FIRST READING

A reading from the prophet Ezekiel (2:2-5)

The spirit came into me and made me stand up, and I heard the Lord speaking to me. He said, 'Son of man, I am sending you to the Israelites, to the rebels who have turned against me. Till now they and their ancestors have been in revolt against me. The sons are defiant and obstinate; I am sending you to them, to say, "The Lord says this." Whether they listen or not, this set of rebels shall know there is a prophet among them.'

The Word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM (Ps 122: R. v.2)

R. Our eyes are on the Lord till he shows us his mercy.

To you have I lifted up my eyes, you who dwell in the heavens: my eyes, like the eyes of slaves on the hand of their lords. **R.**

Like the eyes of a servant on the hand of her mistress, so our eyes are on the Lord our God till he show us his mercy. **R.**

Have mercy on us, Lord, have mercy. We are filled with contempt. Indeed all too full is our soul with the scorn of the rich, with the proud man's disdain. **R.**

SECOND READING

A reading from the second letter of St Paul to the Corinthians (12:7-10)

In view of the extraordinary nature of these revelations, to stop me from getting too proud I was given a thorn in the flesh, an angel of Satan to beat me and stop me from getting too proud! About this thing, I have pleaded with the Lord three times for it to leave me, but he has said, 'My grace is enough for you: my power is at its best in weakness.' So I shall be very happy to make my weaknesses my special boast so that the power of Christ may stay over me, and that is why I am quite content with my weaknesses, and with insults, hardships, persecutions, and the agonies I go through for Christ's sake. For it is when I am weak that I am strong.

The word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation (Jn 1:14,12)

R. Alleluia, alleluia!

The Word was made flesh and lived among us; to all who did accept him he gave power to become children of God. **R. Alleluia!**

Or: (Cf Lk 4:18)

R. Alleluia, alleluia!The Lord has sent me to bring the good news to the poor,to proclaim liberty to captives.R. Alleluia!

GOSPEL

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark (6:1-6)

Jesus went to his home town and his disciples accompanied him. With the coming of the Sabbath he began teaching in the synagogue and most of them were astonished when they heard him. They said, 'Where did the man get all this? What is this wisdom that has been granted him, and these miracles that are worked through him? This is the carpenter, surely the son of Mary, the brothers of James and Joset and Jude and Simon? His sisters too are they not here with us?' And they would not accept him. And Jesus said to them, 'A prophet is only despised in his own country among his own relations and in his own house'; and he could work no miracle there, though he cured a few sick people by laying his hands on them. He was amazed at their lack of faith.

The Gospel of the Lord.

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