

## Readings for April 9<sup>th</sup>, 2017 – Palm Sunday

### First Reading: Isaiah 50:4-9a

Hear the Word of God as it is written in Isaiah chapter 50 verses 4 to 9a.

**T**he Lord GOD has given me the tongue of a teacher, that I may know how to sustain the weary with a word. Morning by morning he wakens--wakens my ear to listen as those who are taught. The Lord GOD has opened my ear, and I was not rebellious, I did not turn backward. I gave my back to those who struck me, and my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard; I did not hide my face from insult and spitting. The Lord GOD helps me; therefore I have not been disgraced; therefore I have set my face like flint, and I know that I shall not be put to shame; he who vindicates me is near. Who will contend with me? Let us stand up together. Who are my adversaries? Let them confront me. It is the Lord GOD who helps me; who will declare me guilty?

**This is the Word of the Lord.**

### Psalm 31:9-16

Let us all stand and read Psalm 31 verses 9 to 16 responsively by verse.

9

Have mercy on me, O LORD, for I am in trouble; my eye is consumed with sorrow, and also my throat and my belly.

10

For my life is wasted with grief, and my years with sighing; my strength fails me because of affliction, and my bones are consumed.

11

I have become a reproach to all my enemies and even to my neighbors, a dismay to those of my acquaintance; when they see me in the street they avoid me.

12

I am forgotten like a dead man, out of mind; I am as useless as a broken pot.

13

For I have heard the whispering of the crowd; fear is all around; they put their heads together against me; they plot to take my life.

14

But as for me, I have trusted in you, O LORD. I have said, "You are my God.

15

My times are in your hand; rescue me from the hand of my enemies, and from those who persecute me.

16

Make your face to shine upon your servant, and in your loving-kindness save me."

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit. As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, World without end. Amen.**

**Second Reading: Philippians 2:5-11**

**Hear the Word of God as it is written in Philippians chapter 2 verses 5 to 11.**

**L**et the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death-- even death on a cross. Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

**This is the Word of the Lord.**