

## FIRST READING **Zechariah 9:9-12**

A Reading from Zechariah

9Rejoice greatly, O daughter Zion!  
    Shout aloud, O daughter Jerusalem!  
Lo, your king comes to you;  
    triumphant and victorious is he,  
humble and riding on a donkey,  
    on a colt, the foal of a donkey.  
10He will cut off the chariot from Ephraim  
    and the war-horse from Jerusalem;  
and the battle bow shall be cut off,  
    and he shall command peace to the nations;  
his dominion shall be from sea to sea,  
    and from the River to the ends of the earth.

11As for you also, because of the blood of my covenant with you,  
    I will set your prisoners free from the waterless pit.  
12Return to your stronghold, O prisoners of hope;  
    today I declare that I will restore to you double.

The Word of the Lord.

## SECOND READING **Romans 7:15-25a**

A Reading from Romans.

15I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. 16Now if I do what I do not want, I agree that the law is good. 17But in fact it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within me. 18For I know that nothing good dwells within me, that is, in my flesh. I can will what is right, but I cannot do it. 19For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I do. 20Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within me.

21So I find it to be a law that when I want to do what is good, evil lies close at hand. 22For I delight in the law of God in my inmost self, 23but I see in my members another law at war with the law of my mind, making me captive to the law of sin that dwells in my members. 24Wretched man that I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death? 25aThanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!