

A Reading from the second Book of the Prophet Isaiah

The people who walked in darkness
have seen a great light;
those who lived in a land of deep darkness –
on them light has shone.

You have multiplied the nation,
you have increased its joy;
they rejoice before you
as with joy at the harvest,
as people exult when dividing plunder.

For the yoke of their burden,
and the bar across their shoulders,
the rod of their oppressor,
you have broken as on the day of Midian.

For a child has been born for us,
a son given to us;
authority rests upon his shoulders;
and he is named
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.
His authority shall grow continually,
and there shall be endless peace
for the throne of David and his kingdom.

He will establish and uphold it
with justice and with righteousness
from this time onward and forevermore.
The zeal of the Lord of host will do this.

The Word of the Lord!

A Reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to Titus

Beloved:

When the kindness and generous love
of God our savior appeared,
not because of any righteous deeds we had done
but because of his mercy.

He saved us through the baptism of rebirth
and renewal by the Holy Spirit,
whom he richly poured out on us
through Jesus Christ our savior,
so that we might be justified by his grace
and become heirs in hope of eternal life.

The Word of the Lord!