

## **A reading from the Book of Genesis**

After the man, Adam, had eaten of the tree,  
the LORD God called to the man and asked him, “Where are you?”

He answered, “I heard you in the garden;  
but I was afraid, because I was naked,  
so I hid myself.”

Then he asked, “Who told you that you were naked?

You have eaten, then,  
from the tree of which I had forbidden you to eat!”

The man replied, “The woman whom you put here with me  
she gave me fruit from the tree, and so I ate it.”

The LORD God then asked the woman,  
“Why did you do such a thing?”

The woman answered, “The serpent tricked me into it, so I ate it.”

Then the LORD God said to the serpent:

“Because you have done this, you shall be banned  
from all the animals  
and from all the wild creatures;  
on your belly shall you crawl,  
and dirt shall you eat  
all the days of your life.

I will put enmity between you and the woman,  
and between your offspring and hers;  
he will strike at your head,  
while you strike at his heel.”

The man called his wife Eve,  
because she became the mother of all the living.

The Word of the Lord.

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Ephesians

Brothers and sisters:

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
who has blessed us in Christ  
with every spiritual blessing in the heavens,  
as he chose us in him, before the foundation of the world,  
to be holy and without blemish before him.  
In love he destined us for adoption to himself through Jesus  
Christ,  
in accord with the favor of his will,  
for the praise of the glory of his grace  
that he granted us in the beloved.

In him we were also chosen,  
destined in accord with the purpose of the One  
who accomplishes all things according to the intention of his will,  
so that we might exist for the praise of his glory,  
we who first hoped in Christ.

The Word of the Lord.