

## **A reading from the second book of Samuel**

David proclaimed the words of this song to the Lord.

He said: “O Lord, my rock, my fortress,  
my deliverer, my God, my rock of refuge!

My shield, my saving horn, my stronghold,  
my refuge, my savior,  
from violence you keep me safe.

Praised be the Lord, I exclaim!

I have been delivered from my enemies.

In my distress I called out: Lord!

I cried out to my God;  
from his temple he heard my voice,  
my cry reached his ears.

For I kept the ways of the Lord;  
I was not disloyal to my God.

His laws were all before me,  
his decrees I did not cast aside.

I was honest toward him;  
I was on guard against sin.

So, the Lord rewarded my righteousness,  
the cleanness of my hands in his sight.

The Lord lives! Blessed be my rock!  
Exalted be God, the rock of my salvation.”

## **The Word of the Lord**