

## **A reading from Zephaniah**

On that day, it shall be said to Jerusalem:

Do not fear, Zion, do not be discouraged!

The LORD, your God, is in your midst,

a mighty savior,

who will rejoice over you with gladness,

and renew you in his love,

who will sing joyfully because of you,

as on festival days.

I will remove disaster from among you,

so that no one may recount your disgrace.

At that time, I will deal with all who oppress you;

I will save the lame, and assemble the outcasts;

I will give them praise

and renown in every land where they were shamed.

At that time, I will bring you home,

and at that time, I will gather you;

for I will give you renown and praise,

among all the peoples of the earth,

when I bring about your restoration

before your very eyes, says the LORD.

**The Word of the Lord**