

A reading from Isaiah chapter 53 verses 1 through 7. You can find this reading on page 613 of your pew Bible.

Who has believed what he has heard from us?

And to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed?

For he grew up before him like a young plant,
and like a root out of dry ground;

he had no form or majesty that we should look at him,
and no beauty that we should desire him.

He was despised and rejected by men,
a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief;
and as one from whom men hide their faces
he was despised, and we esteemed him not.

Surely he has borne our griefs
and carried our sorrows;

yet we esteemed him stricken,
smitten by God, and afflicted.

But he was pierced for our transgressions;
he was crushed for our iniquities;
upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace,
and with his wounds we are healed.

All we like sheep have gone astray;
we have turned—every one—to his own way;
and the Lord has laid on him
the iniquity of us all.

He was oppressed, and he was afflicted,
yet he opened not his mouth;
like a lamb that is led to the slaughter,
and like a sheep that before its shearers is silent,
so he opened not his mouth.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please join me in praying Psalm 22.

Leader: My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?
Why are you so far from saving me,
from the words of my groaning?

**People: O my God, I cry by day, but you do not answer,
and by night, but I find no rest.**

Leader: Yet you are holy,
enthroned on the praises of Israel.

**People: In you our fathers trusted;
they trusted, and you delivered them.**

Leader: To you they cried and were rescued;
in you they trusted and were not put to shame.

**People: But I am a worm and not a man,
scorned by mankind and despised by the people.**

Leader: All who see me mock me;
they make mouths at me; they wag their heads;

**People: "He trusts in the Lord; let him deliver him;
let him rescue him, for he delights in him!"**

Leader: Yet you are he who took me from the womb;
you made me trust you at my mother's breasts.

**People: On you was I cast from my birth,
and from my mother's womb you have been my God.**

Leader: Be not far from me,
for trouble is near,
and there is none to help.

**All: My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?
Why are you so far from saving me,
from the words of my groaning?**

**Leader: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ
according to Matthew.**

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Now when they drew near to Jerusalem and came to Bethphage, to the Mount of Olives, then Jesus sent two disciples, saying to them, "Go into the village in front of you, and immediately you will find a donkey tied, and a colt with her. Untie them and bring them to me. If anyone says anything to you, you shall say, 'The Lord needs them,' and he will send them at once." This took place to fulfill what was spoken by the prophet, saying,

"Say to the daughter of Zion,
'Behold, your king is coming to you,
humble, and mounted on a donkey,
on a colt, the foal of a beast of burden.'"

The disciples went and did as Jesus had directed them. They brought the donkey and the colt and put on them their cloaks, and he sat on them. Most of the crowd spread their cloaks on the road, and others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. And the crowds that went before him and that followed him were shouting, "Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!" And when he entered Jerusalem, the whole city was stirred up, saying, "Who is this?" And the crowds said, "This is the prophet Jesus, from Nazareth of Galilee."

Leader: The Gospel of the Lord

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.