

A reading from Haggai chapter 2 verse 1 through 12. You can find the reading on page 790 in your pew Bible, but I will be reading from the New American Standard version of the Scriptures.

On the twenty-first of the seventh month, the word of the Lord came by Haggai the prophet saying, "Speak now to Zerubbabel the son of Shealtiel, governor of Judah, and to Joshua the son of Jehozadak, the high priest, and to the remnant of the people saying, 'Who is left among you who saw this temple in its former glory? And how do you see it now? Does it not seem to you like nothing in comparison? But now take courage, Zerubbabel,' declares the Lord, 'take courage also, Joshua son of Jehozadak, the high priest, and all you people of the land take courage,' declares the Lord, 'and work; for I am with you,' declares the Lord of hosts. 'As for the promise which I made you when you came out of Egypt, My Spirit is abiding in your midst; do not fear!' For thus says the Lord of hosts, 'Once more in a little while, I am going to shake the heavens and the earth, the sea also and the dry land. I will shake all the nations; and they will come with the wealth of all nations, and I will fill this house with glory,' says the Lord of hosts. 'The silver is Mine and the gold is Mine,' declares the Lord of hosts. 'The latter glory of this house will be greater than the former,' says the Lord of hosts, 'and in this place I will give peace,' declares the Lord of hosts."

On the twenty-fourth of the ninth month, in the second year of Darius, the word of the Lord came to Haggai the prophet, saying, "Thus says the Lord of hosts, 'Ask now the priests for a ruling: If a man carries holy meat in the fold of his garment, and touches bread with this fold, or cooked food, wine, oil, or any other food, will it become holy?'" And the priests answered, "No."

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please join me in praying Psalm 65.

Leader: Praise is due to you, O God, in Zion,
and to you shall vows be performed.

**People: O you who hear prayer,
to you shall all flesh come.**

Leader: When iniquities prevail against me,
you atone for our transgressions.

**People: Blessed is the one you choose and bring near,
to dwell in your courts!**

Leader: We shall be satisfied with the goodness of your house,
the holiness of your temple!

**People: By awesome deeds you answer us with righteousness,
O God of our salvation,**

Leader: the hope of all the ends of the earth
and of the farthest seas;

**People: the one who by his strength established the mountains,
being girded with might;**

Leader: who stills the roaring of the seas,
the roaring of their waves,
the tumult of the peoples,

**People: so that those who dwell at the ends of the earth
are in awe at your signs.**

**All: You make the going out of the morning and the evening
to shout for joy.**

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it
was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.**

Leader: Please stand for the reading of the Gospel.

(allow them time to stand)

**The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
according to Luke.**

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus looked up and saw the rich putting their gifts into the offering box, and he saw a poor widow put in two small copper coins. And he said, "Truly, I tell you, this poor widow has put in more than all of them. For they all contributed out of their abundance, but she out of her poverty put in all she had to live on."

And while some were speaking of the temple, how it was adorned with noble stones and offerings, he said, "As for these things that you see, the days will come when there will not be left here one stone upon another that will not be thrown down." And they asked him, "Teacher, when will these things be, and what will be the sign when these things are about to take place?" And he said, "See that you are not led astray. For many will come in my name, saying, 'I am he!' and, 'The time is at hand!' Do not go after them. And when you hear of wars and tumults, do not be terrified, for these things must first take place, but the end will not be at once."

Leader: The Gospel of the Lord

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.