

First Reader: A READING FROM ISAIAH

Again the LORD spoke to Ahaz, saying, Ask a sign of the LORD your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven. But Ahaz said, I will not ask, and I will not put the Lord to the test. Then Isaiah said: “Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals, that you weary my God also? Therefore the LORD himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel. He shall eat curds and honey by the time he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. For before the child knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land before whose two kings you are in dread will be deserted.”

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Leader: Our Psalm for today is Psalm 80:1-6, 16-8.

We will respond by whole verse.

- 1 Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock; *
 shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim.
- 2 **In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh, ***
 stir up your strength and come to help us.
- 3 Restore us, O God of hosts; *
 show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.
- 4 **O LORD God of hosts, ***
 how long will you be angered
 despite the prayers of your people?
- 5 You have fed them with the bread of tears; *
 you have given them bowls of tears to drink.
- 6 **You have made us the derision of our neighbors, ***
 and our enemies laugh us to scorn.
- 7 Restore us, O God of hosts; *
 show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.
- 16 **Let your hand be upon the man of your right hand, ***
 the son of man you have made so strong for yourself.
- 17 And so will we never turn away from you; *
 give us life, that we may call upon your Name.
- 18 **Restore us, O LORD God of hosts; ***
 show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

Second Reader: A Reading from Romans

Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy scriptures, the gospel concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh and was declared to be Son of God with power according to the spirit of holiness by resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our LORD, through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith among all the Gentiles for the sake of his name, including yourselves who are called to belong to Jesus Christ,

To all God's beloved in Rome, who are called to be saints:

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the LORD Jesus Christ.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE:

People of God, come, let us walk in the light of the Lord. Let us pray to the Lord saying, “Teach us your ways, O God, **that we may walk in your paths.**”

Wake from sleep, O God, your Church. Let us lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light. Let us live honorably as salvation draws ever nearer. *Silence.*

Teach us your ways, O God, **that we may walk in your paths.**

Wake from sleep, O God, this nation. May we beat our swords into ploughshares, and our spears into pruning hooks. May we learn war no more. *Silence.*

Teach us your ways, O God, **that we may walk in your paths.**

Wake from sleep, O God, your creation. May the mountains rise to meet you and crops of the fields burst forth in praise. *Silence.*

Teach us your ways, O God, **that we may walk in your paths.**

Wake from sleep, O God, this city. May there be peace and prosperity within our walls. Make clear our paths that we may walk in your light. *Silence.*

Teach us your ways, O God, **that we may walk in your paths.**

Wake from sleep, O God, those in pain and sadness. Deliver them from their darkness that they may rejoice in your light. May all those waiting for healing find your salvation is near.

The congregation may add their own petitions and thanksgivings, followed by silence.

Teach us your ways, O God, **that we may walk in your paths.**

Wake all your people from sleep, O God. Prepare your saints for that day when the Son of Man will return, with the saints at rest, to reign with us forever and ever. *Silence.*

Teach us your ways, O God, **that we may walk in your paths.**

The presider concludes with a collect.