## FIRST READING

Instruction: This is the first reading. Approach altar after the Opening Prayer when all people sit down.

## A Reading from the book of Isaiah

Comfort, give comfort to my people, says your God.

Do you not know or have you not heard?

The LORD is the eternal God, creator of the ends of the earth. He does not faint nor grow weary, and his knowledge is beyond scrutiny.

He gives strength to the fainting; for the weak he makes vigor abound. Though young men faint and grow weary, and youths stagger and fall, They that hope in the LORD will renew their strength, they will soar as with eagles' wings;

They will run and not grow weary, walk and not grow faint.

## The Word of the Lord

(Isaiah 40:1, 28-31)