A Reading from the Second Letter of Paul to Timothy

Beloved:

Remember Jesus Christ, raised from the dead, a descendant of David: such is my gospel, for which I am suffering, even to the point of chains, like a criminal.

But the word of God is not chained.

Therefore, I bear with everything
for the sake of those who are chosen,
so that they too may obtain the salvation
that is in Christ Jesus, together with eternal glory.

This saying is trustworthy:

if we have died with him
we shall also live with him;
if we persevere
we shall also reign with him.

But if we deny him

he will deny us.

If we are unfaithful

he remains faithful, for he cannot deny himself.

The Word of the Lord