

First Reading: 2 Kings 5:1-3, 7-15c

1Naaman, commander of the army of the king of Aram, was a great man and in high favor with his master, because by him the Lord had given victory to Aram. The man, though a mighty warrior, suffered from leprosy. 2Now the Arameans on one of their raids had taken a young girl captive from the land of Israel, and she served Naaman's wife. 3She said to her mistress, "If only my lord were with the prophet who is in Samaria! He would cure him of his leprosy." 7When the king of Israel read the letter, he tore his clothes and said, "Am I God, to give death or life, that this man sends word to me to cure a man of his leprosy? Just look and see how he is trying to pick a quarrel with me."

8But when Elisha the man of God heard that the king of Israel had torn his clothes, he sent a message to the king, "Why have you torn your clothes? Let him come to me, that he may learn that there is a prophet in Israel." 9So Naaman came with his horses and chariots, and halted at the entrance of Elisha's house. 10Elisha sent a messenger to him, saying, "Go, wash in the Jordan seven times, and your flesh shall be restored and you shall be clean." 11But Naaman became angry and went away, saying, "I thought that for me he would surely come out, and stand and call on the name of the Lord his God, and would wave his hand over the spot, and cure the leprosy! 12Are not Abana and Pharpar, the rivers of Damascus, better than all the waters of Israel? Could I not wash in them, and be clean?" He turned and went away in a rage. 13But his servants approached and said to him, "Father, if the prophet had commanded you to do something difficult, would you not have done it? How much more, when all he said to you was, 'Wash, and be clean'?" 14So he went down and immersed himself seven times in the Jordan, according to the word of the man of God; his flesh was restored like the flesh of a young boy, and he was clean.

15a-cThen he returned to the man of God, he and all his company; he came and stood before him and said, "Now I know that there is no God in all the earth except in Israel."

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Second Reading: Psalm 111

1 Hallelujah! I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart,
in the assembly of the upright, in the congregation.

2 Great are your works, O Lord,
pondered by all who delight in them.

3 Majesty and splendor mark your deeds,
and your righteousness endures forever.

4 You cause your wonders to be remembered;
you are gracious and full of compassion.

5 You give food to those who fear you,
remembering forever your covenant.

6 You have shown your people the power of your works
in giving them the lands of the nations.

7 The works of your hands are faithfulness and justice;
all of your precepts are sure.

8 They stand fast forever and ever,
because they are done in truth and equity.

9 You sent redemption to your people and commanded your covenant
forever;
holy and awesome is your name.

10 The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom;
all who practice this have a good understanding. God's praise endures
forever.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**