

Isaiah receives a vision of God enthroned in glory. He feels unworthy to be in God's presence, but is purified so that he can speak God's word to the people.

**A READING FROM THE PROPHET ISAIAH [6:1-8]**

In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lofty; and the hem of his robe filled the temple. Seraphs were in attendance above him; each had six wings: with two they covered their faces, and with two they covered their feet, and with two they flew. And one called to another and said: "Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory." The pivots on the thresholds shook at the voices of those who called, and the house filled with smoke. And I said: "Woe is me! I am lost, for I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips; yet my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts!" Then one of the seraphs flew to me, holding a live coal that had been taken from the altar with a pair of tongs. The seraph touched my mouth with it and said: "Now that this has touched your lips, your guilt has departed and your sin is blotted out." Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?" And I said, "Here am I; send me!"

*The Word of the Lord.*

**PSALM 138** (*sung*)

- <sup>1</sup> I will give thanks to you, O LORD, with my whole heart; \*  
before the gods I will sing your praise.
- <sup>2</sup> I will bow down toward your holy temple  
and praise your Name, \*  
because of your love and faithfulness;
- <sup>3</sup> For you have glorified your Name \*  
and your word above all things.
- <sup>4</sup> When I called, you answered me; \*  
you increased my strength within me.
- <sup>5</sup> All the kings of the earth will praise you, O LORD, \*  
when they have heard the words of your mouth.
- <sup>6</sup> They will sing of the ways of the LORD, \*  
that great is the glory of the LORD.
- <sup>7</sup> Though the LORD be high, he cares for the lowly; \*  
he perceives the haughty from afar.
- <sup>8</sup> Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you keep me safe; \*  
you stretch forth your hand against the fury of my enemies; your right hand  
shall save me.
- <sup>9</sup> The LORD will make good his purpose for me; \*  
O LORD, your love endures for ever;  
do not abandon the works of your hands.

Paul reminds the Corinthians of the gospel that he has preached to them. The Lord who has been offered as a sacrifice for sin has been raised, and God's Holy Spirit is even now active in the Church.

**A READING FROM THE FIRST LETTER OF PAUL TO THE CORINTHIANS [15:1-11]**

I would remind you, brothers and sisters, of the good news that I proclaimed to you, which you in turn received, in which also you stand, through which also you are being saved, if you hold firmly to the message that I proclaimed to you--unless you have come to believe in vain. For I handed on to you as of first importance what I in turn had received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures, and that he was buried, and that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures, and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers and sisters at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have died. Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me. For I am the least of the apostles, unfit to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me has not been in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them--though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me. Whether then it was I or they,

*The Word of the Lord.*