

## **A reading from the letter of St. Paul to the Romans**

Hope does not disappoint,  
because the love of God  
has been poured out into our hearts  
through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.

For Christ, while we were still helpless,  
yet died at the appointed time for the ungodly.

Indeed, only with difficulty does one die for a just person,  
though perhaps for a good person  
one might even find courage to die.

But God proves His love for us  
in that while we were still sinners Christ died for us.

How much more then,  
since we are now justified by His blood,  
will we be saved through Him from the wrath.

Indeed, if, while we were enemies,  
we were reconciled, will we be saved by His life.

Not only that,  
but we also boast of God  
through our Lord Jesus Christ,  
through whom we have now received reconciliation.

**The Word of the Lord.**