

THE FIRST LESSON

ISAIAH 52:7-10

How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of the messenger who announces peace, who brings good news, who announces salvation, who says to Zion, "Your God reigns." Listen! Your sentinels lift up their voices, together they sing for joy; for in plain sight they see the return of the Lord to Zion. Break forth together into singing, you ruins of Jerusalem; for the Lord has comforted his people, he has redeemed Jerusalem. The Lord has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the nations; and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

The Word of the Lord.

PSALM 2:7-10 *Said in unison*

- 1 Why are the nations in an uproar? *
 Why do the peoples mutter empty threats?
- 2 Why do the kings of the earth rise up in revolt,
 and the princes plot together, *
 against the LORD and against his Anointed?
- 3 "Let us break their yoke," they say; *
 "let us cast off their bonds from us."
- 4 He whose throne is in heaven is laughing; *
 the Lord has them in derision.
- 5 Then he speaks to them in his wrath, *
 and his rage fills them with terror.
- 6 "I myself have set my king *
 upon my holy hill of Zion."
- 7 Let me announce the decree of the LORD: *
 he said to me, "You are my Son;
 this day have I begotten you.
- 8 Ask of me, and I will give you the nations for your inheritance *
 and the ends of the earth for your possession.
- 9 You shall crush them with an iron rod *
 and shatter them like a piece of pottery."
- 10 And now, you kings, be wise; *
 be warned, you rulers of the earth.

