those who trust in him shall understand truth,
and the faithful shall abide with him in love.
Because grace and mercy are with his holy ones,
and his care is with the elect.

The Word of the Lord!

--Thanks be to God.

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A reading from the Book of Wisdom.

The just man, though he die early, shall be at rest.
For the age that is honorable comes not with the passing of time,
nor can it be measured in terms of years.
Rather, understanding is the crown for men,
and an unsullied life the attainment of old age.

He who pleased God was loved;
He who lived among sinners was transported --
Snatched away, lest wickedness pervert his mind,
or deceit beguile his soul.
For the witchery of paltry things obscures what is right
and the whirl of desire transforms the innocent mind.

Having become perfect in a short while, he reached the fullness of a long
career,
for his soul was pleasing for the Lord,
therefore he sped him out of the midst of wickedness.

But the people saw him and did not understand,
nor did they take this into account.

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A reading from the Book of Lamentations.

My soul is deprived of peace,
I have forgotten what happiness is.
I tell myself my future is lost,
all that I hoped for from the Lord.
The thought of my homeless poverty
is wormwood and gall.
Remembering it over and over
leaves my soul downcast within me.
But I will call this to mind,
as my reason to have hope.

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His mercies are not spent.
They are renewed each morning,
so great is his faithfulness.
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