

A READING FROM EPHESIANS 2: 13-22

But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. For he is our peace; in his flesh he has made both groups into one and has broken down the dividing wall, that is, the hostility between us. He has abolished the law with its commandments and ordinances, that he might create in himself one new humanity in place of the two, thus making peace, and might reconcile both groups to God in one body through the cross, thus putting to death that hostility through it. So he came and proclaimed peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near; for through him both of us have access in one Spirit to the Father. So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are citizens with the saints and also members of the household of God, built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the cornerstone. In him the whole structure is joined together and grows into a holy temple in the Lord; in whom you also are built together spiritually into a dwelling place for God.

The Word of the Lord.

PSALM 119: 89-96 *Said by half verse*

⁸⁹ O Lord, your word is everlasting; *

it stands firm in the heavens.

⁹⁰ Your faithfulness remains from one generation to another; *

you established the earth, and it abides.

⁹¹ By your decree these continue to this day, *

for all things are your servants.

⁹² If my delight had not been in your law, *

I should have perished in my affliction.

⁹³ I will never forget your commandments, *

because by them you give me life.

⁹⁴ I am yours; oh, that you would save me! *

for I study your commandments.

⁹⁵ Though the wicked lie in wait for me to destroy me, *

I will apply my mind to your decrees.

⁹⁶ I see that all things come to an end, *

but your commandment has no bounds.