

## READINGS FOR SUNDAY

March 19, 2022

### OLD TESTAMENT READING *Isaiah 42:14–21*

For a long time I have held my peace;  
I have kept still and restrained myself;  
now I will cry out like a woman in labor;  
I will gasp and pant.  
I will lay waste mountains and hills,  
and dry up all their vegetation;  
I will turn the rivers into islands,  
and dry up the pools.  
And I will lead the blind  
in a way that they do not know,  
in paths that they have not known  
I will guide them.  
I will turn the darkness before them into light,  
the rough places into level ground.  
These are the things I do,  
and I do not forsake them.  
They are turned back and utterly put to shame,  
who trust in carved idols,  
who say to metal images,  
“You are our gods.”  
Hear, you deaf,  
and look, you blind, that you may see!  
Who is blind but my servant,  
or deaf as my messenger whom I send?  
Who is blind as my dedicated one,  
or blind as the servant of the LORD?  
He sees many things, but does not observe them;  
his ears are open, but he does not hear.  
The LORD was pleased, for his righteousness’ sake,  
to magnify his law and make it glorious.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

**EPISTLE** *Ephesians 5:8–14*

For at one time you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light (for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true), and try to discern what is pleasing to the Lord. Take no part in the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. For it is shameful even to speak of the things that they do in secret. But when anything is exposed by the light, it becomes visible, for anything that becomes visible is light. Therefore it says,

“Awake, O sleeper,  
and arise from the dead,  
and Christ will shine on you.”

**Lector:** This is the Word of the Lord.

**People:** **Thanks be to God.**