

THE WORD OF THE LORD : TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS
At the Solemn Eucharist at 11 o'clock
THE FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

As the semicontinuous readings from the Gospel of Luke and from 1 Corinthians continue, the lections do not always present a single or even dominant theme. However, a motif present in one way or another in most of these readings is concern with the power and authority of the word. In Isaiah 6 the prophet reports his call and the harsh words he is to proclaim. The responsorial psalm is a song of thanksgiving from the temple, the location of Isaiah's vision. The epistle is Paul's summary of the gospel that he had preached and through which God works. In Luke 5.1-11 the people crowded to hear from Jesus "the word of God": he taught them from the boat, at the "word" of Jesus Simon let down the nets again. Moreover, the Gospel account of the call and response of the apostles parallels in significant ways the vocation of Isaiah and his response.

FIRST READING: Isaiah 6.1-13

In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lofty; and the hem of his robe filled the temple. Seraphim were in attendance above him; each had six wings: with two they covered their faces, and with two they covered their feet, and with two they flew. And one called to another and said: "Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory." The pivots on the thresholds shook at the voices of those who called, and the house filled with smoke. And I said: "Woe is me! I am lost, for I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips; yet my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts!" Then one of the seraphim flew to me, holding a live coal that had been taken from the altar with a pair of tongs. The seraph touched my mouth with it and said: "Now that this has touched your lips, your guilt has departed and your sin is blotted out." Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?" And I said, "Here am I; send me!" And he said, "Go and say to this people: 'Keep listening, but do not comprehend; keep looking, but do not understand.' Make the mind of this people dull, and stop their ears, and shut their eyes, so that they may not look with their eyes, and listen with their ears, and comprehend with their minds, and turn and be healed." Then I said, "How long, O Lord?" And he said: "Until cities lie waste without inhabitant, and houses without people, and the land is utterly desolate; until the LORD sends everyone far away, and vast is the emptiness in the midst of the land. Even if a tenth part remain in it, it will be burned again, like a terebinth or an oak whose stump remains standing when it is felled." The holy seed is its stump.

The word of the Lord
R/. Thanks be to God

PSALM: 138—*Confitebor tibi; Tone III,2*

III. 2.



- 1 I WILL give thanks unto thee, O Lord, **with** my whole heart :
even before the gods will I sing **prāise** ün-to thee.
- 2 I will worship toward thy holy temple and praise thy Name,
because of thy loving-**kind**-ness and truth :
for thou hast magnified thy Name and thy word **ä**-böve all things.
- 3 When I called upon **thee**, thou heard-est me :
and enduedst my **soül** with much strength.
- 4 All the kings of the earth shall **praise** thee, O Lord :
for they have heard the **wörds** öf thy mouth.
- 5 Yea, they shall sing of the **ways** of the Lord :
for great is the **glö**-rý of the Lord.
- 6 For though the Lord be high, yet hath he respect un-**to** the low-ly :
as for the proud, he beholdeth **thēm** ä-far off.
- 7 Though I walk in the midst of trouble, yet shalt **thou** re-fresh me :
thou shalt stretch forth thy hand upon the fury of mine enemies,
and thy right **händ** shall save me.
- 8 The Lord shall fulfil his pur-**pose** to-ward me :
yea, thy mercy, O Lord, endureth for ever;
forsake not then the works **öf** thine own hands.

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 15.1-11

Now I would remind you, brothers and sister, of the good news that I proclaimed to you, which you in turn received, in which also you stand, through which also you are being saved, if you hold firmly to the message that I proclaimed to you — unless you have come to believe in vain. For I handed on to you as of first importance what I in turn had received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures, and that he was buried, and that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures, and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers and sisters at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died. Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me. For I am the least of the apostles, unfit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me has not

been in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them — though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me. Whether then it was I or they, so we proclaim and so you have come to believe.

The word of the Lord

R/. Thanks be to God

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: John 8.12

Alleluia. Alleluia. I am the light of the world, says the Lord. Those who follow me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life. Alleluia.

GOSPEL: Luke 5.1-11

R/. Glory be to thee, O Lord

And it came to pass, that, as the people pressed upon him to hear the word of God, Jesus stood by the lake of Gennesaret, And saw two ships standing by the lake: but the fishermen were gone out of them, and were washing their nets. And he entered into one of the ships, which was Simon's, and prayed him that he would thrust out a little from the land. And he sat down, and taught the people out of the ship. Now when he had left speaking, he said unto Simon, Launch out into the deep, and let down your nets for a draught. And Simon answering said unto him, Master, we have toiled all the night, and have taken nothing: nevertheless at thy word I will let down the net. And when they had this done, they enclosed a great multitude of fishes: and their net brake. And they beckoned unto their partners, which were in the other ship, that they should come and help them. And they came, and filled both the ships, so that they began to sink. When Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus' knees, saying, Depart from me; for I am a sinful man, O Lord. For he was astonished, and all that were with him, at the draught of the fishes which they had taken: And so was also James, and John, the sons of Zebedee, which were partners with Simon. And Jesus said unto Simon, Fear not; from henceforth thou shalt catch men. And when they had brought their ships to land, they forsook all, and followed him.

The Gospel of Christ

R/. Praise be to thee, O Christ