



St. Francis
in the Fields
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Please read the lesson from the lectern.

THE LESSON

SUNDAY, AUGUST 23

5:00 PM

Isaiah 51:1-6

Reader says: **A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah**

Listen to me, you that pursue righteousness, you that seek the Lord. Look to the rock from which you were hewn, and to the quarry from which you were dug. Look to Abraham your father and to Sarah who bore you; for he was but one when I called him, but I blessed him and made him many. For the Lord will comfort Zion; he will comfort all her waste places, and will make her wilderness like Eden, her desert like the garden of the Lord; joy and gladness will be found in her, thanksgiving and the voice of song. Listen to me, my people, and give heed to me, my nation; for a teaching will go out from me, and my justice for a light to the peoples. I will bring near my deliverance swiftly, my salvation has gone out and my arms will rule the peoples; the coastlands wait for me, and for my arm they hope. Lift up your eyes to the heavens, and look at the earth beneath; for the heavens will vanish like smoke, the earth will wear out like a garment, and those who live on it will die like gnats; but my salvation will be for ever, and my deliverance will never be ended.

Reader: **The Word of the Lord.**

People: Thanks be to God.

Pause, then read the Psalm.

Reader says: Psalm 138 will be read responsively by whole verse.

Reader **I will give thanks to you, O Lord, with my whole heart; before the gods I will sing your praise.**

People I will bow down toward your holy temple and praise your Name, because of your love and faithfulness;

Reader **For you have glorified your Name and your word above all things.**

People When I called, you answered me; you increased my strength within me.

Reader **All the kings of the earth will praise you, O Lord, when they have heard the words of your mouth.**

People They will sing of the ways of the Lord, that great is the glory of the Lord.

Reader **Though the Lord be high, he cares for the lowly; he perceives the haughty from afar.**

People Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you keep me safe; you stretch forth your hand against the fury of my enemies; your right hand shall save me.

Reader **The Lord will make good his purpose for me; O Lord, your love endures for ever; do not abandon the works of your hands.**