

FIRST READING Zechariah 9.9-12

A reading from the book of the prophet Zechariah

Rejoice greatly, O daughter Zion!
Shout aloud, O daughter Jerusalem!
Lo, your king comes to you;
triumphant and victorious is he,
humble and riding on a donkey,
on a colt, the foal of a donkey.
He will cut off the chariot from Ephraim
and the war horse from Jerusalem;
and the battle bow shall be cut off,
and he shall command peace to the nations;
his dominion shall be from sea to sea,
and from the River to the ends of the earth.
As for you also,
because of the blood of my covenant with you,
I will set your prisoners free from the waterless pit.
Return to your stronghold, O prisoners of hope;
today I declare that I will restore to you double.

For the Word of the LORD

SECOND READING 1 Corinthians 2.1-12

A reading from Paul's first letter to the Corinthians

When I came to you, brothers and sisters,
I did not come,
proclaiming the mystery of God to you – in lofty words or wisdom.
For I decided to know nothing among you – except Jesus Christ,
and Him crucified.

And I came to you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling.
My speech and my proclamation
were not with plausible words of wisdom,
but with a demonstration of the Spirit and of power,
so that your faith might rest not on human wisdom
but on the power of God.

Yet among the mature we do speak wisdom,
though it is not a wisdom of this age – or of the rulers of this age,
who are doomed to perish.

But we speak God's wisdom, secret and hidden,
which God decreed before the ages for our glory.

None of the rulers of this age understood this;
for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory.

But, as it is written,

"What no eye has seen, nor ear heard,
nor the human heart conceived,

what God has prepared for those who love him"--

these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit;
for the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God.

For what human being knows what is truly human
except the human spirit that is within?

So also no one comprehends what is truly God's
except the Spirit of God.

Now we have received not the spirit of the world,
but the Spirit that is from God,

so that we may understand the gifts bestowed on us by God.

For the Word of the LORD