<sup>1</sup> Praise is due to you, O God, in Zion, and to you shall vows be performed, <sup>9</sup>You visit the earth and water it; you greatly enrich it; the river of God is full of water; you provide the people with grain, for so you have prepared it. <sup>10</sup> You water its furrows abundantly, settling its ridges, softening it with showers, and blessing its growth. <sup>11</sup> You crown the year with your bounty; your wagon tracks overflow with richness. <sup>12</sup> The pastures of the wilderness overflow; the hills gird themselves with joy; <sup>13</sup> the meadows clothe themselves with flocks; the valleys deck themselves with grain; they shout and sing together for joy.

## 2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18 New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition

<sup>6</sup> As for me, I am already being poured out as a libation, and the time of my departure has come. <sup>7</sup> I have fought the good fight; I have finished the race; I have kept the faith. <sup>8</sup> From now on there is reserved for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will give me on that day, and not only to me but also to all who have longed for his appearing.

<sup>16</sup> At my first defense no one came to my support, but all deserted me. May it not be counted against them! <sup>17</sup> But the Lord stood by me and gave me strength, so that through me the message might be fully proclaimed and all the gentiles might hear it. So I was rescued from the lion's mouth. <sup>18</sup> The Lord will rescue me from every evil attack and save me for his heavenly kingdom. To him be the glory forever and ever. Amen.

## Luke 18:9-14 New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition

<sup>9</sup> He also told this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous and regarded others with contempt: <sup>10</sup> "Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. <sup>11</sup> The Pharisee, standing by himself, was praying thus, 'God, I thank you that I am not like other people: thieves, rogues, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. <sup>12</sup> I fast twice a week; I give a tenth of all my income.' <sup>13</sup> But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even lift up his eyes to heaven but was beating his breast and saying, 'God, be merciful to me, a sinner!' <sup>14</sup> I tell you, this man went down to his home justified rather than the other, for all who exalt themselves will be humbled, but all who humble themselves will be exalted."