OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Isaiah 58:1-12

Reader: A reading from the 58th chapter of the Book of Isaiah, beginning at the 1st verse.

Cry aloud, spare not, lift up thy voice like a trumpet, and shew my people their transgression, and the house of Jacob their sins.

Yet they seek me daily, and delight to know my ways, as a nation that did righteousness, and forsook not the ordinance of their God: they ask of me the ordinances of justice; they take delight in approaching to God. Wherefore have we fasted, say they, and thou seest not? wherefore have we afflicted our soul, and thou takest no knowledge? Behold, in the day of your fast ye find pleasure, and exact all your labours.

Behold, ye fast for strife and debate, and to smite with the fist of wickedness: ye shall not fast as ye do this day, to make your voice to be heard on high. Is it such a fast that I have chosen? a day for a man to afflict his soul? is it to bow down his head as a bulrush, and to spread sackcloth and ashes under him? wilt thou call this a fast, and an acceptable day to the Lord? Is not this the fast that I have chosen? to loose the bands of wickedness, to undo the heavy burdens, and to let the oppressed go free, and that ye break every yoke? Is it not to deal thy bread to the hungry, and that thou bring the poor that are cast out to thy house? when thou seest the naked, that thou cover him; and that thou hide not thyself from thine own flesh?

Then shall thy light break forth as the morning, and thine health shall spring forth speedily: and thy righteousness shall go before thee; the glory of the Lord shall be thy rearward.

Then shalt thou call, and the Lord shall answer; thou shalt cry, and he shall say, Here I am. If thou take away from the midst of thee the yoke, the putting forth of the finger, and speaking vanity;

And if thou draw out thy soul to the hungry, and satisfy the afflicted soul; then shall thy light rise in obscurity, and thy darkness be as the noon day:

And the Lord shall guide thee continually, and satisfy thy soul in

drought, and make fat thy bones: and thou shalt be like a watered garden, and like a spring of water, whose waters fail not.

And they that shall be of thee shall build the old waste places: thou shalt raise up the foundations of many generations; and thou shalt be called, The repairer of the breach, The restorer of paths to dwell in.

Reader: Here endeth the Old Testament Lesson.

PSALM 50 *Deus deorum Reader:* We will read Psalm 50 responsively by the whole verse.

1 THE LORD, even the Most Mighty God, hath spoken, * and called the world, from the rising up of the sun unto the going down thereof.

2 Out of Sion hath God appeared * in perfect beauty.

3 Our God shall come, and shall not keep silence; * there shall go before him a consuming fire, and a mighty tempest shall be stirred up round about him.

- 4 He shall call the heaven from above, * and the earth, that he may judge his people.
- 5 Gather my saints together unto me; * those that have made a covenant with me with sacrifice.
- 6 And the heavens shall declare his righteousness; * for God is Judge himself.
- 7 Hear, O my people, and I will speak; * I myself will testify against thee, O Israel; for I am God, even thy God.
- 8 I will not reprove thee because of thy sacrifices; * as for thy burntofferings, they are alway before me.
- 9 I will take no bullock out of thine house, * nor he-goats out of thy folds.
- 10 For all the beasts of the forest are mine, * and so are the cattle upon a thousand hills.
- 11 I know all the fowls upon the mountains, * and the wild beasts of the field are in my sight.
- 12 If I be hungry, I will not tell thee; * for the whole world is mine, and all that is therein.
- 13 Thinkest thou that I will eat bulls' flesh, * and drink the blood of goats?
- 14 Offer unto God thanksgiving, * and pay thy vows unto the Most Highest.
- 15 And call upon me in the time of trouble; * so will I hear thee, and thou shalt praise me.
- 16 But unto the ungodly saith God, * Why dost thou preach my laws, and takest my covenant in thy mouth;
- 17 Whereas thou hatest to be reformed, * and hast cast my words behind thee?
- 18 When thou sawest a thief, thou consentedst unto him; * and hast been partaker with the adulterers.
- 19 Thou hast let thy mouth speak wickedness, * and with thy tongue thou hast set forth deceit.
- 20 Thou sattest and spakest against thy brother; * yea, and hast slandered thine own mother's son.

- 21 These things hast thou done, and I held my tongue, and thou thoughtest wickedly, that I am even such a one as thyself; * but I will reprove thee, and set before thee the things that thou hast done.
- 22 O consider this, ye that forget God, * lest I pluck you away, and there be none to deliver you.
- 23 Whoso offereth me thanks and praise, he honoureth me; * and to him that ordereth his way aright, will I show the salvation of God.

THE EPISTLE: 2 Corinthians 6:1-10

Reader: A reading of the 6th chapter of Second Corinthians, beginning at the 1st verse.

We then, as workers together with him, beseech you also that ye receive not the grace of God in vain; (for he saith, I have heard thee in a time accepted, and in the day of salvation have I succoured thee: behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation;) giving no offence in any thing, that the ministry be not blamed: but in all things approving ourselves as the ministers of God, in much patience, in afflictions, in necessities, in distresses, in stripes, in imprisonments, in tumults, in labours, in watchings, in fastings; by pureness, by knowledge, by long-suffering, by kindness, by the Holy Ghost, by love unfeigned, by the word of truth, by the power of God, by the armour of righteousness on the right hand and on the left, by honour and dishonour, by evil report and good report: as deceivers, and yet true; as unknown, and yet well known; as dying, and, behold, we live; as chastened, and not killed; as sorrowful, yet alway rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing all things.

Reader: Here endeth the Epistle.

Priest The Holy Gospel is written in the 4th chapter of St. Luke, beginning at the 1st verse.

GLORIA TIBI Glory be to thee, O Lord

And Jesus being full of the Holy Ghost returned from Jordan, and was led by the Spirit into the wilderness, Being forty days tempted of the devil. And in those days he did eat nothing: and when they were ended, he afterward hungered. And the devil said unto him, If thou be the Son of God, command this stone that it be made bread.

And Jesus answered him, saying, It is written, That man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word of God.

And the devil, taking him up into an high mountain, shewed unto him all the kingdoms of the world in a moment of time. And the devil said unto him, All this power will I give thee, and the glory of them: for that is delivered unto me; and to whomsoever I will I give it. If thou therefore wilt worship me, all shall be thine. And Jesus answered and said unto him, Get thee behind me, Satan: for it is written, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve.

And he brought him to Jerusalem, and set him on a pinnacle of the temple, and said unto him, If thou be the Son of God, cast thyself down from hence:

For it is written, He shall give his angels charge over thee, to keep thee: And in their hands they shall bear thee up, lest at any time thou dash thy foot against a stone. And Jesus answering said unto him, It is said, Thou shalt not tempt the Lord thy God. And when the devil had ended all the temptation, he departed from him for a season.

Priest The Gospel of the Lord.