

A READING FROM 2 CORINTHIANS 5:14-18

The love of Christ urges us on, because we are convinced that one has died for all; therefore all have died. And he died for all, so that those who live might live no longer for themselves, but for him who died and was raised for them. From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation.

The Word of the Lord.

PSALM 42:1-7 *Said in unison*

- ¹ As the deer longs for the water-brooks, *
 so longs my soul for you, O God.
- ² My soul is athirst for God, athirst for the living God; *
 when shall I come to appear before the presence of God?
- ³ My tears have been my food day and night, *
 while all day long they say to me,
 "Where now is your God?"
- ⁴ I pour out my soul when I think on these things: *
 how I went with the multitude and led them into the house of God,
- ⁵ With the voice of praise and thanksgiving, *
 among those who keep holy-day.
- ⁶ Why are you so full of heaviness, O my soul? *
 and why are you so disquieted within me?
- ⁷ Put your trust in God; *
 for I will yet give thanks to him,
 who is the help of my countenance, and my God.