

BIBLE READINGS - February 26, 2023
Revised Standard Version

The Joy of Forgiveness

A Psalm of David

- 32 Blessed is he whose transgression is forgiven,
whose sin is covered.
² Blessed is the man to whom the Lord imputes no iniquity,
and in whose spirit there is no deceit.
³ When I declared not my sin, my body wasted away
through my groaning all day long.
⁴ For day and night thy hand was heavy upon me;
my strength was dried up as by the heat of summer.
⁵ I acknowledged my sin to thee,
and I did not hide my iniquity;
I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the Lord";
then thou didst forgive the guilt of my sin.
⁶ Therefore let every one who is godly
offer prayer to thee;
at a time of distress, in the rush of great waters,
they shall not reach him.
⁷ Thou art a hiding place for me,
thou preservest me from trouble;
thou dost encompass me with deliverance.

Matthew 4:1-11

The Temptation of Jesus

4 Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. ² And he fasted forty days and forty nights, and afterward he was hungry. ³ And the tempter came and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread." ⁴ But he answered, "It is written,

'Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God.'

⁵ Then the devil took him to the holy city, and set him on the pinnacle of the temple, ⁶ and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down; for it is written, 'He will give his angels charge of you,' and 'On their hands they will bear you up, lest you strike your foot against a stone.'"

⁷ Jesus said to him, "Again it is written, 'You shall not tempt the Lord your God.'" ⁸ Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain, and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and the glory of them; ⁹ and he said to him, "All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me." ¹⁰ Then Jesus said to him, "Begone, Satan! for it is written,

'You shall worship the Lord your God and him only shall you serve.'"

¹¹ Then the devil left him, and behold, angels came and ministered to him.