

A Reading from the Book of Ecclesiastes

[Ecclesiastes 3:1-8]

For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven.

A time to be born, and a time to die;
a time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted.

A time to kill, and a time to heal;
a time to tear down, and a time to build up.

A time to mourn, and a time to laugh;
a time to weep, and a time to dance.

A time to scatter stones, and a time to gather them;
a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing.

A time to seek, and a time to lose;
a time to keep, and a time to cast away.

A time to rend, and a time to sew;
a time to be silent, and a time to speak.

A time to love, and a time to hate;
a time of war, and a time of peace.

The Word of the Lord.

All respond: Thanks be to God.