

**First Reading - *Isaiah 6.1-8***

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

It was in the year that King Uzziah died

that I saw the Lord,  
sitting on a high throne,  
in robes  
that filled the temple.

Angels, around the Lord,  
called out to one another,  
saying: 'Holy, holy, holy  
is the Lord almighty;  
the whole earth is filled  
with the glory of the Lord.'

Their voices shook  
the very foundations  
of the temple,  
and the temple was filled with smoke.

I said: 'I am ruined!  
For I am a man of unclean lips,  
and I live amongst a people  
of unclean lips;  
yet my eyes have seen the King,  
the Lord almighty!'

Then one of the angels flew to me,  
and touched my lips  
with a burning coal  
that had been taken from the altar,  
saying, 'Now that this has touched your lips,  
your guilt is removed,  
and you are forgiven.'

Then I heard  
the voice of the Lord,  
saying, 'Is there anyone I can send?'

And I said, 'Here I am;  
send me.'

This is the word of the Lord.

**Second Reading - *Romans 8.14-17***

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans.

Now that you are led  
by the spirit of God,  
you are adopted  
as children of God.

God receives you  
not as slaves,  
to fall back into fear,  
but as adopted children,  
able to address God  
as 'Abba' and 'Father'.

And being adopted  
as children of God,

we inherit  
all things,  
alongside  
Christ Jesus himself,  
including  
both his suffering  
and his glory.

This is the word of the Lord.

**Gospel - *John 3.1-16***

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ  
according to John.

The Pharisee Nicodemus  
came to Jesus by night,  
saying, 'Teacher, we know,  
by the signs that we have seen you do,  
that you have come from God,  
and that God is with you.'

Jesus said, 'To see the kingdom of God,  
you must be reborn,  
from above.'

Nicodemus said, 'How can anyone  
be born  
a second time?'

Jesus said, 'To enter the kingdom of God,  
you must be born  
of both water and spirit.'

Flesh is born of flesh,  
and spirit  
is born of spirit,  
so do not be taken aback  
when I say, "You must be reborn, from above."

The wind blows where it chooses,  
and you hear the sound of it,  
but you do not know  
where it comes from  
or where it goes.

So it is  
with everyone  
who is born of the Spirit.'

Nicodemus said, 'How can this be?'

Jesus said, 'You are a teacher of Israel,  
and yet you do not see,  
or hear, or understand.'

You do not believe  
when I speak  
of what you see on earth,  
so how will you believe  
when I speak of heaven?

No one has ascended into heaven -  
but the Son of Man  
came down  
from heaven.

And the Son of Man  
must be lifted up  
(as the serpent was lifted up  
by Moses in the wilderness),  
so that whoever believes  
in the Son of Man  
may have everlasting life.

God so loved the world  
that God gave  
the only Son of God,  
so that everyone who believes  
in the Son of God  
will not be lost, but will have  
everlasting life.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.