Reading 1, Jeremiah 1:4-5, 17-19

⁴ The word of <u>Yahweh</u> came to me, saying: ⁵ 'Before I formed you in the womb I knew you; before you came to birth I consecrated you; I appointed you as <u>prophet</u> to the nations.' ¹⁷ 'As for you, prepare yourself for action. Stand up and tell them all I command you. Have no fear of them and in their presence I <u>will</u> make you fearless. ¹⁸ For look, today I have made you into a fortified city, a pillar of iron, a wall of bronze to stand against the whole country: the <u>kings</u> of Judah, its princes, its priests and the people of the country. ¹⁹ They <u>will</u> fight against you but <u>will</u> not overcome you, for I am with you, <u>Yahweh</u> declares, to rescue you.'

Responsorial Psalm, *Psalms 71:1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 15-17*

¹ In you, Yahweh, I take refuge, I shall never be put to shame.
 ² In your saving <u>justice</u> rescue me, deliver me, listen to me and save me.

³ Be a sheltering rock for me, always accessible; you have determined to save me, for you are my rock, my fortress. ⁴ My God, rescue me from the clutches of the wicked, from the grasp of the rogue and the ruthless.

⁵ For you are my hope, Lord, my trust, Yahweh, since boyhood.
⁶ On you I have relied since my birth, since my mother's womb you have been my portion, the constant theme of my praise.

¹⁵ My lips shall proclaim your saving justice, your saving power all day long. ¹⁶ I <u>will</u> come in the power of <u>Yahweh</u> to tell of your justice, yours alone. ¹⁷ God, you have taught me from boyhood, and I am still proclaiming your marvels.

Reading 2, First Corinthians 12:31-13:13

³¹ Set your <u>mind</u> on the higher gifts. And now I am going to put before you the best way of all. ¹ Though I command languages both human and angelic -- if I speak without love, I am no more than a gong booming or a cymbal clashing. ² And though I have the power of prophecy, to penetrate all mysteries and knowledge, and though I have all the faith necessary to move mountains -- if I am without love, I am nothing. ³ Though I should give away to the poor all that I possess, and even give up my body to be burned -- if I am without love, it will do me no good whatever. ⁴ Love is always patient and kind; love is never jealous; love is not boastful or conceited, ⁵ it is never rude and never seeks its own advantage, it does not take offence or store up grievances. ⁶ Love does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but finds its joy in the truth. ⁷ It is always ready to make allowances, to trust, to hope and to endure whatever comes. ⁸ Love never comes to an end. But if there are prophecies, they will be done away with; if tongues, they will fall silent; and if knowledge, it will be done away with. ⁹ For we know only imperfectly, and we prophesy imperfectly; ¹⁰ but once perfection comes, all imperfect things will be done away with. ¹¹ When I was a child, I used to talk like a child, and see things as a child does, and think like a child; but now that I have become an adult, I have finished with all childish ways. ¹² Now we see only reflections in a mirror, mere riddles, but then we shall be seeing face to face. Now I can know only imperfectly; but then I shall know just as fully as I am myself known. ¹³ As it is, these remain: faith, hope and love, the three of them; and the greatest of them is love.

Gospel, Luke 4:21-30

²¹ Then he began to speak to them, 'This text is being fulfilled today even while you are listening.' ²² And he won the approval of all, and they were astonished by the gracious words that came from his lips. They said, 'This is Joseph's son, surely?'
²³ But he replied, 'No <u>doubt</u> you <u>will</u> quote me the saying, "Physician, heal yourself," and tell me, "We have heard all that happened in Capernaum, do the same here in your own country." ' ²⁴ And he went on, 'In <u>truth</u> I tell you, no <u>prophet</u> is ever accepted in his own country. ²⁵ 'There were many widows in Israel, I can assure you, in Elijah's day,

when <u>heaven</u> remained shut for three years and six months and a great famine raged throughout the land, ²⁶ but <u>Elijah</u> was not sent to any one of these: he was sent to a <u>widow</u> at Zarephath, a town in Sidonia. ²⁷ And in the <u>prophet</u> Elisha's <u>time</u> there were many suffering from virulent skin-diseases in Israel, but <u>none</u> of these was cured -- only Naaman the Syrian.' ²⁸ When they heard this everyone in the <u>synagogue</u> was enraged. ²⁹ They sprang to their feet and hustled him out of the town; and they took him up to the brow of the hill their town was built on, intending to throw him off the cliff, ³⁰ but he passed straight through the crowd and walked away.