

Scripture Reading for Jan 23
Leviticus 2:13
Isaiah 58:6-10
Matthew 5:13-16

Our first reading comes from the book of Leviticus, chapter 2 verse 13:

You must season all your grain offerings with salt. Do not omit the salt of your God's covenant from your grain offering. You must offer salt with all your offerings.

Our second reading comes from the prophet Isaiah, chapter 58 verses 6 through 10:

Isn't this the fast I choose:

releasing wicked restraints, untying the ropes of a yoke,

setting free the mistreated,

and breaking every yoke?

7 Isn't it sharing your bread with the hungry

and bringing the homeless poor into your house,

covering the naked when you see them,

and not hiding from your own family?

8 Then your light will break out like the dawn,

and you will be healed quickly.

Your own righteousness will walk before you,

and the Lord's glory will be your rear guard.

9 Then you will call, and the Lord will answer;

you will cry for help, and God will say, "I'm here."

If you remove the yoke from among you,

the finger-pointing, the wicked speech;

10 if you open your heart to the hungry,

and provide abundantly for those who are afflicted,

your light will shine in the darkness,

and your gloom will be like the noon.

Our third reading comes from the gospel according to Matthew chapter five verses 13 through 16:

"You are the salt of the earth. But if salt loses its saltiness, how will it become salty again? It's good for nothing except to be thrown away and trampled under people's feet. **14** You are the light of the world. A city on top of a hill can't be hidden. **15** Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a basket. Instead, they put it on top of a lampstand, and it shines on all who are in the house. **16** In the same way, let your light shine before people, so they can see the good things you do and praise your Father who is in heaven.

The word of God for the people of God. Thanks be to God.