

Liturgy of the Word

Old Testament Reading

1. Wisdom 3:1-9 or 3:1-6. 9

A Reading from the book of Wisdom

[short form]

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. 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.

Or

[longt form]

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

Resp: Thanks be to God

Liturgy of the Word

Old Testament Reading

2. Lamentations 3:17-26

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

Resp: Thanks be to God

Liturgy of the Word

Old Testament Reading

3. Ecclesiastes (3:1-11)

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 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.

The Word of the Lord

Resp: Thanks be to God

Liturgy of the Word

Old Testament Reading

4. Ruth 1,8-17

A reading from the book of Ruth

Naomi said to her two daughters-in-law, "Go back, each of you, to your mother's house. And may the Lord be kind to you, as you have been kind to those who have died and to me." And she kissed them but they started to weep aloud. Then Orpah kissed her mother-in-law and went back to her people. But Ruth clung to her.

Naomi said to her, "Look, your sister-in-law returns to her people and her gods. You too must return. Go after her."

But Ruth replied, "Don't ask me to leave you. Wherever you go, I will go; wherever you live, I will live. Your people shall be my people, and your God, my God. Wherever you die, I will die and there I will be buried. And may the Lord deal severely with me if even death should come between us.

The Word of the Lord

Resp: Thanks be to God

Liturgy of the Word
Old Testament Reading

5. Isaiah 49:8, 14-16

A reading from the book of Isaiah

Thus says the Lord: "In a time of favour I have answered you, on a day of salvation I have helped you". But Zion said, "The Lord has forsaken me, my Lord has forgotten me".

"Can a woman forget her child at the breast, or show no compassion for the child of her womb? Even these may forget, yet I will not forget you. Look, I have written your name on the palm of my hand."

The Word of the Lord

Resp: Thanks be to God

Liturgy of the Word
Old Testament Reading

6. Isaiah 12:2-6

A Reading from the Prophet Isaiah.

Truly, God is my salvation,
I trust, I shall not fear,
for the Lord is my strength, my song,
he became my Saviour.
With joy you will draw water
from the wells of salvation.
Give thanks to the Lord, give praise to his name!
Make his mighty deeds known to the peoples!
Declare the greatness of his name!
Sing a psalm to the Lord,
for he has done glorious deeds,
make them known to all the earth!
People of Zion, sing and shout for joy
for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.

The Word of the Lord

Resp: Thanks be to God

Liturgy of the Word
Old Testament Reading

7. Job 19:1, 23-27

A reading from the book of Job

Then Job answered 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

Resp: Thanks be to God

Liturgy of the Word

Old Testament Reading

8. Wisdom 4:7-14

A reading from the book of Wisdom

But 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.

The Word of the Lord

Resp: Thanks be to God

Liturgy of the Word
Old Testament Reading

9. Daniel 12:1-3

A reading from the book of Daniel

I, Daniel, mourned and I heard this word of 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

Resp: Thanks be to God

Liturgy of the Word
Old Testament Reading

10. Maccabees 12:43-46

A reading from the book of Maccabees

Judas [the ruler of Israel] then 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

Resp: Thanks be to God

Liturgy of the Word
Old Testament Reading

11. Isaiah 25:6-9

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

Resp: Thanks be to God

Liturgy of the Word

Old Testament Reading

12. Samuel 19:1-5

A reading from the book of Samuel

King David went up to the room over the gate and burst into tears, and weeping said, "My son Absalom! My son! My son Absalom! Would I had died in your place! Absalom, my son, my son!" Word was brought to Joab, "The king is now weeping and mourning for Absalom". And the day's victory was turned to mourning for all the troops, because they learned that the king was grieving for his son. And the troops returned stealthily that day to the town, as troops creep back ashamed when routed in battle. The king had veiled his face and was crying aloud, "My son Absalom! Absalom, my son, my son!"

The Word of the Lord

Resp: Thanks be to God

Liturgy of the Word

Responsorial Psalms

1. Psalm 23:1-6

Response:: The Lord is my shepherd; ther is nothing I shall want

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.
In verdant pastures he gives me repose;
Beside restful waters he leads me;
He refreshes my soul.
He guides me in right paths.
For his name's sake.

Response:: The Lord is my shepherd; ther is nothing I shall want

Even though I walk in the dark valley
I fear no evil; for you are at my side
With your rod and your staff
That give me courage.

Response:: The Lord is my shepherd; ther is nothing I shall want

You spread the table before me
In the sight of my foes;
You anoint my head with oil;
My cup overflows.

Response:: The Lord is my shepherd; ther is nothing I shall want

Only goodness and kindness follow me
All the days of my life;
And I shall dwell in the house of the Lord
For years to come.

Response:: The Lord is my shepherd; ther is nothing I shall want

Liturgy of the Word
Responsorial Psalms

2. Psalm 25:6, 7b, 17-18, 20-21

Response:: To you, O Lord, I lift my soul.

Remember that your compassion, O Lord,
And your kindness are from of old,
In your kindness remember me,
Because of your goodness, O lord.

Response:: To you, O Lord, I lift my soul.

Relieve the troubles of my heart;
And bring me out of my distress.
Put an end to my affliction and my suffering;
And take away all my sins.

Response:: To you, O Lord, I lift my soul.

Preserve my life and rescue me;
Let me not be put to shame, for I take refuge in you.
Let integrity and uprightness preserve me,
Because I wait for you, O Lord.

Response:: To you, O Lord, I lift my soul.

Liturgy of the Word
Responsorial Psalm

3. Psalm 27:1, 4, 7 and 8b and 9a, 13-14

Response: The Lord is my light and my salvation

The Lord is my light and my salvation;
whom should I fear?

The Lord is my life's refuge;
Of whom should I be afraid?

Response: The Lord is my light and my salvation

One thing I ask of the Lord,
This I seek:

To dwell in the house of the Lord
All the days of my life,

That I may gaze on the loveliness of the Lord
And contemplate his temple.

Response: The Lord is my light and my salvation

Hear, O lord, the sound of my call:
Have pity on me, and answer me.
Your presence, O Lord, I seek.
Hide not your face from me.

Response: The Lord is my light and my salvation

I believe that I shall see the bounty of the Lord
In the land of the living.

Wait for the Lord with courage;
Be stouthearted, and wait for the Lord.

Response: The Lord is my light and my salvation

Liturgy of the Word
Responsorial Psalm

6. Psalm 103:8, 10, 13-14, 15-16, 17-18

Response: The Lord is kind and merciful.

Merciful and gracious is the Lord,
Slow to anger, and abounding in kindness.
Not according to our sins does he deal with us,
Nor does he requite us according to our crimes.

Response: The Lord is kind and merciful.

As a father has compassion on his children,
So the Lord has compassion on those who fear him.
For he knows how we are formed,
He remembers that we are dust.

Response: The Lord is kind and merciful.

Man's days are like those of grass,
like a flower of the field he blooms;
The wind sweeps over him and he is gone,
And his place knows him no more.

Response: The Lord is kind and merciful.

But the kindness of the Lord is from eternity
To eternity toward those who fear him,
And his justice toward children's children
among those who keep his covenant
and remember to fulfill his precepts.

Response: The Lord is kind and merciful.

Liturgy of the Word
Responsorial Psalm

7. Psalm 116:5,6,10-11,15-16a,c

Response: I will walk in the presence of the Lord in the land of the
living.

Gracious is the Lord and just;
Yes our God is merciful

Response: I will walk in the presence of the Lord in the land of the
living.

The Lord keeps the little ones;
I was brought low, and he saved me.

Response: I will walk in the presence of the Lord in the land of the
living.

I believed, even when I said, I am greatly afflicted”;
I said in my alarm,
“No man is dependable.”

Response: I will walk in the presence of the Lord in the land of the
living.

Precious in the eyes of the Lord
Is the death of his faithful ones.
O Lord, I am your servant,
You have loosed my bonds.

Response: I will walk in the presence of the Lord in the land of the
living.

Liturgy of the Word
Responsorial Psalm

8. Psalm 122:1-2,4-5,6-7,8-9

Response: Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.

I rejoiced because they said to me,
We will go up to the house of the Lord.”

And now we have set foot
Within your gates, O Jerusalem.
I rejoiced when I heard them say:

Response: Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.

To it the tribes go up,
the tribes of the Lord.

According to the decree for Israel,
To give thanks to the name of the Lord.

In it are set up judgement seats,
Seats for the house of David.

Response: Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.

Pray for the peace of Jerusalem!
May those who love you prosper!
May peace be within your walls,
Prosperity in your buildings.

Response: Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.

Because of my relatives and friends
I will say, “Peace be within you!”
Because of the house of the Lord, our God,
I will pray for your good.

Response: Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.

Liturgy of the Word

New Testament Reading

1. Romans 5:1-11

A reading from the letter of 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.

Resp: Thanks be to God.

Liturgy of the Word

New Testament Reading

2. Romans 5:17-21

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans

For 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

Resp: Thanks be to God.

Liturgy of the Word

New Testament Reading

3. Romans 6:3-4. 8-9 or 6:3-9

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans

[short form]

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. 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.

OR

[long form]

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.

Resp: Thanks be to God.

Liturgy of the Word

New Testament Reading

4. Romans 8:14-23

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans

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 first fruits of the Spirit, we also groan within ourselves as we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies.

The Word of the Lord

Resp: Thanks be to God

Liturgy of the Word
New Testament Reading

5. Romans 14:7-12

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans

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. 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

Resp: Thanks be to God.

Liturgy of the Word

New Testament Reading

6. Romans 8:31-35, 37-39

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans

If God is for us, who can be against us? Since God did not spare his own Son, but gave him up to benefit us all, we may be certain, after such a gift, that he will not refuse anything he can give. Could anyone accuse those that God has chosen? When God acquits, could anyone condemn? Could Jesus Christ? No! He not only died for us - he rose from the dead, and there at God's right hand he stands and pleads for us.

What will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or the sword? No! In all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor anything that exists, nor anything still to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God made visible in Christ Jesus our Lord.

The Word of the Lord

Resp: Thanks be to God.

Liturgy of the Word

New Testament Reading

7. 1 Corinthians 15:20-28

A reading from the first letter of Paul to the Corinthians

But now Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits 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 first fruits; 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

Resp: Thanks be to God

Liturgy of the Word

New Testament Reading

8. 1 Corinthians 15:51-57

A reading from the first letter of 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

Resp: Thanks be to God.

Liturgy of the Word

New Testament Reading

9. 2 Corinthians 4:14-5:1

A reading from the second letter of Paul to the Corinthians

We know that the one who raised the Lord Jesus will raise us also with Jesus, and bring us with you into his presence. Yes, everything is for your sake, so that grace, as it extends to more and more people, may increase thanksgiving, to the glory of God.

So we do not lose heart. Even though our outer nature is wasting away, our inner nature is being renewed day by day. For this slight momentary affliction is preparing us for an eternal weight of glory beyond all measure, because we look not at what can be seen, but at what cannot be seen; for what can be seen is temporary, but what cannot be seen is eternal.

For we know that if the earthly tent we live in is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.

The Word of the Lord

Resp: Thanks be to God.

Liturgy of the Word
New Testament Reading

10. 2 Corinthians 5:1.6-10

A reading from the second letter of 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

Thanks be to God

Liturgy of the Word
New Testament Reading

11. Philippians 3:20-21

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Philippians

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

Resp: Thanks be to God

Liturgy of the Word

New Testament Reading

12. 2 Timothy 2:8-13

A reading from the second letter of Paul to Timothy

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

Resp: Thanks be to God

Liturgy of the Word
New Testament Reading

13. 2 Timothy 4:6-8

A reading from the second letter of Paul to Timothy

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

The Word of the Lord

Resp: Thanks be to God

Liturgy of the Word

New Testament Reading

14. 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

A reading from the first letter of 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

Resp: Thanks be to God

Liturgy of the Word
New Testament Reading

15. 1 St. John 3:1-2

A reading from the first letter of John

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

Resp: Thanks be to God

Liturgy of the Word

New Testament Reading

16. St. Peter 1:3-9

A reading from the book of St. Peter

Blessed be God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who in his great mercy has given us a new birth as his sons and daughters, by raising Jesus Christ from the dead, so that we can have a sure hope and the promise of an inheritance that can never be spoilt or soiled and never fade away, because it is being kept for you in the heavens. Through your faith, God's power will guard you until the salvation which has been prepared is revealed at the end of the time. This is a cause of great joy for you, even though you may for a short time have to bear being plagued by all sorts of trials; so that, when Jesus Christ is revealed, your faith will have been tested and proved like gold - only it is more precious than gold, which is corruptible even though it bears testing by fire - and then you will have praise and glory and honour. You did not see him, yet you love him; and still without seeing him, you are already filled with a joy so glorious that it cannot be described, because you believe; and you are sure of the end to which your faith looks forward, that is, the salvation of your souls.

The Word of the Lord

Resp: Thanks be to God

Liturgy of the Word
New Testament Reading

17. Revelation 14:13

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

Resp: Thanks be to God

Liturgy of the Word
New Testament Reading

18. Revelation 21:1-5, 6-7

A reading from the book of Revelation

I, John, 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

Resp: Thanks be to God

Liturgy of the Word
New Testament Reading

19. Hebrews 11:1-2, 13-16

A reading from the book of Hebrews

Only faith can guarantee the blessings that we hope for, or prove the existence of the realities that at present remain unseen. It was for faith that our ancestors were commended.

All these died in faith, before receiving any of the things that had been promised, but they saw them in the far distance and welcomed them, recognizing that they were only strangers and nomads on earth. People who use such terms about themselves make it quite plain that they are in search of their real homeland. They can hardly have meant the country they came from, since they had the opportunity to go back to it; but in fact they were longing for a better homeland, their heavenly homeland.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Resp: Thanks be to God

Liturgy of the Word

Gospel Reading

1. Matthew 5:1-12

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

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

When Jesus saw the crowds, he 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. Thus they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

The gospel of the Lord.

Resp: Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

Liturgy of the Word

Gospel Reading

2. Matthew 11:25-30

Come to me and I will give you rest.

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.

Resp: Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

Liturgy of the Word

Gospel Reading

3. Matthew 25:1-13

Behold the bridegroom! Come out to him!

A reading from the holy gospel according to Matthew.

Jesus told his disciples this parable: "Then 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.

Resp: Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

Liturgy of the Word

Gospel Reading

4. Matthew 25:31-46

Come, you who are blessed by my Father

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.

Resp: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Liturgy of the Word

Gospel Reading

5. Mark 15:33-39 or 15:33-39; 16:1-6

Jesus gave a loud cry and breathed his last.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Mark.

(Short Form)

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!"

OR

(Long Form)

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.

Resp: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Liturgy of the Word

Gospel Reading

6. Luke 7:11-17

Young man, I tell you, arise!

A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.

Jesus 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.

Resp: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Liturgy of the Word

Gospel Reading

7. Luke 12:35-40

You also must be prepared.

A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.

Jesus told 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.

Resp: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Liturgy of the Word

Gospel Reading

8. Luke 23:33, 39-43

Today you will be with me in Paradise.

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.

Resp: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Liturgy of the Word

Gospel Reading

9. Luke 23:44-49 or 23:44-49; 24:1-

Father, into your hands I commend my spirit

A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.

(Short Form)

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. The centurion who witnessed what had happened glorified God and said, "This man was innocent beyond doubt." When all the people who had gathered for this spectacle saw what had happened, they returned home beating their breasts; but all his acquaintances stood at a distance, including the women who had followed him from Galilee and saw these events.

Or

(Long Form)

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. The centurion who witnessed what had happened glorified God and said, "This man was innocent beyond doubt." When all the people who had gathered for this spectacle saw what had happened, they returned home beating their breasts; but all his acquaintances stood at a distance, including the women who had followed him from Galilee and saw these events.

But at daybreak on the first day of the week they 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.

Resp: Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

Liturgy of the Word

Gospel Reading

10. Luke 24:13-16, 28-35 or 24:13-35

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

A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke.

(Short Form)

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.

Or

(Long Form)

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.

Resp: Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

Liturgy of the Word

Gospel Reading

11. John 6:37-40

Everyone who sees the Son and believes in him may have eternal life and I shall raise him on the last day.

A reading from the holy gospel according to John.

Jesus said to the crowd: "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.

Resp: Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

Liturgy of the Word

Gospel Reading

12. John 6:51-58

Whoever eats this bread will live forever, and I will raise them up on the last day.

A reading from the holy gospel according to John.

Jesus told the crowd: "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."

The gospel of the Lord.

Resp: Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

Liturgy of the Word

Gospel Reading

13. John 11:21-27 or 11:17-27

I am the resurrection and the life.

A reading from the holy gospel according to John.

(Short Form)

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."

Or

(Long Form)

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.

Resp: Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ

Liturgy of the Word

Gospel Reading

14. John 11:32-45

Lazarus, come out!

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.

Resp: Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

Liturgy of the Word

Gospel Reading

15. John 12:23-26 or 12:23-28 or

If it dies, it produces much fruit.

A reading from the holy gospel according to John.

(Short Form)

Jesus told 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.

Or

(Long Form)

Jesus told 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 crowd there heard it and said it was thunder; but others said, "An angel has spoken to him."

The gospel of the Lord.

Resp: Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

Gospel Reading

16. John 14:1-6

In my Father's house there are many dwellings.

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.

Resp: Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

Gospel Reading

17. John 17:24-26

I wish that where I am they also may be with me.

A reading from the holy gospel according to John.

Jesus raised his eyes to heaven and said: "Father, they 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.

Resp: Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

Prayer of the Faithful

Response is: Lord, hear our prayer

1. For _____ who in baptism was given the pledge of eternal life, that *he/she* now be admitted to the company of the saints, we pray to the Lord.
2. For our *brother/ sister* who ate the body of Christ, the bread of life, that *he/she* may be raised up on the last day, we pray to the Lord.
3. For the family and friends of our *brother/sister* _____, that they may be consoled in their grief by the Lord who wept at the death of his friend Lazarus, we pray to the Lord.
4. For our deceased relatives and friends and for all who have helped us, that they may have the reward of their goodness, we pray to the Lord.
5. For those who have fallen asleep in the hope of rising again, that they may see God face to face, we pray to the Lord.
6. For all of us assembled here to worship in faith, that we may be gathered together again in God's kingdom, we pray to the Lord.

Prayer of the Faithful

Response is: Hear our prayer

1. In baptism _____, received the light of Christ.
Scatter the darkness now and lead *him/her* over the waters of death,
Lord, in your mercy:
2. Our *brother/sister* _____, was nourished at the table of the
Saviour. Welcome *him/her* into the halls of the heavenly banquet.
Lord in your mercy.
3. Many friends and member of our families have gone before us and
await the kingdom. Grant them an everlasting home with your Son.
Lord in your mercy.
4. Those who trusted in the Lord now sleep in the Lord. Give
refreshment, rest, and peace to all whose faith is known to you alone.
Lord in your mercy.
5. The family and friends of _____, seek comfort and
consolation. Heal their pain and dispel the darkness and doubt that
come from grief. Lord, in your mercy.