

First Reading

Isaiah 9:1-4

A reading from the 9th Chapter of Isaiah.

There will be no gloom for those who were in anguish.
In the former time the LORD brought into contempt
the land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali,
but in the latter time he will make glorious the way of the sea,
the land beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the nations.

The people who walked in darkness
have seen a great light;
those who lived in a land of deep darkness—
on them light has shined.
You have multiplied exultation;
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.

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

Second Reading

1 Corinthians 1:10-18

A reading from the 1st Chapter of 1st Corinthians.

Now I appeal to you, brothers and sisters,
by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ,
that all of you be in agreement and that there be no divisions among you
but that you be knit together in the same mind and the same purpose.
For it has been made clear to me by Chloe's people
that there are quarrels among you, my brothers and sisters.
What I mean is that each of you says, "I belong to Paul," or "I belong to Apollos,"
or "I belong to Cephas," or "I belong to Christ."
Has Christ been divided?
Was Paul crucified for you?
Or were you baptized in the name of Paul?

I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius,
so that no one can say that you were baptized in my name.
I did baptize also the household of Stephanas;
beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else.
For Christ did not send me to baptize but to proclaim the gospel—
and not with eloquent wisdom,
so that the cross of Christ might not be emptied of its power.

For the message about the cross
is foolishness to those who are perishing,
but to us who are being saved
it is the power of God.

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