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A reading from the first Book of Samuel

**The lamp of God was not yet extinguished,
and Samuel was sleeping in the temple of the LORD
where the ark of God was.**

**The LORD called to Samuel, who answered,
“Here I am.”**

He ran to Eli and said, “Here I am. You called me.”

**“I did not call you,” Eli said. “Go back to sleep.”
So he went back to sleep.**

**Again the LORD called Samuel, who rose and went to Eli.
“Here I am,” he said. “You called me.”**

**But he answered,
“I did not call you, my son. Go back to sleep.”**

**At that time Samuel was not familiar with the LORD,
because the LORD had not revealed anything to him as yet.**

The LORD called Samuel again, for the third time.

**Getting up and going to Eli, he said,
“Here I am. You called me.”**

Then Eli understood that the LORD was calling the youth.

**So he said to Samuel, “Go to sleep, and if you are called, reply,
‘Speak, LORD, for your servant is listening.’”**

**When Samuel went to sleep in his place,
the Lord came and revealed his presence,
calling out as before, “Samuel, Samuel!”**

Samuel answered, “Speak, for your servant is listening.”

The Word of the Lord.

A reading from the second Book of Maccabees

**Judas, the ruler of Israel, took up a collection among all his soldiers,
amounting to two thousand silver drachmas,
which he sent to Jerusalem to provide for an expiatory sacrifice.**

**In doing this he acted in a very excellent and noble way,
inasmuch as he had the resurrection of the dead in view;
for if he were not expecting the fallen to rise again,
it would have been useless and foolish to pray for them in death.**

**But if he did this with a view to the splendid reward
that awaits those who had gone to rest in godliness,
it was a holy and pious thought.**

**Thus he made atonement for the dead
that they might be freed from this sin.**

The Word of the Lord.

A reading from the book of Job

Job answered Bildad the Shuhite and said:

**“Oh, would that my words were written down!
Would that they were inscribed in a record:**

**That with an iron chisel and with lead
they were cut in the rock forever!**

**But as for me, I know that my Vindicator lives,
and that he will at last stand forth upon the dust;**

**Whom I myself shall see:
my own eyes, not another’s, shall behold him,**

**And from my flesh I shall see God;
my inmost being is consumed with longing.**

The Word of the Lord.

A reading from the Book of Psalms

**I bless the LORD who counsels me;
even in the night my heart exhorts me.**

**I set the LORD ever before me;
with him at my right hand I shall not be disturbed.**

**Therefore my heart is glad and my soul rejoices,
my body, too, abides in confidence;**

**Because you will not abandon my soul to the nether world,
nor will you suffer your faithful one to undergo corruption.**

**You will show me the path to life,
fullness of joys in your presence,
the delights at your right hand forever.**

The Word of the Lord.

A reading from the Book of Psalms

To you I lift up my soul, O LORD, my God.

In you I trust;

let me not be put to shame,

let not my enemies exult over me.

No one who waits for you shall be put to shame,

those shall be put to shame who heedlessly break faith.

Your ways, O LORD, make known to me;

teach me your paths,

Guide me in your truth and teach me,

for you are God my savior,

and for you I wait all the day.

Remember that your compassion, O LORD,

and your kindness are from of old.

The sins of my youth and my frailties remember not;

in your kindness remember me because of your goodness, O LORD.

Good and upright is the LORD;

thus he shows sinners the way.

He guides the humble to justice,

he teaches the humble his way.

All the paths of the LORD are kindness and constancy

toward those who keep his covenant and his decrees.

For your name's sake, O LORD,

you will pardon my guilt, great as it is.

When a man fears the LORD,

he shows him the way he should choose.

He abides in prosperity,

and his descendants inherit the land.

The Word of the Lord.

A reading from the Book of Proverbs

When one finds a worthy wife, her value is far beyond pearls.

**Her husband, entrusting his heart to her, has an unfailing prize.
She brings him good, and not evil, all the days of her life.**

**She obtains wool and flax and makes cloth with skillful hands.
She puts her hands to the distaff, and her fingers ply the spindle.**

**She reaches out her hands to the poor,
and extends her arms to the needy.**

**She fears not the snow for her household;
all her charges are doubly clothed.**

**She makes her own coverlets;
fine linen and purple are her clothing.**

**Her husband is prominent at the city gates
as he sits with the elders of the land.**

**She makes garments and sells them,
and stocks the merchants with belts.**

**She is clothed with strength and dignity,
and she laughs at the days to come.**

**She opens her mouth in wisdom,
and on her tongue is kindly counsel.**

**She watches the conduct of her household,
and eats not her food in idleness.**

**Her children rise up and praise her; her husband, too, extols her:
“Many are the women of proven worth,
but you have excelled them all.”**

**Charm is deceptive and beauty fleeting;
the woman who fears the LORD is to be praised.**

**Give her a reward of her labors,
and let her works praise her at the city gates.**

The Word of the Lord.

A reading from the Book of Proverbs

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and let her works praise her at the city gates.**

The Word of the Lord.

A reading from the Book of Ecclesiastes

**There is an appointed time for everything,
and a time for every affair under the heavens.**

**A time to be born, and a time to die;
a time to plant, and a time to uproot the plant.**

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

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

**A time to scatter stones, and a time to gather them;
a time to embrace, and a time to be far from embraces.**

**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.

A reading from the Book of Ecclesiastes

**There is an appointed time for everything,
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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.**

What advantage has the worker from his toil?

**I have considered the task which God has appointed
for men to be busied about.**

**He has made everything appropriate to its time,
and has put the timeless into their hearts,
without men's ever discovering, from beginning to end,
the work which God has done.**

**I recognized that there is nothing better
than to be glad and to do well during life.**

**For every man, moreover, to eat and drink
and enjoy the fruit of all his labor is a gift of God.**

**I recognized that whatever God does will endure forever;
there is no adding to it, or taking from it.**

The Word of the Lord.

A reading from the Book of Wisdom

**But the souls of the just are in the hand of God,
and no torment shall touch them.**

**They seemed, in the view of the foolish, to be dead;
and their passing away was thought an affliction
and their going forth from us, utter destruction.**

But they are in peace.

**For if before men, indeed, they be punished,
yet is their hope full of immortality;**

**Chastised a little, they shall be greatly blessed,
because God tried them
and found them worthy of himself.**

**As gold in the furnace, he proved them,
and as sacrificial offerings he took them to himself.**

**In the time of their visitation they shall shine,
and shall dart about as sparks through stubble;**

**They shall judge nations and rule over peoples,
and the LORD shall be their King forever.**

**Those who trust in him shall understand truth,
and the faithful shall abide with him in love:**

**Because grace and mercy are with his holy ones,
and his care is with the elect.**

The Word of the Lord.

A reading from the Book of Wisdom

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**Because grace and mercy are with his holy ones,
and his care is with his elect.**

The Word of the Lord.

A reading from the Book of Wisdom

The just man, though he die early, shall be at rest.

**For the age that is honorable comes not with the passing of time,
nor can it be measured in terms of years.**

**Rather, understanding is the hoary crown for men,
and an unsullied life, the attainment of old age.**

**He who pleased God was loved;
he who lived among sinners was transported—**

**Snatched away, lest wickedness pervert his mind
or deceit beguile his soul.**

**For the witchery of paltry things obscures what is right
and the whirl of desire transforms the innocent mind.**

**Having become perfect in a short while,
he reached the fullness of a long career;
for his soul was pleasing to the LORD,
therefore he sped him out of the midst of wickedness.**

**But the people saw and did not understand,
nor did they take this into account.**

**Because grace and mercy are with his holy ones,
and his care is with his elect.**

The Word of the Lord.

A reading from the Book of Wisdom

**Therefore I prayed, and prudence was given me;
I pleaded and the spirit of Wisdom came to me.**

**I preferred her to scepter and throne,
And deemed riches nothing in comparison with her,
nor did I liken any priceless gem to her;
Because all gold, in view of her, is a little sand,
and before her, silver is to be accounted mire.**

**Beyond health and comeliness I loved her,
And I chose to have her rather than the light,
because the splendor of her never yields to sleep.**

**Yet all good things together came to me in her company,
and countless riches at her hands;**

**And I rejoiced in them all, because Wisdom is their leader,
though I had not known that she is the mother of these.**

**Simply I learned about her,
and ungrudgingly do I share—
her riches I do not hide away;**

**For to men she is an unfailing treasure;
those who gain this treasure win the friendship of God.**

The Word of the Lord.

A reading from the Book of Wisdom

**For what man knows God's counsel,
or who can conceive what our LORD intends?**

**For the deliberations of mortals are timid,
and unsure are our plans.**

**For the corruptible body burdens the soul
and the earthen shelter weighs down the mind
that has many concerns.**

**And scarce do we guess the things on earth,
and what is within our grasp we find with difficulty;
but when things are in heaven, who can search them out?**

**Or who ever knew your counsel, except you had given Wisdom
and sent your holy spirit from on high?**

And thus were the paths of those on earth made straight.

The Word of the Lord.

A reading from the Book of Sirach

**The LORD sets a father in honor over his children;
a mother's authority he confirms over her sons.**

**He who honors his father atones for sins;
he stores up riches who reveres his mother.**

**He who honors his father is gladdened by children,
and when he prays he is heard.**

**He who reveres his father will live a long life;
he obeys the LORD who brings comfort to his mother.**

**My son, take care of your father when he is old;
grieve him not as long as he lives.**

**Even if his mind fail, be considerate with him;
revile him not in the fullness of your strength.**

**For kindness to a father will not be forgotten,
it will serve as a sin offering—it will take lasting root.**

The Word of the Lord.

A reading from the Book of Sirach

A sweet word multiplies friends and mitigates enemies.

And thankful words abound in a good man.

**Allow many to be at peace with you,
but allow one out of a thousand to be your counselor.**

**If you would obtain a friend,
test him before you accept him,
and do not trust him readily.**

**Nothing is comparable to a faithful friend,
and no weight of silver or gold is worth more than the goodness
of his fidelity.**

**A faithful friend is a medicine for life and immortality;
and those who fear the Lord will find one.**

**He who fears God will have a similar good friendship,
because his friend will be like him.**

**Son, from your youth receive instruction,
and then you will find wisdom,
even to your grey hairs.**

The Word of the Lord.

A reading from the Book of Sirach.

**Fear not death's decree for you;
remember, it embraces those before you,
and those after.**

**Thus God has ordained for all flesh;
why then should you reject the will of the Most High?**

**Whether one has lived a thousand years, a hundred, or ten,
in the nether world he has no claim on life.**

The Word of the Lord.

A reading from the Book of Isaiah

**On this mountain the LORD of hosts
will provide for all peoples.**

**On this mountain he will destroy
the veil that veils all peoples,**

**The web that is woven over all nations;
he will destroy death forever.**

**The Lord GOD will wipe away
the tears from all faces;**

**The reproach of his people he will remove
from the whole earth; for the Lord has spoken.**

On that day it will be said:

“Behold our God, to whom we looked to save us!

This is the LORD for whom we looked;

let us rejoice and be glad that he has saved us!”

The Word of the Lord.

A reading from the Book of Isaiah

This is what Isaiah, son of Amoz, saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

In days to come,

**The mountain of the Lord's house shall be established
as the highest mountain and raised above the hills.**

All nations shall stream toward it;

Many peoples shall come and say:

**“Come, let us climb the LORD’S mountain,
to the house of the God of Jacob,
That he may instruct us in his ways,
and we may walk in his paths.”**

**For from Zion shall go forth instruction,
and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.**

**He shall judge between the nations,
and impose terms on many peoples.**

**They shall beat their swords into plowshares
and their spears into pruning hooks;**

**One nation shall not raise the sword against another,
nor shall they train for war again.**

O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the LORD!

The Word of the Lord.

A reading from the Book of Isaiah

All you who are thirsty, come to the water!

You who have no money, come, receive grain and eat;

**Come, without paying and without cost,
drink wine and milk!**

**Why spend your money for what is not bread;
your wages for what fails to satisfy?**

**Heed me, and you shall eat well,
you shall delight in rich fare.**

**Come to me heedfully,
listen, that you may have life.**

**I will renew with you the everlasting covenant,
the benefits assured to David.**

**As I made him a witness to the peoples,
a leader and commander of nations,**

**So shall you summon a nation you knew not,
and nations that knew you not shall run to you,**

**Because of the LORD, your God, the Holy One of Israel,
who has glorified you.**

The Word of the Lord.

A Reading from the Book of Isaiah

**Yes, in joy you shall depart,
in peace you shall be brought back;**

**Mountains and hills shall break out in song before you,
and all the trees of the countryside shall clap their hands.**

**In place of the thornbush, the cypress shall grow,
instead of nettles, the myrtle.**

**This shall be to the LORD's renown,
an everlasting imperishable sign.**

The Word of the Lord.

A reading from the Book of Isaiah

**You, LORD, are our father,
our redeemer you are named forever.**

**Why do you let us wander, O LORD, from your ways,
and harden our hearts so that we fear you not?**

Return for the sake of your servants, the tribes of your heritage.

**Oh, that you would rend the heavens and come down,
with the mountains quaking before you.**

**While you wrought awesome deeds we could not hope for,
such as they had not heard of from of old.**

**No ear has ever heard, no eye ever seen,
any God but you doing such deeds
for those who wait for him.**

The Word of the Lord.

A reading from the Book of Lamentations

**My soul is deprived of peace,
I have forgotten what happiness is;
I tell myself my future is lost,
all that I hoped for from the LORD.
The thought of my homeless poverty
is wormwood and gall;
Remembering it over and over
leaves my soul downcast within me.
But I will call this to mind,
as my reason to have hope:
The favors of the LORD are not exhausted,
his mercies are not spent;
They are renewed each morning,
so great is his faithfulness.
My portion is the LORD, says my soul;
therefore will I hope in him.
Good is the LORD to one who waits for him,
to the soul that seeks him;
It is good to hope in silence
for the saving help of the LORD.**

The Word of the Lord.

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Ezekiel

**The hand of the LORD came upon me,
and he led me out in the spirit of the LORD
and set me in the center of the plain,
which was now filled with bones.**

**He made me walk among them in every direction
so that I saw how many they were
on the surface of the plain.**

How dry they were!

He asked me:

Son of man, can these bones come to life?

**“Lord GOD,” I answered,
“you alone know that.”**

Then he said to me:

**Prophecy over these bones, and say to them:
Dry bones, hear the word of the LORD!**

Thus says the Lord GOD to these bones:

**See! I will bring spirit into you,
that you may come to life.**

**I will put sinews upon you,
make flesh grow over you,
cover you with skin,
and put spirit in you
so that you may come to life
and know that I am the LORD.**

**I prophesied as I had been told,
and even as I was prophesying I heard a noise;
it was a rattling as the bones came together,
bone joining bone.**

**I saw the sinews and the flesh come upon them,
and the skin cover them,
but there was no spirit in them.**

Then he said to me:

**Prophecy to the spirit,
prophecy, son of man, and say to the spirit:**

Thus says the Lord GOD:

**From the four winds come, O spirit,
and breathe into these slain
that they may come to life.**

**I prophesied as he told me,
and the spirit came into them;
they came alive and stood upright, a vast army.**

Then he said to me:

**Son of man, these bones are the whole house of Israel.
They have been saying,
“Our bones are dried up, our hope is lost,
and we are cut off.”**

Therefore, prophecy and say to them:

Thus says the Lord GOD:

**O my people, I will open your graves
and have you rise from them,
and bring you back to the land of Israel.**

**Then you shall know that I am the LORD,
when I open your graves
and have you rise from them, O my people!**

The Word of the Lord.

A reading from the Book of Daniel

**I, Daniel, mourned,
and I heard this word from the LORD:**

**“At that time there shall arise
Michael, the great prince,
guardian of your people;**

**It shall be a time unsurpassed in distress
since nations began until that time.**

**At that time your people shall escape,
everyone who is found written in the book.**

**Many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake;
some shall live forever,
others shall be an everlasting horror and disgrace.**

**But the wise shall shine brightly
like the splendor of the firmament,**

**And those who lead the many to justice
shall be like the stars forever.”**

The Word of the Lord.

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

Then Peter proclaimed to them,

You who are Israelites, hear these words.

**Jesus the Nazorean was a man commended to you by God
with mighty deeds, wonders, and signs,
which God worked through him in your midst,
as you yourselves know.**

This man,

**delivered up by the set plan and foreknowledge of God,
you killed, using lawless men to crucify him.**

But God raised him up,

**releasing him from the throes of death,
because it was impossible for him to be held by it.**

For David says of him:

**‘I saw the Lord ever before me,
with him at my right hand I shall not be disturbed.
Therefore my heart has been glad and my tongue has exulted;
my flesh, too, will dwell in hope,
because you will not abandon my soul to the netherworld,
nor will you suffer your holy one to see corruption.
You have made known to me the paths of life;
you will fill me with joy in your presence.’**

The word of the Lord.

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

Peter proceeded to speak and said:

**“You know what has happened all over Judea,
beginning in Galilee after the baptism
that John preached,
how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth
with the Holy Spirit and power.**

**He went about doing good
and healing all those oppressed by the devil,
for God was with him.**

**We are witnesses of all that he did
both in the country of the Jews and in Jerusalem.
They put him to death by hanging him on a tree.**

**This man God raised on the third day and granted that he be
visible,
not to all the people, but to us,
the witnesses chosen by God in advance,
who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead.**

**He commissioned us to preach to the people
and testify that he is the one appointed by God
as judge of the living and the dead.**

**To him all the prophets bear witness,
that everyone who believes in him
will receive forgiveness of sins through his name.”**

The word of the Lord.

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

Then Peter proceeded to speak and said,

“In truth, I see that God shows no partiality.

Rather, in every nation

whoever fears him and acts uprightly is acceptable to him.

You know the word that he sent to the Israelites

as he proclaimed peace through Jesus Christ,

who is Lord of all,

He commissioned us to preach to the people

and testify that he is the one appointed by God

as judge of the living and the dead.

To him all the prophets bear witness,

that everyone who believes in him will receive

forgiveness of sins through his name.”

The word of the Lord.

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

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Rather, in every nation

whoever fears him and acts uprightly is acceptable to him.

You know the word that he sent to the Israelites

as he proclaimed peace through Jesus Christ,

who is Lord of all,

what has happened all over Judea,

beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John preached,

how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth

with the holy Spirit and power.

He went about doing good

and healing all those oppressed by the devil,

for God was with him.

We are witnesses of all that he did

both in the country of the Jews and (in) Jerusalem.

They put him to death by hanging him on a tree.

This man God raised (on) the third day

and granted that he be visible,

not to all the people, but to us,

the witnesses chosen by God in advance,

who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead.

He commissioned us to preach to the people

and testify that he is the one appointed by God

as judge of the living and the dead.

To him all the prophets bear witness,

that everyone who believes in him will receive

forgiveness of sins through his name.”

The Word of the Lord.

A reading from the Letter of St. Paul to the Romans

**Therefore, since we have been justified by faith,
we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ,
through whom we have gained access, by faith,
to this grace in which we stand,
and we boast in hope of the glory of God.**

**Not only that, but we even boast of our afflictions,
knowing that affliction produces endurance,
and endurance, proven character,
and proven character, hope,
and 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.**

The Word of the Lord.

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 to God through the death of his Son,
how much more, once 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.

A reading from the Letter of St. Paul to the Romans

Brothers and sisters:

**If, by the transgression of one person,
death came to reign through that one,
how much more will those who receive
the abundance of grace and of the gift of justification
come to reign in life through the one person Jesus Christ.**

**In conclusion,
just as through one transgression condemnation came upon all,
so through one righteous act acquittal and life came to all.**

**For just as through the disobedience of one person
the many were made sinners,
so through the obedience of one
the many will be made righteous.**

**The law entered in so that transgression might increase
but, where sin increased, grace overflowed all the more,
so that, as sin reigned in death,
grace also might reign through justification for eternal life
through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

The Word of the Lord.

A reading from the Letter of St. Paul to the Romans

Brothers and sisters:

**Are you unaware that we who were baptized into Christ Jesus
were baptized into his death?**

**We were indeed buried with him through baptism into death,
so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead
by the glory of the Father,
we too might live in newness of life.**

**For if we have grown into union with him through a death like his,
we shall also be united with him in the resurrection.**

**We know that our old self was crucified with him,
so that our sinful body might be done away with,
that we might no longer be in slavery to sin.**

For a dead person has been absolved from sin.

**If, then, we have died with Christ,
we believe that we shall also live with him.**

**We know that Christ, raised from the dead, dies no more;
death no longer has power over him.**

The Word of the Lord.

A reading from the Letter of St. Paul to the Romans

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death no longer has power over him.**

The Word of the Lord.

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans

Brothers and sisters:

For those who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God.

**For you did not receive a spirit of slavery
to fall back into fear,
but you received a spirit of adoption,
through which we cry, “Abba, Father!”**

**The Spirit itself bears witness with our spirit
that we are children of God,
and if children, then heirs,
heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ,
if only we suffer with him
so that we may also be glorified with him.**

**I consider that the sufferings of this present time are as nothing
compared with the glory to be revealed for us.**

**For creation awaits with eager expectation
the revelation of the children of God;
for creation was made subject to futility,
not of its own accord
but because of the one who subjected it,
in hope that creation itself would be set free
from slavery to corruption
and share in the glorious freedom of the children of God.**

**We know that all creation is groaning in labor pains
even until now;
and not only that, but we ourselves,
who have the firstfruits of the Spirit,
we also groan within ourselves as we wait for adoption,
the redemption of our bodies.**

The Word of the Lord.

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans

Brothers and sisters:

If God is for us, who can be against us?

**He did not spare his own Son but handed him over for us all,
will he not also give us everything else along with him?**

Who will bring a charge against God's chosen ones?

It is God who acquits us.

Who will condemn?

**It is Christ Jesus who died, rather, was raised,
who also is at the right hand of God,
who indeed intercedes for us.**

What will separate us from the love of Christ?

**Will anguish, or distress or persecution,
or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or the sword?**

No, in all these things,

we conquer overwhelmingly through him who loved us.

For I am convinced that neither death, nor life,

**nor angels, nor principalities,
nor present things, nor future things,
nor powers, nor height, nor depth,
nor any other creature**

**will be able to separate us from the love of God
in Christ Jesus our Lord.**

The Word of the Lord.

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans

Brothers and sisters:

**None of us lives for oneself,
and no one dies for oneself.**

**For if we live, we live for the Lord,
and if we die, we die for the Lord;
so then, whether we live or die,
we are the Lord's.**

**For this is why Christ died and came to life,
that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.**

The Word of the Lord.

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans

Brothers and sisters:

**None of us lives for oneself,
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**For if we live, we live for the Lord,
and if we die, we die for the Lord;
so then, whether we live or die,
we are the Lord's.**

**For this is why Christ died and came to life,
that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.**

**For we shall all stand before the judgment seat of God;
for it is written:**

**“As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bend before me,
and every tongue shall give praise to God.”**

So (then) each of us shall give an account of himself (to God).

The Word of the Lord.

A reading from the first Letter of Saint Paul to the Corinthians

**When I came to you, brothers,
proclaiming the mystery of God,
I did not come with sublimity
of words or of wisdom.**

**I came to you in weakness and fear
and much trembling,
and my message and my proclamation
were not with persuasive words of wisdom,
but with a demonstration of spirit and power,
so that your faith might rest not on human wisdom
but on the power of God.**

**“What eye has not seen, and ear has not heard,
and what has not entered the human heart,
what God has prepared for those who love him,”
this God has revealed to us through the Spirit.**

The Word of the Lord.

A reading from the first Letter of Saint Paul to the Corinthians

But I shall show you a still more excellent way.

**If I speak in human and angelic tongues but do not have love,
I am a resounding gong or a clashing cymbal.**

**And if I have the gift of prophecy
and comprehend all mysteries and all knowledge;
if I have all faith so as to move mountains but do not have love,
I am nothing.**

**If I give away everything I own,
and if I hand my body over so that I may boast
but do not have love,
I gain nothing.**

Love is patient, love is kind.

**It is not jealous,
love is not pompous, it is not inflated,**

**it is not rude, it does not seek its own interests,
it is not quick-tempered, it does not brood over injury,**

**it does not rejoice over wrongdoing
but rejoices with the truth.**

**It bears all things, believes all things,
hopes all things, endures all things.**

Love never fails.

**If there are prophecies, they will be brought to nothing;
if tongues, they will cease;
if knowledge, it will be brought to nothing.**

**For we know partially and we prophesy partially,
but when the perfect comes, the partial will pass away.**

**When I was a child, I used to talk as a child,
think as a child, reason as a child;
when I became a man, I put aside childish things.**

**At present we see indistinctly, as in a mirror,
but then face to face.**

**At present I know partially;
then I shall know fully, as I am fully known.**

**So faith, hope, love remain, these three;
but the greatest of these is love.**

The Word of the Lord.

A reading from the first Letter of Saint Paul to the Corinthians

**But now Christ has been raised from the dead,
the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep.**

**For since death came through a human being,
the resurrection of the dead
came also through a human being.**

**For just as in Adam all die,
so too in Christ shall all be brought to life,
but each one in proper order:
Christ the firstfruits;
then, at his coming, those who belong to Christ;**

**then comes the end,
when he hands over the kingdom to his God and Father,
when he has destroyed every sovereignty
and every authority and power.**

**For he must reign
until he has put all his enemies under his feet.**

**The last enemy to be destroyed is death,
for “he subjected everything under his feet.”**

**But when it says that everything has been subjected,
it is clear that it excludes the one
who subjected everything to him.**

**When everything is subjected to him,
then the Son himself will also be subjected
to the one who subjected everything to him,
so that God may be all in all.**

The Word of the Lord.

A reading from the first Letter of Saint Paul to the Corinthians

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the resurrection of the dead
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so too in Christ shall all be brought to life,
but each one in proper order:
Christ the firstfruits;
then, at his coming, those who belong to Christ.**

The Word of the Lord.

A reading from the first Letter of Saint Paul to the Corinthians

Behold, I tell you a mystery.

We shall not all fall asleep,

**but we will all be changed, in an instant, in the blink of an eye,
at the last trumpet.**

For the trumpet will sound,

**the dead will be raised incorruptible,
and we shall be changed.**

For that which is corruptible

**must clothe itself with incorruptibility,
and that which is mortal
must clothe itself with immortality.**

And when this which is corruptible

**clothes itself with incorruptibility
and this which is mortal
clothes itself with immortality,**

then the word that is written shall come about:

“Death is swallowed up in victory.

Where, O death, is your victory?

Where, O death, is your sting?”

The sting of death is sin,

and the power of sin is the law.

But thanks be to God

who gives us the victory

through our Lord Jesus Christ.

The Word of the Lord.

A reading from the first Letter of Saint Paul to the Corinthians

**And when this which is corruptible
clothes itself with incorruptibility
and this which is mortal
clothes itself with immortality,
then the word that is written shall come about:**

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Where, O death, is your victory?
Where, O death, is your sting?”**

**The sting of death is sin,
and the power of sin is the law.**

**But thanks be to God
who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.**

The Word of the Lord.

A reading from the second Letter of Saint Paul to the Corinthians

Brothers and sisters:

**But we hold this treasure in earthen vessels,
that the surpassing power may be of God
and not from us.**

**We are afflicted in every way, but not constrained;
perplexed, but not driven to despair;
persecuted, but not abandoned;
struck down, but not destroyed;
always carrying about in the body the dying of Jesus,
so that the life of Jesus
may also be manifested in our body.**

**For we who live
are constantly being given up to death
for the sake of Jesus,
so that the life of Jesus
may be manifested in our mortal flesh.**

**So death is at work in us,
but life in you.**

**Since, then, we have the same spirit of faith,
according to what is written,
“I believed, therefore I spoke,”
we too believe and therefore speak,
knowing that the one who raised the Lord Jesus
will raise us also with Jesus
and place us with you in his presence.**

**Everything indeed is for you,
so that the grace bestowed in abundance
on more and more people
may cause the thanksgiving to overflow
for the glory of God.**

The Word of the Lord.

A reading from the second Letter of Saint Paul to the Corinthians

Brothers and sisters:

**We too believe and therefore speak,
knowing that the one who raised the Lord Jesus
will raise us also with Jesus
and place us with you in his presence.**

**Everything indeed is for you,
so that the grace bestowed in abundance
on more and more people
may cause the thanksgiving to overflow
for the glory of God.**

**Therefore, we are not discouraged; rather,
although our outer self is wasting away,
our inner self is being renewed day by day.**

**For this momentary light affliction
is producing for us an eternal weight of glory
beyond all comparison,
as we look not to what is seen
but to what is unseen;
for what is seen is transitory,
but what is unseen is eternal.**

**For we know that if our earthly dwelling, a tent,
should be destroyed,
we have a building from God,
a dwelling not made with hands,
eternal in heaven.**

The Word of the Lord.

A reading from the second Letter of Saint Paul to the Corinthians

**For we know that if our earthly dwelling, a tent,
should be destroyed,
we have a building from God,
a dwelling not made with hands,
eternal in heaven.**

**So we are always courageous,
although we know that while we are at home in the body
we are away from the Lord,**

**for we walk by faith,
not by sight.**

**Yet we are courageous,
and we would rather leave the body
and go home to the Lord.**

**Therefore, we aspire to please him,
whether we are at home or away.**

**For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ,
so that each one may receive recompense,
according to what he did in the body,
whether good or evil.**

The Word of the Lord.

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Ephesians

**Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
who has blessed us in Christ
with every spiritual blessing in the heavens,
as he chose us in him, before the foundation of the world,
to be holy and without blemish before him.**

**In love he destined us for adoption to himself through Jesus Christ,
in accord with the favor of his will,
for the praise of the glory of his grace
that he granted us in the beloved.**

**In him we have redemption by his blood,
the forgiveness of transgressions,
in accord with the riches of his grace
that he lavished upon us.**

**In all wisdom and insight,
he has made known to us the mystery of his will
in accord with his favor that he set forth in him
as a plan for the fullness of times,
to sum up all things in Christ, in heaven and on earth.**

The Word of the Lord.

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Ephesians

**Set aside lying,
speak the truth,
each one with his neighbor.**

For we are all part of one another.

"Be angry, but do not be willing to sin."

Do not let the sun set over your anger.

Provide no place for the devil.

**Whoever was stealing,
let him now not steal,
but rather let him labor,
working with his hands,
doing what is good,
so that he may have something to distribute
to those who suffer need.**

**Let no evil words proceed from your mouth,
but only what is good,
toward the edification of faith,
so as to bestow grace upon those who listen.**

**And do not be willing to grieve the Holy Spirit of God,
in whom you have been sealed,
unto the day of redemption.**

**Let all bitterness and anger and indignation
and outcry and blasphemy
be taken away from you,
along with all malice.**

**And be kind and merciful to one another,
forgiving one another,
just as God has forgiven you in Christ.**

The Word of the Lord.

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Philippians

**Have among yourselves the same attitude
that is also yours in Christ Jesus,
Who, though he was in the form of God,
did not regard equality with God something to be grasped.
Rather, he emptied himself,
taking the form of a slave,
coming in human likeness;
and found human in appearance,
he humbled himself,
becoming obedient to death,
even death on a cross.
Because of this,
God greatly exalted him
and bestowed on him the name
that is above every name,
that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend,
of those in heaven and on earth
and under the earth,
and every tongue confess
that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.**

The Word of the Lord.

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Philippians

**More than that, I even consider everything as a loss
because of the supreme good of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord.
For his sake I have accepted the loss of all things
and I consider them so much rubbish,
that I may gain Christ and be found in him,
not having any righteousness of my own based on the law
but that which comes through faith in Christ,
the righteousness from God, depending on faith to know him
and the power of his resurrection
and the sharing of his sufferings
by being conformed to his death,
if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.**

**It is not that I have already taken hold of it
or have already attained perfect maturity,
but I continue my pursuit in hope that I may possess it,
since I have indeed been taken possession of by Christ Jesus.
Brothers, I for my part do not consider myself to have taken
possession.**

**Just one thing: forgetting what lies behind
but straining forward to what lies ahead,
I continue my pursuit toward the goal,
the prize of God's upward calling, in Christ Jesus.**

The Word of the Lord.

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Philippians

Brothers and sisters:

**But our citizenship is in heaven,
and from it we also await a savior,
the Lord Jesus Christ.**

**He will change our lowly body to conform with his glorified body
by the power that enables him also
to bring all things into subjection to himself.**

The Word of the Lord.

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Philippians

Rejoice in the Lord always.

I shall say it again: rejoice!

Your kindness should be known to all.

The Lord is near.

Have no anxiety at all,

but in everything, by prayer and petition,

with thanksgiving,

make your requests known to God.

Then the peace of God

that surpasses all understanding

will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

Finally, brothers and sisters,

whatever is true, whatever is honorable,

whatever is just, whatever is pure,

whatever is lovely, whatever is gracious,

if there is any excellence

and if there is anything worthy of praise,

think about these things.

Keep on doing what you have learned and received

and heard and seen in me.

Then the God of peace will be with you.

The Word of the Lord.

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Philippians

Rejoice in the Lord always.

I shall say it again: rejoice!

Your kindness should be known to all.

The Lord is near.

**Have no anxiety at all,
but in everything, by prayer and petition,
with thanksgiving,
make your requests known to God.**

**Then the peace of God
that surpasses all understanding
will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.**

The Word of the Lord.

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Colossians

Brothers and sisters:

**If then you were raised with Christ, seek what is above,
where Christ is seated at the right hand of God.**

Think of what is above, not of what is on earth.

For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God.

**When Christ your life appears,
then you too will appear with him in glory.**

The word of the Lord.

A reading from the first Letter of Saint Paul to the Thessalonians

**We do not want you to be unaware, brothers,
about those who have fallen asleep,
so that you may not grieve like the rest,
who have no hope.**

**For if we believe that Jesus died and rose,
so too will God, through Jesus, bring with him
those who have fallen asleep.**

**Indeed, we tell you this, on the word of the Lord,
that we who are alive,
who are left until the coming of the Lord,
will surely not precede those who have fallen asleep.**

**For the Lord himself, with a word of command,
with the voice of an archangel and with the trumpet of
God,
will come down from heaven,
and the dead in Christ will rise first.**

**Then we who are alive, who are left,
will be caught up together with them in the clouds
to meet the Lord in the air.**

Thus we shall always be with the Lord.

Therefore, console one another with these words.

The Word of the Lord.

A reading from the second Letter of Saint Paul to Timothy

Beloved:

**Remember Jesus Christ, raised from the dead,
a descendant of David:
such is my gospel,**

**for which I am suffering,
even to the point of chains,
like a criminal.**

But the word of God is not chained.

**Therefore, I bear with everything
for the sake of those who are chosen,
so that they too may obtain the salvation
that is in Christ Jesus,
together with eternal glory.**

**This saying is trustworthy:
If we have died with him
we shall also live with him;
if we persevere
we shall also reign with him.
But if we deny him
he will deny us.**

**If we are unfaithful he remains faithful,
for he cannot deny himself.**

The Word of the Lord.

A reading from the second Letter of Saint Paul to Timothy

**For I am already being poured out like a libation,
and the time of my departure is at hand.**

**I have competed well;
I have finished the race;
I have kept the faith.**

**From now on the crown of righteousness awaits me,
which the Lord, the just judge, will award to me on that day,
and not only to me,
but to all who have longed for his appearance.**

The Word of the Lord.

A reading from the second Letter of St. Paul to Timothy

I have competed well;

I have finished the race;

I have kept the faith.

From now on the crown of righteousness awaits me,

which the Lord, the just judge, will award to me on that day,

and not only to me,

but to all who have longed for his appearance.

The Word of the Lord.

A reading from the first Letter of Peter

Sanctify Christ as Lord in your hearts.

**Always be ready to give an explanation
to anyone who asks you for a reason for your hope,**

**but do it with gentleness and reverence,
keeping your conscience clear,
so that, when you are maligned,
those who defame your good conduct in Christ
may themselves be put to shame.**

**For it is better to suffer for doing good,
if that be the will of God,
than for doing evil.**

**For Christ also suffered for sins once,
the righteous for the sake of the unrighteous,
that he might lead you to God.**

**Put to death in the flesh,
he was brought to life in the spirit.**

The Word of the Lord.

A reading from the second Letter of Peter

**But do not ignore this one fact, beloved,
that with the Lord one day is like a thousand years
and a thousand years like one day.**

**The Lord does not delay his promise, as some regard “delay,”
but he is patient with you,
not wishing that any should perish
but that all should come to repentance.**

**But the day of the Lord will come like a thief,
and then the heavens will pass away with a mighty roar
and the elements will be dissolved by fire,
and the earth and everything done on it will be found out.**

**Since everything is to be dissolved in this way,
what sort of persons ought you to be,
conducting yourselves in holiness and devotion,**

**waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God,
because of which the heavens will be dissolved in flames
and the elements melted by fire.**

**But according to his promise
we await new heavens and a new earth
in which righteousness dwells.**

**Therefore, beloved, since you await these things,
be eager to be found without spot or blemish before him,
at peace.**

The Word of the Lord.

A reading from the second Letter of Peter

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**The Lord does not delay his promise, as some regard “delay,”
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**But according to his promise
we await new heavens and a new earth
in which righteousness dwells.**

**Therefore, beloved, since you await these things,
be eager to be found without spot or blemish before him,
at peace.**

The Word of the Lord.

A reading from the first Letter of Saint John

Beloved:

**See what love the Father has bestowed on us
that we may be called the children of God.**

Yet so we are.

**The reason the world does not know us
is that it did not know him.**

**Beloved, we are God's children now;
what we shall be has not yet been revealed.**

**We do know that when it is revealed we shall be like him,
for we shall see him as he is.**

The Word of the Lord.

A reading from the first Letter of Saint John

Beloved:

**We know that we have passed from death to life
because we love our brothers.**

Whoever does not love remains in death.

**Everyone who hates his brother is a murderer,
and you know that no murderer has eternal life
remaining in him.**

**The way we came to know love was that
he laid down his life for us;
so we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers.**

The Word of the Lord.

A reading from the first letter of St. John

**Beloved, let us love one another,
because love is of God;
everyone who loves is begotten by God
and knows God.**

**Whoever is without love does not know God,
for God is love.**

**In this way the love of God was revealed to us:
God sent his only Son into the world
so that we might have life through him.**

**In this is love:
not that we have loved God,
but that he loved us
and sent his Son as expiation for our sins.**

**Beloved, if God so loved us,
we also must love one another.**

The Word of the Lord.

A reading from the first Letter of Saint John

Beloved,

**if God so loved us,
we also must love one another.**

No one has ever seen God.

**Yet, if we love one another,
God remains in us,
and his love is brought to perfection in us.**

**This is how we know that we remain in him
and he in us,
that he has given us of his Spirit.**

**Moreover, we have seen and testify
that the Father sent his Son as savior of the world.**

**Whoever acknowledges that Jesus is the Son of God,
remains in him and he in God.**

**We have come to know and to believe
in the love God has for us.**

**God is love,
and whoever remains in love remains in God
and God in him.**

The Word of the Lord.

A reading from the Book of Revelation

**I, John, heard a voice from heaven say, “Write this:
Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on.”**

**“Yes,” said the Spirit, “let them find rest from their labors,
for their works accompany them.”**

The Word of the Lord.

A reading from the Book of Revelation

**Next I saw a large white throne and the one who was sitting on it.
The earth and the sky fled from his presence
and there was no place for them.**

**I saw the dead, the great and the lowly,
standing before the throne, and scrolls were opened.**

Then another scroll was opened, the book of life.

**The dead were judged according to their deeds,
by what was written in the scrolls.**

**The sea gave up its dead;
then Death and Hades gave up their dead.**

All the dead were judged according to their deeds.

**Then Death and Hades were thrown into the pool of fire.
(This pool of fire is the second death.)**

**Anyone whose name was not found written in the book of life
was thrown into the pool of fire.**

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth.

**The former heaven and the former earth had passed away,
and the sea was no more.**

The Word of the Lord.

A reading from the Book of Revelation

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth.

**The former heaven and the former earth had passed away,
and the sea was no more.**

**I also saw the holy city, a new Jerusalem,
coming down out of heaven from God,
prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.**

**I heard a loud voice from the throne saying,
“Behold, God’s dwelling is with the human race.**

**He will dwell with them and they will be his people
and God himself will always be with them (as their God).**

**He will wipe every tear from their eyes,
and there shall be no more death or mourning, wailing or pain,
(for) the old order has passed away.”**

**The one who sat on the throne said,
“Behold, I make all things new.**

**I (am) the Alpha and the Omega,
the beginning and the end.**

**To the thirsty I will give a gift
from the spring of life-giving water.**

**The victor will inherit these gifts,
and I shall be his God,
and he will be my son.”**

The Word of the Lord.

A reading from the Book of Revelation

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth.

**The former heaven and the former earth had passed away,
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**He will dwell with them and they will be his people
and God himself will always be with them (as their God).**

**He will wipe every tear from their eyes,
and there shall be no more death or mourning, wailing or pain,
(for) the old order has passed away.”**

**The one who sat on the throne said,
“Behold, I make all things new.**

**Then he said, “Write these words down, for they are trustworthy
and true.”**

He said to me, “They are accomplished.

**I (am) the Alpha and the Omega,
the beginning and the end.**

**To the thirsty I will give a gift
from the spring of life-giving water.**

**The victor will inherit these gifts,
and I shall be his God,
and he will be my son.”**

The Word of the Lord.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

**As Jesus was walking by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers,
Simon who is called Peter, and his brother Andrew,
casting a net into the sea;
they were fishermen.**

He said to them,

“Come after me, and I will make you fishers of men.”

At once they left their nets and followed him.

**He walked along from there and saw two other brothers,
James, the son of Zebedee, and his brother John.**

**They were in a boat, with their father Zebedee,
mending their nets.**

He called them,

**and immediately they left their boat and their father
and followed him.**

The Gospel of the Lord.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

**When he saw the crowds, Jesus went up the mountain,
and after he had sat down, his disciples came to him.**

He began to teach them, saying:

**“Blessed are the poor in spirit,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.**

**Blessed are they who mourn,
for they will be comforted.**

**Blessed are the meek,
for they will inherit the land.**

**Blessed are they who hunger and thirst for righteousness,
for they will be satisfied.**

**Blessed are the merciful,
for they will be shown mercy.**

**Blessed are the clean of heart,
for they will see God.**

**Blessed are the peacemakers,
for they will be called children of God.**

**Blessed are they who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.**

**Blessed are you when they insult you and persecute you
and utter every kind of evil against you (falsely) because of me.**

**Rejoice and be glad,
for your reward will be great in heaven.”**

The Gospel of the Lord.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Jesus told his disciples:

“Do not lay up for yourselves an earthly treasure.

Moths and rust corrode; thieves break in and steal.

**Make it your practice instead to store up heavenly treasure,
which neither moths nor rust corrode
nor thieves break in and steal.**

**Do not worry about your livelihood,
what you are to eat or drink or use for clothing.**

Is not life more than food?

Is not the body more valuable than clothing?

Look at the birds in the sky.

**They do not sow or reap,
they gather nothing into barns;
yet your heavenly Father feeds them.**

Are not you more important than they?

Which of you by worrying can add a moment to your lifespan?

As for clothing, why be concerned?

**Learn a lesson from the wildflowers.
They do not work; they do not spin.**

**Yet I assure you, not even Solomon in all his splendor
was arrayed like one of these.**

**Seek first the Kingdom of God and his way of holiness,
and all these things will be given to you besides.”**

The Gospel of the Lord.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

**While [Jesus] was saying these things to them,
an official came forward, knelt down before him, and said,
“My daughter has just died.**

But come, lay your hand on her, and she will live.”

Jesus rose and followed him, and so did his disciples.

**A woman suffering hemorrhages for twelve years
came up behind him and touched the tassel on his cloak.**

She said to herself,

“If only I can touch his cloak, I shall be cured.”

Jesus turned around and saw her, and said,

“Courage, daughter! Your faith has saved you.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

At that time Jesus said in reply,

**“I give praise to you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth,
for although you have hidden these things
from the wise and the learned
you have revealed them to the childlike.**

Yes, Father, such has been your gracious will.

All things have been handed over to me by my Father.

**No one knows the Son except the Father,
and no one knows the Father except the Son
and anyone to whom the Son wishes to reveal him.**

**“Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened,
and I will give you rest.**

**Take my yoke upon you and learn from me,
for I am meek and humble of heart;
and you will find rest for your selves.**

For my yoke is easy, and my burden light.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

**"The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner
who went out at dawn to hire laborers for his vineyard.
After agreeing with them for the usual daily wage,
he sent them into his vineyard.
Going out about nine o'clock,
he saw others standing idle in the marketplace,
and he said to them, 'You too go into my vineyard,
and I will give you what is just.' So they went off.
He went out again around noon,
and around three o'clock, and did likewise.
Going out about five o'clock, he found others standing around,
and said to them, 'Why do you stand here idle all day?'
They answered, 'Because no one has hired us.'
He said to them, 'You too go into my vineyard.'
When it was evening the owner of the vineyard said to his foreman,
'Summon the laborers and give them their pay,
beginning with the last and ending with the first.'
When those who had started about five o'clock came,
each received the usual daily wage.
So when the first came, they thought that they would receive more,
but each of them also got the usual wage.
And on receiving it they grumbled against the landowner, saying,
'These last ones worked only one hour,
and you have made them equal to us,
who bore the day's burden and the heat.'
He said to one of them in reply, 'My friend, I am not cheating you.
Did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage?
Take what is yours and go.
What if I wish to give this last one the same as you?
Or am I not free to do as I wish with my own money?
Are you envious because I am generous?'
Thus, the last will be first, and the first will be last."**

The Gospel of the Lord.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Jesus told his disciples this parable:

**“The kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins
who took their lamps
and went out to meet the bridegroom.**

Five of them were foolish and five were wise.

**The foolish ones, when taking their lamps,
brought no oil with them,
but the wise brought flasks of oil with their lamps.**

**Since the bridegroom was long delayed,
they all became drowsy and fell asleep.**

**At midnight, there was a cry,
‘Behold, the bridegroom! Come out to meet him!’**

Then all those virgins got up and trimmed their lamps.

**The foolish ones said to the wise,
‘Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.’**

**But the wise ones replied,
‘No, for there may not be enough for us and you.
Go instead to the merchants and buy some for yourselves.’**

**While they went off to buy it,
the bridegroom came
and those who were ready went into the wedding feast with him. Then
the door was locked.**

**Afterwards the other virgins came and said,
‘Lord, Lord, open the door for us!’**

**But he said in reply,
‘Amen, I say to you, I do not know you.’**

**Therefore, stay awake,
for you know neither the day nor the hour.**

The Gospel of the Lord.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Jesus said to his disciples:

**“When the Son of Man comes in his glory,
and all the angels with him,
he will sit upon his glorious throne,
and all the nations will be assembled before him.**

**And he will separate them one from another,
as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats.**

**He will place the sheep on his right
and the goats on his left.**

**Then the king will say to those on his right,
‘Come, you who are blessed by my Father.
Inherit the kingdom prepared for you
from the foundation of the world.**

**For I was hungry and you gave me food,
I was thirsty and you gave me drink,
a stranger and you welcomed me,
naked and you clothed me,
ill and you cared for me,
in prison and you visited me.’**

**Then the righteous will answer him and say,
‘Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you,
or thirsty and give you drink?**

**When did we see you a stranger and welcome you,
or naked and clothe you?**

When did we see you ill or in prison, and visit you?’

**And the king will say to them in reply,
‘Amen, I say to you,
whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine,
you did for me.’**

**Then he will say to those on his left,
‘Depart from me, you accursed,
into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels.**

**For I was hungry and you gave me no food,
I was thirsty and you gave me no drink,
a stranger and you gave me no welcome,
naked and you gave me no clothing,
ill and in prison, and you did not care for me.’**

**Then they will answer and say,
‘Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty
or a stranger or naked or ill or in prison,
and not minister to your needs?’**

**He will answer them,
‘Amen, I say to you,
what you did not do for one of these least ones,
you did not do for me.’**

**And these will go off to eternal punishment,
but the righteous to eternal life.”**

The Gospel of the Lord.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

Jesus told his disciples

**They will see 'the Son of Man coming in the clouds'
with great power and glory,
and then he will send out the angels and gather (his) elect
from the four winds,
from the end of the earth to the end of the sky.**

"Learn a lesson from the fig tree.

**When its branch becomes tender and sprouts leaves,
you know that summer is near.**

**In the same way, when you see these things happening,
know that he is near, at the gates.**

**"But of that day or hour, no one knows,
neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son,
but only the Father.**

**Be watchful! Be alert! You do not know when the time will come.
It is like a man traveling abroad.**

**He leaves home and places his servants in charge,
each with his work,
and orders the gatekeeper to be on the watch.**

**Watch, therefore;
you do not know when the lord of the house is coming,
whether in the evening, or at midnight,
or at cockcrow, or in the morning.**

**May he not come suddenly and find you sleeping.
What I say to you, I say to all: 'Watch!'"**

The Gospel of the Lord.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

They came to Capernaum and, once inside the house, he began to ask them, “What were you arguing about on the way?”

But they remained silent. They had been discussing among themselves on the way who was the greatest.

Then he sat down, called the Twelve, and said to them,

“If anyone wishes to be first, he shall be the last of all and the servant of all.”

Taking a child he placed it in their midst, and putting his arms around it he said to them,

“Whoever receives one child such as this in my name, receives me;

and whoever receives me, receives not me but the one who sent me.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

**At noon darkness came over the whole land
until three in the afternoon.**

And at three o'clock Jesus cried out in a loud voice,

“Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?”

which is translated,

“My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?”

Some of the bystanders who heard it said,

“Look, he is calling Elijah.”

**One of them ran, soaked a sponge with wine, put it on a reed,
and gave it to him to drink, saying,**

“Wait, let us see if Elijah comes to take him down.”

Jesus gave a loud cry and breathed his last.

The veil of the sanctuary was torn in two from top to bottom.

When the centurion who stood facing him

saw how he breathed his last he said,

“Truly this man was the Son of God!”

When the sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene,

Mary, the mother of James, and Salome

bought spices so that they might go and anoint him.

**Very early when the sun had risen, on the first day of the week,
they came to the tomb.**

They were saying to one another,

“Who will roll back the stone for us

from the entrance to the tomb?”

When they looked up,

they saw that the stone had been rolled back;

it was very large.

On entering the tomb they saw a young man

sitting on the right side, clothed in a white robe,

and they were utterly amazed.

He said to them, “Do not be amazed!

You seek Jesus of Nazareth, the crucified.

He has been raised; he is not here.

Behold the place where they laid him.

The Gospel of the Lord.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

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until three in the afternoon.**

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saw how he breathed his last he said,

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The Gospel of the Lord.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

**Soon afterward he journeyed to a city called Nain,
and his disciples and a large crowd accompanied him.**

**As he drew near to the gate of the city,
a man who had died was being carried out,
the only son of his mother,
and she was a widow.**

A large crowd from the city was with her.

**When the Lord saw her,
he was moved with pity for her and said to her,
“Do not weep.”**

**He stepped forward and touched the coffin;
at this the bearers halted, and he said,
“Young man, I tell you, arise!”**

**The dead man sat up and began to speak,
and Jesus gave him to his mother.**

**Fear seized them all, and they glorified God, exclaiming,
“A great prophet has arisen in our midst,” and
“God has visited his people.”**

**This report about him spread through the whole of Judea
and in all the surrounding region.**

The Gospel of the Lord.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

There was a scholar of the law who stood up to test him and said,

“Teacher, what must I do to inherit eternal life?”

Jesus said to him, “What is written in the law? How do you read it?”

He said in reply,

**“You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart,
with all your being, with all your strength, and with all your mind,
and your neighbor as yourself.”**

He replied to him, “You have answered correctly; do this and you will live.”

But because he wished to justify himself, he said to Jesus,

“And who is my neighbor?”

Jesus replied,

**“A man fell victim to robbers as he went down
from Jerusalem to Jericho.**

They stripped and beat him and went off leaving him half-dead.

A priest happened to be going down that road,

but when he saw him, he passed by on the opposite side.

Likewise a Levite came to the place, and when he saw him,

he passed by on the opposite side.

But a Samaritan traveler who came upon him

was moved with compassion at the sight.

He approached the victim,

poured oil and wine over his wounds and bandaged them.

**Then he lifted him up on his own animal, took him to an inn
and cared for him.**

The next day he took out two silver coins

and gave them to the innkeeper with the instruction,

‘Take care of him.

If you spend more than what I have given you,

I shall repay you on my way back.’

Which of these three, in your opinion, was neighbor to the robbers’ victim?”

He answered, “The one who treated him with mercy.”

Jesus said to him, “Go and do likewise.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

He said to (his) disciples,

"Therefore I tell you,

**do not worry about your life and what you will eat,
or about your body and what you will wear.**

**For life is more than food
and the body more than clothing.**

Notice the ravens:

**they do not sow or reap;
they have neither storehouse nor barn, yet God feeds them.**

How much more important are you than birds!

**Can any of you by worrying
add a moment to your lifespan?**

**If even the smallest things are beyond your control,
why are you anxious about the rest?**

Notice how the flowers grow.

**They do not toil or spin.
But I tell you, not even Solomon in all his splendor
was dressed like one of them.**

**If God so clothes the grass in the field
that grows today and is thrown into the oven tomorrow,
will he not much more provide for you, O you of little faith?**

**As for you,
do not seek what you are to eat and what you are to drink,
and do not worry anymore.**

**All the nations of the world seek for these things,
and your Father knows that you need them.**

**Instead, seek his kingdom,
and these other things will be given you besides.**

The Gospel of the Lord.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

Jesus said to his disciples:

**“Gird your loins and light your lamps
and be like servants
who await their master’s return from a wedding,
ready to open immediately when he comes and knocks.**

**Blessed are those servants
whom the master finds vigilant on his arrival.
Amen, I say to you, he will gird himself,
have them recline at table,
and proceed to wait on them.**

**And should he come in the second or third watch
and find them prepared in this way,
blessed are those servants.**

**Be sure of this:
if the master of the house had known the hour
when the thief was coming,
he would not have let his house be broken into.**

**You also must be prepared,
for at an hour you do not expect,
the Son of Man will come.”**

The Gospel of the Lord.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

Jesus said to his disciples,
"Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life
and what you will eat, or about your body and what you will wear.
For life is more than food and the body more than clothing.
Notice the ravens: they do not sow or reap;
they have neither storehouse nor barn, yet God feeds them.
How much more important are you than birds!
Can any of you by worrying add a moment to your lifespan?
If even the smallest things are beyond your control,
why are you anxious about the rest?
Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow.
They do not toil or spin.
But I tell you, not even Solomon in all his splendor
was dressed like one of them.
If God so clothes the grass in the field that grows today
and is thrown into the oven tomorrow,
will he not much more provide for you, O you of little faith?
As for you,
do not seek what you are to eat and what you are to drink, and do
not worry anymore.
All the nations of the world seek for these things,
and your Father knows that you need them.
Instead, seek his kingdom,
and these other things will be given you besides.
Do not be afraid any longer, little flock,
for your Father is pleased to give you the kingdom.
Sell your belongings and give alms.
Provide money bags for yourselves that do not wear out,
an inexhaustible treasure in heaven
that no thief can reach nor moth destroy.
For where your treasure is, there also will your heart be.

The Gospel of the Lord.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

**Then Jesus said, “A man had two sons,
and the younger son said to his father,
‘Father, give me the share of your estate that should come to me.’
So the father divided the property between them.**

**After a few days, the younger son collected all his belongings
and set off to a distant country
where he squandered his inheritance on a life of dissipation.**

**When he had freely spent everything,
a severe famine struck that country,
and he found himself in dire need.**

**So he hired himself out to one of the local citizens
who sent him to his farm to tend the swine.**

**And he longed to eat his fill of the pods on which the swine fed,
but nobody gave him any.**

**Coming to his senses he thought,
‘How many of my father’s hired workers
have more than enough food to eat,
but here am I, dying from hunger.**

**I shall get up and go to my father and I shall say to him,
‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you.**

**I no longer deserve to be called your son;
treat me as you would treat one of your hired workers.’**

So he got up and went back to his father.

**While he was still a long way off, his father caught sight of him,
and was filled with compassion.**

He ran to his son, embraced him and kissed him.

His son said to him,

**‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you;
I no longer deserve to be called your son.’**

But his father ordered his servants,

**‘Quickly bring the finest robe and put it on him;
put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet.**

Take the fattened calf and slaughter it.

Then let us celebrate with a feast,

**because this son of mine was dead, and has come to life again;
he was lost, and has been found.’**

Then the celebration began.

The Gospel of the Lord.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

**When they came to the place called the Skull,
they crucified him and the criminals there,
one on his right, the other on his left.**

**Now one of the criminals hanging there reviled Jesus, saying,
“Are you not the Messiah?
Save yourself and us.”**

**The other, however, rebuking him, said in reply,
“Have you no fear of God,
for you are subject to the same condemnation?”**

**And indeed, we have been condemned justly,
for the sentence we received corresponds to our crimes,
but this man has done nothing criminal.”**

**Then he said,
“Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.”**

**He replied to him,
“Amen, I say to you,
today you will be with me in Paradise.”**

The Gospel of the Lord.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

It was now about noon

**and darkness came over the whole land
until three in the afternoon
because of an eclipse of the sun.**

Then the veil of the temple was torn down the middle.

Jesus cried out in a loud voice,

**“Father, into your hands I commend my spirit”;
and when he had said this
he breathed his last.**

**Now there was a virtuous and righteous man named Joseph who,
though he was a member of the council,
went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus.**

After he had taken the body down,

**he wrapped it in a linen cloth
and laid him in a rock-hewn tomb
in which no one had yet been buried.**

**But at daybreak on the first day of the week
the women took the spices they had prepared
and went to the tomb.**

**They found the stone rolled away from the tomb;
but when they entered,
they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus.**

**While they were puzzling over this, behold,
two men in dazzling garments appeared to them.**

They were terrified and bowed their faces to the ground.

They said to them,

“Why do you seek the living one among the dead?

He is not here, but he has been raised.

The Gospel of the Lord.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

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After he had taken the body down,

he wrapped it in a linen cloth

and laid him in a rock-hewn tomb

in which no one had yet been buried.

The Gospel of the Lord.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

**Now that very day two of them were going to a village
seven miles from Jerusalem called Emmaus,
and they were conversing about all the things that had occurred.**

**And it happened that while they were conversing and debating,
Jesus himself drew near and walked with them,
but their eyes were prevented from recognizing him.**

**He asked them,
“What are you discussing as you walk along?”**

They stopped, looking downcast.

**One of them, named Cleopas, said to him in reply,
“Are you the only visitor to Jerusalem
who does not know of the things that have taken place there
in these days?”**

**And he replied to them,
“What sort of things?”**

**They said to him,
“The things that happened to Jesus the Nazarene,
who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God
and all the people,**

**how our chief priests and rulers both handed him over
to a sentence of death and crucified him.**

**But we were hoping that he would be the one to redeem Israel;
and besides all this, it is now the third day since this took place.**

**Some women from our group, however, have astounded us:
they were at the tomb early in the morning
and did not find his body;
they came back and reported
that they had indeed seen a vision of angels
who announced that he was alive.**

**Then some of those with us went to the tomb
and found things just as the women had described,
but him they did not see.”**

And he said to them,

“Oh, how foolish you are!

How slow of heart to believe all that the prophets spoke!

**Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things
and enter into his glory?”**

Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets,

he interpreted to them what referred to him in all the scriptures.

As they approached the village to which they were going,

he gave the impression that he was going on farther.

But they urged him,

“Stay with us, for it is nearly evening and the day is almost over.”

So he went in to stay with them.

And it happened that, while he was with them at table,

he took bread, said the blessing, broke it, and gave it to them.

With that their eyes were opened and they recognized him,

but he vanished from their sight.

Then they said to each other,

“Were not our hearts burning (within us)

while he spoke to us on the way and opened the scriptures to us?”

So they set out at once and returned to Jerusalem

**where they found gathered together the eleven and those with them
who were saying,**

“The Lord has truly been raised and has appeared to Simon!”

Then the two recounted what had taken place on the way

and how he was made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

The Gospel of the Lord.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

**Now that very day two of them were going to a village
seven miles from Jerusalem called Emmaus,
and they were conversing about all the things that had occurred.**

**And it happened that while they were conversing and debating,
Jesus himself drew near and walked with them,
but their eyes were prevented from recognizing him.**

**As they approached the village to which they were going,
he gave the impression that he was going on farther.**

**But they urged him,
“Stay with us, for it is nearly evening and the day is almost over.”
So he went in to stay with them.**

**And it happened that, while he was with them at table,
he took bread, said the blessing, broke it, and gave it to them.**

**With that their eyes were opened and they recognized him,
but he vanished from their sight.**

**Then they said to each other,
“Were not our hearts burning (within us)
while he spoke to us on the way and opened the scriptures to us?”**

**So they set out at once and returned to Jerusalem
where they found gathered together the eleven
and those with them who were saying,**

“The Lord has truly been raised and has appeared to Simon!”

**Then the two recounted what had taken place on the way
and how he was made known to them in the breaking of the bread.**

The Gospel of the Lord.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

**There was a wedding in Cana in Galilee,
and the mother of Jesus was there.**

Jesus and his disciples were also invited to the wedding.

**When the wine ran short, the mother of Jesus said to him,
“They have no wine.”**

And Jesus said to her,

**“Woman, how does your concern affect me?
My hour has not yet come.”**

His mother said to the servers,

“Do whatever he tells you.”

**Now there were six stone water jars there for Jewish ceremonial
washings, each holding twenty to thirty gallons.**

Jesus told them,

“Fill the jars with water.”

So they filled them to the brim.

Then he told them,

“Draw some out now and take it to the headwaiter.”

So they took it.

**And when the headwaiter tasted the water that had become wine,
without knowing where it came from**

(although the servants who had drawn the water knew),

the headwaiter called the bridegroom and said to him,

“Everyone serves good wine first,

and then when people have drunk freely, an inferior one;

but you have kept the good wine until now.”

**Jesus did this as the beginning of his signs in Cana in Galilee
and so revealed his glory,**

and his disciples began to believe in him.

The Gospel of the Lord.

God sent his Son so that the world might be saved through him.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

Jesus said to Nicodemus:

**“No one has gone up to heaven
except the one who has come down from heaven,
the Son of Man.**

**And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the desert,
so must the Son of Man be lifted up,
so that everyone who believes in him may have eternal life.”**

**For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son,
so that everyone who believes in him might not perish
but might have eternal life.**

**For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world,
but that the world might be saved through him.**

The Gospel of the Lord.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

Jesus answered the Jews and said to them:

Amen, amen, I say to you,

**whoever hears my word and believes in the one who sent me
has eternal life and will not come to condemnation,
but has passed from death to life.**

Amen, amen, I say to you,

**the hour is coming and is now here
when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God,
and those who hear will live.**

For just as the Father has life in himself,

so also he gave to his Son the possession of life in himself.

And he gave him power to exercise judgment,

because he is the Son of Man.

Do not be amazed at this,

**because the hour is coming in which all who are in the tombs
will hear his voice and will come out,
those who have done good deeds to the resurrection of life,
but those who have done wicked deeds to the resurrection of
condemnation.**

The Gospel of the Lord.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

Jesus said to the crowds:

**“Everything that the Father gives me will come to me,
and I will not reject anyone who comes to me,**

**because I came down from heaven
not to do my own will
but the will of the one who sent me.**

**And this is the will of the one who sent me,
that I should not lose anything of what he gave me,
but that I should raise it (on) the last day.**

**For this is the will of my Father,
that everyone who sees the Son and believes in him
may have eternal life,
and I shall raise him (on) the last day.”**

The Gospel of the Lord.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

**The Jews murmured about him because he said,
“I am the bread that came down from heaven,”
and they said, “Is this not Jesus, the son of Joseph?
Do we not know his father and mother?
Then how can he say,
‘I have come down from heaven’?”**

**Jesus answered and said to them,
“Stop murmuring among yourselves.**

**No one can come to me
unless the Father who sent me draw him,
and I will raise him on the last day.**

**It is written in the prophets:
‘They shall all be taught by God.’
Everyone who listens to my Father and learns from him
comes to me.**

**Not that anyone has seen the Father
except the one who is from God;
he has seen the Father.**

**Amen, amen, I say to you,
whoever believes has eternal life.**

I am the bread of life.

**Your ancestors ate the manna in the desert,
but they died;**

**this is the bread that comes down from heaven
so that one may eat it and not die.**

**I am the living bread that came down from heaven;
whoever eats this bread will live forever;
and the bread that I will give is my flesh
for the life of the world.”**

The Gospel of the Lord.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

Jesus said to the crowds:

**I am the living bread that came down from heaven;
whoever eats this bread will live forever;
and the bread that I will give is my flesh
for the life of the world.”**

**The Jews quarreled among themselves, saying,
“How can this man give us (his) flesh to eat?”**

**Jesus said to them, “Amen, amen, I say to you,
unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood,
you do not have life within you.**

**Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life,
and I will raise him on the last day.**

For my flesh is true food, and my blood is true drink.

**Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me
and I in him.**

**Just as the living Father sent me
and I have life because of the Father,
so also the one who feeds on me will have life because of me.**

This is the bread that came down from heaven.

**Unlike your ancestors who ate and still died,
whoever eats this bread will live forever.”**

**These things he said
while teaching in the synagogue in Capernaum.**

The Gospel of the Lord.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

**When Jesus arrived,
he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb
for four days.**

Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, only about two miles away.

**And many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary
to comfort them about their brother.**

**When Martha heard that Jesus was coming,
she went to meet him;
but Mary sat at home.**

**Martha said to Jesus,
“Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.
(But) even now I know that whatever you ask of God,
God will give you.”**

Jesus said to her, “Your brother will rise.”

**Martha said to him,
“I know he will rise, in the resurrection on the last day.”**

**Jesus told her,
“I am the resurrection and the life;
whoever believes in me, even if he dies, will live,
and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die.
Do you believe this?”**

**She said to him,
“Yes, Lord. I have come to believe that you are the Messiah,
the Son of God,
the one who is coming into the world.”**

The Gospel of the Lord.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

Martha said to Jesus,

“Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.

**(But) even now I know that whatever you ask of God,
God will give you.”**

Jesus said to her, “Your brother will rise.”

Martha said to him,

“I know he will rise, in the resurrection on the last day.”

Jesus told her,

**“I am the resurrection and the life;
whoever believes in me, even if he dies, will live,
and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die.
Do you believe this?”**

She said to him,

**“Yes, Lord. I have come to believe that you are the Messiah,
the Son of God,
the one who is coming into the world.”**

The Gospel of the Lord.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

**When Mary came to where Jesus was and saw him,
she fell at his feet and said to him,
“Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.”**

**When Jesus saw her weeping
and the Jews who had come with her weeping,
he became perturbed and deeply troubled, and said,
“Where have you laid him?”**

They said to him, “Sir, come and see.”

And Jesus wept.

So the Jews said, “See how he loved him.”

**But some of them said,
“Could not the one who opened the eyes of the blind man
have done something so that this man would not have died?”**

**So Jesus, perturbed again, came to the tomb.
It was a cave, and a stone lay across it.**

Jesus said, “Take away the stone.”

**Martha, the dead man’s sister, said to him,
“Lord, by now there will be a stench;
he has been dead for four days.”**

**Jesus said to her, “Did I not tell you that if you believe
you will see the glory of God?”**

So they took away the stone.

**And Jesus raised his eyes and said,
“Father, I thank you for hearing me.**

**I know that you always hear me;
but because of the crowd here I have said this,
that they may believe that you sent me.”**

**And when he had said this, he cried out in a loud voice,
“Lazarus, come out!”**

**The dead man came out, tied hand and foot with burial bands,
and his face was wrapped in a cloth.
So Jesus said to them, “Untie him and let him go.”**

**Now many of the Jews who had come to Mary
and seen what he had done
began to believe in him.**

The Gospel of the Lord.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

Jesus said to his disciples:

“The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified.

Amen, amen, I say to you,

**unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies,
it remains just a grain of wheat;
but if it dies, it produces much fruit.**

Whoever loves his life loses it,

**and whoever hates his life in this world
will preserve it for eternal life.**

Whoever serves me must follow me,

and where I am, there also will my servant be.

The Father will honor whoever serves me.

“I am troubled now.

Yet what should I say?

‘Father, save me from this hour’?

But it was for this purpose that I came to this hour.

Father, glorify your name.”

Then a voice came from heaven,

“I have glorified it and will glorify it again.”

The Gospel of the Lord

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

Jesus said to his disciples:

“The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified.

Amen, amen, I say to you,

**unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies,
it remains just a grain of wheat;
but if it dies, it produces much fruit.**

Whoever loves his life loses it,

**and whoever hates his life in this world
will preserve it for eternal life.**

Whoever serves me must follow me,

and where I am, there also will my servant be.

The Father will honor whoever serves me.

The Gospel of the Lord.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

Jesus said to his disciples:

“Do not let your hearts be troubled.

You have faith in God; have faith also in me.

In my Father’s house there are many dwelling places.

If there were not, would I have told you

that I am going to prepare a place for you?

And if I go and prepare a place for you,

I will come back again and take you to myself,

so that where I am you also may be.

Where I am going you know the way.”

Thomas said to him,

“Master, we do not know where you are going;

how can we know the way?”

Jesus said to him,

“I am the way and the truth and the life.

No one comes to the Father except through me.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

Jesus said to his disciples:

“As the Father loves me, so I also love you.

Remain in my love.

If you keep my commandments,

you will remain in my love,

just as I have kept my Father’s commandments

and remain in his love.

I have told you this so that my joy may be in you

and your joy may be complete.

This is my commandment:

love one another as I love you.

No one has greater love than this,

to lay down one’s life for one’s friends.

The Gospel of the Lord.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

Jesus raised his eyes to heaven and said:

**“Father, those whom you gave me
are your gift to me.**

**I wish that where I am they also may be with me,
that they may see my glory that you gave me,
because you loved me
before the foundation of the world.**

**Righteous Father, the world also does not know you,
but I know you,
and they know that you sent me.**

**I made known to them your name
and I will make it known,
that the love with which you loved me
may be in them
and I in them.”**

The Gospel of the Lord.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

So they took Jesus,

and carrying the cross himself

**he went out to what is called the Place of the Skull,
in Hebrew, Golgotha.**

There they crucified him,

**and with him two others, one on either side,
with Jesus in the middle.**

**Standing by the cross of Jesus were his mother and his mother's sister,
Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary of Magdala.**

**When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple there whom he loved,
he said to his mother, "Woman, behold, your son."**

Then he said to the disciple, "Behold, your mother."

And from that hour the disciple took her into his home.

**After this, aware that everything was now finished,
in order that the scripture might be fulfilled,
Jesus said, "I thirst."**

There was a vessel filled with common wine.

**So they put a sponge soaked in wine on a sprig of hyssop
and put it up to his mouth.**

**When Jesus had taken the wine, he said,
"It is finished."**

And bowing his head, he handed over the spirit.

Now since it was preparation day,

**in order that the bodies might not remain on the cross
on the sabbath,
for the sabbath day of that week was a solemn one,
the Jews asked Pilate that their legs be broken
and they be taken down.**

**So the soldiers came and broke the legs of the first
and then of the other one who was crucified with Jesus.**

**But when they came to Jesus and saw that he was already dead,
they did not break his legs,
but one soldier thrust his lance into his side,
and immediately blood and water flowed out.**

**An eyewitness has testified, and his testimony is true;
he knows that he is speaking the truth,
so that you also may (come to) believe.**

**For this happened so that the scripture passage might be fulfilled:
“Not a bone of it will be broken.”**

**And again another passage says:
“They will look upon him whom they have pierced.”**

**After this, Joseph of Arimathea,
secretly a disciple of Jesus for fear of the Jews,
asked Pilate if he could remove the body of Jesus.**

**And Pilate permitted it.
So he came and took his body.**

**Nicodemus, the one who had first come to him at night,
also came bringing a mixture of myrrh and aloes
weighing about one hundred pounds.**

The Gospel of the Lord.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

On the first day of the week,

**Mary of Magdala came to the tomb early in the morning,
while it was still dark,
and saw the stone removed from the tomb.**

But Mary stayed outside the tomb weeping.

**And as she wept, she bent over into the tomb
and saw two angels in white sitting there,
one at the head and one at the feet
where the body of Jesus had been.**

And they said to her,

“Woman, why are you weeping?”

**She said to them, “They have taken my Lord,
and I don’t know where they laid him.”**

When she had said this,

**she turned around and saw Jesus there,
but did not know it was Jesus.**

Jesus said to her,

**“Woman, why are you weeping?
Whom are you looking for?”**

She thought it was the gardener and said to him,

**“Sir, if you carried him away,
tell me where you laid him, and I will take him.”**

Jesus said to her, “Mary!”

She turned and said to him in Hebrew,

“Rabbouni,” which means Teacher.

Jesus said to her, “Stop holding on to me,

for I have not yet ascended to the Father.

But go to my brothers and tell them,

**‘I am going to my Father and your Father,
to my God and your God.’”**

Mary of Magdala went and announced to the disciples,

**“I have seen the Lord,”
and what he told her.**

The Gospel of the Lord.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

**At that time, Jesus revealed himself again to his disciples
at the Sea of Tiberias.**

He revealed himself in this way.

**Together were Simon Peter, Thomas, Nathanael, Zebedee's sons,
and two others of his disciples.**

Simon Peter said to them, "I am going fishing."

They said to him, "We also will come with you."

**So they went out and got into the boat,
but that night they caught nothing.**

**When it was already dawn, Jesus was standing on the shore;
but the disciples did not realize that it was Jesus.**

Jesus said to them, "Children, have you caught anything to eat?"

They answered him, "No."

**So he said to them, "Cast the net over the right side of the boat
and you will find something."**

**So they cast it, and were not able to pull it in
because of the number of fish.**

So the disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, "It is the Lord."

**When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord,
he tucked in his garment, for he was lightly clad,
and jumped into the sea.**

**The other disciples came in the boat, for they were not far from shore, only
about a hundred yards, dragging the net with the fish.**

**When they climbed out on shore,
they saw a charcoal fire with fish on it and bread.**

Jesus said to them, "Bring some of the fish you just caught."

**So Simon Peter went over and dragged the net ashore
full of one hundred fifty-three large fish.**

Even though there were so many, the net was not torn.

Jesus said to them, "Come, have breakfast."

**And none of the disciples dared to ask him, "Who are you?"
because they realized it was the Lord.**

**Jesus came over and took the bread and gave it to them,
and in like manner the fish.**

**This was now the third time Jesus was revealed to his disciples
after being raised from the dead.**

The Gospel of the Lord.