

A reading from the book of Proverbs 3:3-8, and Ephesians 4:1-8, 11-12

Proverbs 3:3-8

³ Do not let loyalty and faithfulness forsake you;

bind them round your neck,

write them on the tablet of your heart.

⁴ So you will find favour and good repute

in the sight of God and of people.

⁵ Trust in the LORD with all your heart,

and do not rely on your own insight.

⁶ In all your ways acknowledge him,

and he will make straight your paths.

⁷ Do not be wise in your own eyes;

fear the LORD, and turn away from evil.

⁸ It will be a healing for your flesh

and a refreshment for your body.

Ephesians 4:1-8

Unity in the Body of Christ

⁴ I therefore, the prisoner in the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called, ² with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, ³ making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. ⁴ There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling, ⁵ one Lord, one faith, one baptism, ⁶ one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all.

⁷ But each of us was given grace according to the measure of Christ's gift. ⁸ Therefore it is said,

‘When he ascended on high he made captivity itself a captive;
he gave gifts to his people.’

Ephesians 4:11-12

¹¹ The gifts he gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, ¹² to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ,

“The Word of God for the people of God, thanks be to God.”
OR *“Here ends the reading.”*