

A reading from the book of Lamentations

My soul is bereft of peace,
I have forgotten what happiness is;
so I say, “Gone is my glory,
and my expectation from the Lord.”

Remember my affliction and my bitterness,
the wormwood and the gall!

My soul continually thinks of it
and is bowed down within me.

But this I call to mind, and therefore I have hope:
The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases;
his mercies never come to an end;
they are new every morning;
great is thy faithfulness.

“The Lord is my portion,” says my soul,
“therefore I will hope in him.”

The Lord is good to those who wait for him,
to the soul that seeks him.

It is good that one should wait quietly
for the salvation of the Lord.

The Word of the Lord.