

March 25, 2018

A reading from Isaiah

All Services

⁴The 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.

⁵The Lord GOD has opened my ear,
and I was not rebellious,
I did not turn backward.

⁶I 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.

⁷The 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;

⁸he who vindicates me is near.
Who will contend with me?
Let us stand up together.
Who are my adversaries?
Let them confront me.

^{9a}It is the Lord GOD who helps me;
who will declare me guilty?

The word of the Lord.

March 25, 2018

READING: Psalm 31

Early Service Only

“We will read the Psalm responsively.”

**L: ⁹Be gracious to me, O LORD, for I am in distress;
my eye wastes away from grief,
my soul and body also.**

**C: ¹⁰For my life is spent with sorrow,
and my years with sighing;
my strength fails because of my misery,
and my bones waste away.**

**L: ¹¹I am the scorn of all my adversaries,
a horror to my neighbors,
an object of dread to my acquaintances;
those who see me in the street flee from me.**

**C: ¹²I have passed out of mind like one who is dead;
I have become like a broken vessel.**

**L: ¹³For I hear the whispering of many —
terror all around! —
as they scheme together against me,
as they plot to take my life.**

**C: ¹⁴But I trust in you, O LORD;
I say, "You are my God."**

**L: ¹⁵My times are in your hand;
deliver me from the hand of my enemies and persecutors.**

**C: ¹⁶Let your face shine upon your servant;
save me in your steadfast love.**