1St Reading Selection:

O1

"…he made atonement for the dead…"

2 Maccabees 12: 43-46

A Reading from the Second 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 in mind;
for if he were not expecting the fallen to rise again,
it would have been superfluous
and foolish to pray for the dead.
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 absolved from their sin.

The Word of the Lord

1St Reading Selection:

O2

"…I know that my vindicator lives…."

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!

As for me, I know that my vindicator lives,

and that he will at last stand forth upon the dust.

This will happen when my skin has been stripped off,

and from my flesh I will see God:

I will see for myself,

my own eyes, not another's, will behold him:

my inmost being is consumed with longing.

The Word of the Lord

1St Reading Selection:

O3

"…A time to be born, a time to die…"

Ecclesiastes 3.1-8

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 give birth, 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

1St Reading Selection:

O4

"…A time to be born, a time to die…"

Ecclesiastes 3.1-15

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 give birth, 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.
What profit have workers from their toil?
I have seen the business
that God has given to mortals to be busied about.

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God has made everything appropriate to its time,
but has put the timeless into their hearts
so they cannot find out,
from beginning to end,
the work which God has done.
I recognized that there is nothing better
than to rejoice and to do well during life.
Moreover, that all can eat and drink
and enjoy the good of all their toil—
this is a gift of God.
I recognized that
whatever God does will endure forever;
there is no adding to it, or taking from it.
Thus has God done that he may be revered.
What now is
has already been;
what is to be,
already is:
God retrieves what has gone by.

The Word of the Lord

1St Reading Selection:

O5

"…The souls of the just are in the hand of God…"

Wisdom 3.1-9

A Reading from the Book of Wisdom

The souls of the righteous 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 to others, indeed, they seem 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 judgment they shall shine
and 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

1St Reading Selection:

O6

"…The souls of the just are in the hand of God…"

Wisdom 3:1-6, 9

A Reading from the Book of Wisdom

The souls of the righteous 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 to others, indeed, they seem 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.

The Word of the Lord

1St Reading Selection:

O7

"The Righteous One, though he die early, shall be at rest…"

Wisdom 4:7-14

A Reading from the Book of Wisdom

The righteous one, 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 passes for gray hair,
and an unsullied life is the attainment of old age.
The one who pleased God was loved,
living 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 that consideration into account.

The Word of the Lord

1St Reading Selection:

O8

"…in fire gold is tested….Compassionate is the Lord…"

Sirach 2:1-11

A Reading from the Book of Sirach

My child, when you come to serve the Lord,
prepare yourself for trials.
Be sincere of heart and steadfast,
and do not be impetuous in time of adversity.
Cling to him,
do not leave him,
that you may prosper in your last days.
Accept whatever happens to you;
in periods of humiliation be patient.
For in fire gold is tested,
and the chosen,
in the crucible of humiliation.
Trust in God, and he will help you;
make your ways straight and hope in him.
You that fear the Lord,
wait for his mercy,
do not stray lest you fall.
You that fear the Lord, trust in him,
and your reward will not be lost.
You that fear the LORD,

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hope for good things,

for lasting joy and mercy.

Consider the generations long past and see:

has anyone trusted in the Lord

and been disappointed?

Has anyone persevered in his fear and been forsaken?

Has anyone called upon him and been ignored?

For the Lord is compassionate and merciful;

forgives sins and saves in time of trouble.

The Word of the Lord

1St Reading Selection:

O9

"…he will destroy death forever…"

Isaiah 25:6,7-9

A Reading from the Book of the Prophet 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:
"Indeed, this is our God;
we looked to him, and he saved us!
This is the LORD to whom we looked;
let us rejoice and be glad that he has saved us!"

The Word of the Lord

1St Reading Selection:

O10

"…your dead shall live, their corpses shall rise…"

Isaiah 26:7-19

A Reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah

The way of the just is smooth;
the path of the just you make level.
The course of your judgments, LORD, we await;
your name and your memory
are the desire of our souls.
My soul yearns for you at night,
yes, my spirit within me seeks you at dawn;
when your judgment comes upon the earth,
the world's inhabitants learn justice.
The wicked, when spared, do not learn justice;
in an upright land they act perversely,
and do not see the majesty of the LORD.
LORD, your hand is raised high,
but they do not perceive it;
let them be put to shame
when they see your zeal for your people:
let the fire prepared for your enemies consume them.
LORD, you will decree peace for us,
for you have accomplished all we have done.
LORD, our God, lords other than you have ruled us;
only because of you can we call upon your name.

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Dead they are, they cannot live,
shades that cannot rise;
indeed, you have punished and destroyed them,
and wiped out all memory of them.
You have increased the nation, LORD,
you have increased the nation,
have added to your glory,
you have extended far all the boundaries of the land.
LORD, oppressed by your punishment,
we cried out in anguish under your discipline.
As a woman about to give birth
writhes and cries out in pain,
so were we before you, LORD.
We conceived and writhed in pain,
giving birth only to wind;
salvation we have not achieved for the earth,
no inhabitants for the world were born.
But your dead shall live, their corpses shall rise!
Awake and sing, you who lie in the dust!
For your dew is a dew of light,
and you cause the land of shades to give birth.

The Word of the Lord

1St Reading Selection:

O11

"…Here is your God, he comes with vindication…"

Isaiah 35:1-10

A Reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah

The wilderness and the parched land will exult;
the Arabah will rejoice and bloom;
like the crocus it shall bloom abundantly,
and rejoice with joyful song.
The glory of Lebanon will be given to it,
the splendor of Carmel and Sharon;
they will see the glory of the LORD,
the splendor of our God.
Strengthen hands that are feeble,
make firm knees that are weak,
say to the fearful of heart:
be strong, do not fear!
Here is your God,
he comes with vindication;
with divine recompense
he comes to save you.
Then the eyes of the blind shall see,
and the ears of the deaf be opened;
then the lame shall leap like a stag,
and the mute tongue sing for joy.

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For waters will burst forth in the wilderness,
and streams in the Arabah.
The burning sands will become pools,
and the thirsty ground, springs of water;
the abode where jackals crouch
will be a marsh for the reed and papyrus.
A highway will be there,
called the holy way;
no one unclean may pass over it,
but it will be for his people;
no traveler, not even fools, shall go astray on it.
No lion shall be there,
nor any beast of prey approach, nor be found.
But there the redeemed shall walk,
and the ransomed of the LORD shall return,
and enter Zion singing,
crowned with everlasting joy;
they meet with joy and gladness,
sorrow and mourning flee away.

The Word of the Lord

1St Reading Selection:

O12

"…Here is your God, Here comes with power…"

Isaiah 40:1-11

A Reading from the Book of Prophet Isaiah

Comfort, give comfort to my people, says your God.
Speak to the heart of Jerusalem, and proclaim to her
that her service has ended, that her guilt is expiated,
that she has received from the hand of the LORD
double for all her sins.
A voice proclaims:
in the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD!
Make straight in the wasteland a highway for our God!
Every valley shall be lifted up,
every mountain and hill made low;
the rugged land shall be a plain,
the rough country, a broad valley.
Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed,
and all flesh shall see it together;
for the mouth of the LORD has spoken.
A voice says, "Proclaim!"
I answer, "What shall I proclaim?"
"All flesh is grass,
and all their loyalty like the flower of the field.
The grass withers, the flower wilts,
when the breath of the LORD blows upon it."

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“Yes, the people is grass!
The grass withers, the flower wilts,
but the word of our God stands forever.”
Go up onto a high mountain,
Zion, herald of good news!
Cry out at the top of your voice,
Jerusalem, herald of good news!
Cry out, do not fear!
Say to the cities of Judah:
Here is your God!
Here comes with power
the Lord GOD,
who rules by his strong arm;
here is his reward with him,
his recompense before him.
Like a shepherd he feeds his flock;
in his arms he gathers the lambs,
carrying them in his bosom,
leading the ewes with care.

The Word of the Lord

1St Reading Selection:

O13

"…My portion is the Lord, says my soul…"

Lamentations 3:17-26

A Reading from the Book of Lamentations

My life is deprived of peace,
I have forgotten what happiness is;
my enduring hope, I said,
has perished before the LORD.
The thought of my wretched homelessness
is wormwood and poison;
remembering it over and over,
my soul is downcast.
But this I will call to mind;
therefore I will hope:
the LORD's acts of mercy are not exhausted,
his compassion is not spent;
they are renewed each morning—
great is your faithfulness!
The LORD is my portion, I tell myself,
therefore I will hope in him.
The LORD is good to those who trust in him,
to the one that seeks him;
it is good to hope in silence
for the LORD's deliverance.

The Word of the Lord

1St Reading Selection:

O14

"O my people, I will open your graves and have you rise…"

Ezekiel 37:12-14

A Reading from the Book of Prophet Ezekiel

Therefore, prophesy and say to them:

thus says the Lord GOD:

Look! I am going to open your graves;

I will make you come up out of your graves,

my people, and bring you back to the land of Israel.

You shall know that I am the LORD,

when I open your graves

and make you come up out of them, my people!

I will put my spirit in you that you may come to life,

and I will settle you in your land.

Then you shall know that I am the LORD.

I have spoken; I will do it.

The Word of the Lord

1St Reading Selection:

O15

"…the wise shall shine brightly…"

Daniel 12:1-3

A Reading from the Book of the Prophet Daniel

"At that time there shall arise Michael,
the great prince, guardian of your people;
it shall be a time unsurpassed in distress
since the nation 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 to everlasting life,
others to reproach and everlasting disgrace.
But those with insight 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

1St Reading Selection:

O16

"…though I sit in darkness, the Lord is my light…"

Micah 7:7-9

A Reading from the Book of Prophet Micah

But as for me, I will look to the LORD,
I will wait for God my savior;
my God will hear me!
Do not rejoice over me, my enemy!
Though I have fallen,
I will arise;
though I sit in darkness,
the LORD is my light.
I will endure the wrath of the LORD
because I have sinned against him,
until he pleads my case,
and establishes my right.
He will bring me forth to the light;
I will see his righteousness.

The Word of the Lord

Responsorial Psalm Selection:

P1

Psalm 23:1-3, 4, 5, 6

R/. The Lord is my shepherd; there 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 sake.

R/. The Lord is my shepherd; there 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.

R/. The Lord is my shepherd; there 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.

R/. The Lord is my shepherd; there 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.

R/. The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

Responsorial Psalm Selection:

P2

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

R/. 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.

R/. 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.

R/. 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.

R/. To you, O Lord, I lift my soul.

Responsorial Psalm Selection:

P3

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

R/. 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?

R/. 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.

R/. 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.

R/. 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.

R/. The Lord is my light and my salvation.

Responsorial Psalm Selection:

P4

Psalm 42:2, 3, 5cdef; 43:3, 4, 5

R/. My soul is thirsting for the living God: when shall I see him face to face?

As the hind longs for the running waters,
so my soul longs for you, O God.

R/. My soul is thirsting for the living God: when shall I see him face to face?

Athirst is my soul for God, the living God.
When shall I go and behold the face of God?

R/. My soul is thirsting for the living God: when shall I see him face to face?

I went with the throng and led them in procession
to the house of God.
Amid loud cries of joy and thanksgiving,
with the multitude keeping festival.

R/. My soul is thirsting for the living God: when shall I see him face to face?

Send forth your light and your fidelity;
they shall lead me on
And bring me to your holy mountain,
to your dwelling-place.

R/. My soul is thirsting for the living God: when shall I see him face to face?

Then will I go in to the altar of God,
the God of my gladness and joy;
Then will I give you thanks upon the harp,
O God, my God!

R/. My soul is thirsting for the living God: when shall I see him face to face?

Why are you downcast, O my soul?
Why do you sigh within me?
Hope in God! For I shall again be thanking him,
in the presence of my savior and my God.

R/. My soul is thirsting for the living God: when shall I see him face to face?

Responsorial Psalm Selection:

P5

Psalm 63:2, 3-4, 5-6, 8-9

R/. My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.

O God, you are my God whom I seek;
for you my flesh pines and my soul thirsts
like the earth, parched, lifeless and without water.

R/. My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.

Thus have I gazed toward you in the sanctuary
to see your power and your glory,
For your kindness is a greater good than life;
my lips shall glorify you.

R/. My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.

Thus will I bless you while I live;
lifting up my hands, I will call upon your name.
As with the riches of a banquet shall my soul be satisfied,
and with exultant lips my mouth shall praise you.

R/. My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.

You are my help,
and in the shadow of your wings I shout for joy.
My soul clings fast to you;
your right hand upholds me.

R/. My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.

Responsorial Psalm Selection:

P6

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

R/. 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.

R/. 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.

R/. 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.

R/. 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.

R/. The Lord is kind and merciful.

Responsorial Psalm Selection:

P7

Psalm 116:5, 6, 10-11, 15-16ac

R/. 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.

R/. 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.

R/. 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."

R/. 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.

R/. I will walk in the presence of the Lord in the land of the living.

Responsorial Psalm Selection:

P8

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

R/. 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.

R/. 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 judgment seats,
seats for the house of David.

R/. 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.

R/. 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.

R/. Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalm Selection:

P9

Psalm 130:1-2, 3-4, 5-6ab, 6c-7, 8

R/. Out of the depths, I cry to you, Lord.

Out of the depths I cry to you, O LORD;
LORD, hear my voice!
Let your ears be attentive
to my voice in supplication.

R/. Out of the depths, I cry to you, Lord.

If you, O LORD, mark iniquities,
LORD, who can stand?
But with you is forgiveness,
that you may be revered.

R/. Out of the depths, I cry to you, Lord.

I trust in the LORD;
my soul trusts in his word.
My soul waits for the LORD
more than the sentinels wait for the dawn.

R/. Out of the depths, I cry to you, Lord.

More than the sentinels wait for the dawn,
let Israel wait for the LORD,
For with the LORD is kindness
and with him is plenteous redemption.

R/. Out of the depths, I cry to you, Lord.

And he will redeem Israel
from all their iniquities.

R/. Out of the depths, I cry to you, Lord.

Responsorial Psalm Selection:

P10

Psalm 143:1-2, 5-6, 7ab and 8ab, 10

R/. O Lord, hear my prayer.

O LORD, hear my prayer;
hearken to my pleading in your faithfulness;
in your justice answer me.
And enter not into judgment with your servant,
for before you no living man is just.

R/. O Lord, hear my prayer.

I remember the days of old;
I meditate on all your doings;
the works of your hands I ponder.
I stretch out my hands to you;
my soul thirsts for you like parched land.

R/. O Lord, hear my prayer.

Hasten to answer me, O LORD;
for my spirit fails me.
At dawn let me hear of your mercy,
for in you I trust.

R/. O Lord, hear my prayer.

Teach me to do your will,
for you are my God.
May your good spirit guide me
on level ground.

R/. O Lord, hear my prayer.

2nd Reading Selection:

N1

"…Everyone who believes in him will receive forgiveness of sins"

Acts 10:34-43

A reading from the 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, 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

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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

2nd Reading Selection:

N2

"…Everyone who believes in him will receive forgiveness of sins"

Acts of the Apostles 10:34-36, 42-43

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, 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 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

2nd Reading Selection:

N3

"…We were reconciled to God through the death of his Son…"

Romans 5:5-11

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

Brothers and Sisters:

Since we have been justified by faith,

we have peace with God

through our Lord Jesus Christ.

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.

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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

2nd Reading Selection:

N4

"…through one righteous act acquittal and life came to all…"

Romans 5:17-21

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

2nd Reading Selection:

N5

"…if we have died with Christ, we believe that we shall live with him…"

Romans 6:3-9

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

2nd Reading Selection:

N6

"…There is no condemnation for those who are in Christ…"

Romans 8:1-11

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

Brothers and Sisters:
Hence, now there is no condemnation
for those who are in Christ Jesus.
For the law of the spirit of life in Christ Jesus
has freed you from the law of sin and death.
For what the law, weakened by the flesh,
was powerless to do, this God has done:
by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh
and for the sake of sin, he condemned sin
in the flesh, so that the righteous decree of the law
might be fulfilled in us, who live
not according to the flesh but according to the spirit.
For those who live according to the flesh
are concerned with the things of the flesh,
but those who live according to the spirit
with the things of the spirit.
The concern of the flesh is death,
but the concern of the spirit is life and peace.
For the concern of the flesh is hostility toward God;
it does not submit to the law of God, nor can it;
and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

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But you are not in the flesh; on the contrary,
you are in the spirit,
if only the Spirit of God dwells in you.
Whoever does not have the Spirit of Christ
does not belong to him.
But if Christ is in you,
although the body is dead because of sin,
the spirit is alive because of righteousness.
If the Spirit of the one who raised Jesus from the dead
dwells in you,
the one who raised Christ from the dead
will give life to your mortal bodies also,
through his Spirit that dwells in you.

The Word of the Lord

2nd Reading Selection:

N7

"…Those who are led by the Spirit of God are Children of God"

Romans 8:14-23

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

Brothers and Sisters:

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,

Continued on the Next Page

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

2nd Reading Selection:

N8

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

Romans 8:31-35, 37-39

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

Brothers and Sisters:

What then shall we say to this?

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

He who did not spare his own Son

but handed him over for us all,

how 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

2nd Reading Selection:

N9

"…This is why Christ died and came to life"

Romans 14:7-9, 10-12

A Reading from the Letter of St. 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.

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

2nd Reading Selection:

N10

"Eye has not seen, and ear has not heard…"

1 Corinthians 2:6-10

A Reading from the First Letter of St. Paul to the Corinthians

We do speak a wisdom to those who are mature,
but not a wisdom of this age,
nor of the rulers of this age who are passing away.
Rather, we speak God's wisdom, mysterious, hidden,
which God predetermined before the ages
for our glory, and which none of the rulers
of this age knew; for if they had known it,
they would not have crucified the Lord of glory.
But as it is written:
"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.
For the Spirit scrutinizes everything,
even the depths of God.

The Word of the Lord

2nd Reading Selection:

N11

"If there is no resurrection of the dead…"

1 Corinthians 15:12-20

A Reading from the First Letter of St. Paul to the Corinthians

Brothers and Sisters:

If Christ is preached as raised from the dead,

how can some among you say

there is no resurrection of the dead?

If there is no resurrection of the dead,

then neither has Christ been raised.

And if Christ has not been raised,

then empty too is our preaching;

empty, too, your faith.

Then we are also false witnesses to God, because

we testified against God that he raised Christ,

whom he did not raise if in fact

the dead are not raised.

For if the dead are not raised,

neither has Christ been raised,

and if Christ has not been raised, your faith is vain;

you are still in your sins.

Then those who have fallen asleep in Christ

have perished.

If for this life only we have hoped in Christ,

we are the most pitiable people of all.

But now Christ has been raised from the dead,

the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep.

The Word of the Lord

2nd Reading Selection:

N12

"In Adam all die, so too if Christ shall all be brought to life."

1 Corinthians 15:20-28

A Reading from the First Letter of St. Paul to the Corinthians

Brothers and Sisters:

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

2nd Reading Selection:

N13

"Death where is your victory?"

1 Corinthians 15:51-57

A Reading from the First Letter of St. Paul to the Corinthians

Brothers and Sisters:

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

2nd Reading Selection:

N14

"The one who raised the Lord Jesus will raise us…"

2 Corinthians 4:14-5:1

A Reading from the Second Letter of St. Paul to the Corinthians

Brothers and Sisters:

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

2nd Reading Selection:

N15

"We would rather leave the body and go home…"

2 Corinthians 5:1, 6-10

A Reading from the Second Letter of St. Paul to the Corinthians

Brothers and Sisters:

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

2nd Reading Selection:

N16

"…I run toward the prize to which God calls me…"

Philippians 3.7-14

A Reading from the Letter of St. Paul to the Philippians

Brothers and sisters:
Whatever gains I had, these I have come
to consider a loss because of Christ.
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,

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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

2nd Reading Selection:

N17

"He will change our lowly body…"

Philippians 3.20-21

A Reading from the Letter of St. Paul to the Philippians

Brothers and sisters:

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

2nd Reading Selection:

N18

"If we believe that Jesus died and rose…"

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

A Reading from the First Letter of St. 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

2nd Reading Selection:

N19

"Remember Jesus Christ, raised from the dead…"

2 Timothy 2:8-13

A Reading from the Second Letter of St. Paul to the 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

2nd Reading Selection:

N20

"I have competed well, I have finished the race…"

2 Timothy 4:1-2, 6-8

A Reading from the Second Letter of St. Paul to the Timothy

I charge you in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus,
who will judge the living and the dead,
and by his appearing and his kingly power:
proclaim the word; be persistent
whether it is convenient or inconvenient;
convince, reprimand, encourage
through all patience and teaching.
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

2nd Reading Selection:

N21

"Beloved, we are God's children now…"

1 John 3:1-2

A Reading from the First Letter of St. 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.

Everyone who has this hope based on him

makes himself pure, as he is pure.

The Word of the Lord

2nd Reading Selection:

N22

"We know that we have passed from death to life…"

1 John 3:14-16

A Reading from the First Letter of St. 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.
If someone who has worldly means
sees a brother in need and refuses him compassion,
how can the love of God remain in him?
Children, let us love not in word or speech
but in deed and truth.

The Word of the Lord

2nd Reading Selection:

N23

"…Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord…"

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

2nd Reading Selection:

N24

"…The sea gave up its dead; then Death and Hades…"

Revelation 20:11-21:1

A Reading from the Book of Revelation

I, John, 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

2nd Reading Selection:

N25

"…I also saw the holy city, a new Jerusalem…"

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

Gospel Selection:

G1

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

Matthew 5:1-12

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.

The Gospel of the Lord

Gospel Selection:

G2

come to me . . and I will give you rest.

Matthew 11:25-30

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

Gospel Selection:

G3

Look. The bridegroom comes. Go out to meet him

Matthew 25:1-13

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

Gospel Selection:

G4

Come, you whom my Father has blessed

Matthew 25:31-46

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?

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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

Gospel Selection:

G5

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

Mark 15:33-39

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!"

The Gospel of the Lord

Gospel Selection:

G6

Jesus gave a loud cry and breathed his last

Mark 15:33–16:6

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.

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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

Gospel Selection:

G7

Young man, I say to you, arise.

Luke 7:11-17

A Reading from the Holy Gospel According to Luke

Soon afterward 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

Gospel Selection:

G8

Be prepared, for at an hour you do not expect,…

Luke 12:35-40

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

Gospel Selection:

G9

Today you will be with me in paradise

Luke 23:33, 39-43

A Reading from the Holy Gospel According to Luke

When Jesus and the others
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

Gospel Selection:

G10

Father, I put my life in your hands

Luke 23.44-49

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.
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.

The Gospel of the Lord

Gospel Selection:

G11

Father into your hands I commend my spirit

Luke 23:44-49

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.
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.

The Gospel of the Lord

Gospel Selection:

G12

Was it not necessary that the Christ should suffer…

Luke 24:13-35

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

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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.

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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

Gospel Selection:

G13

Was it not necessary that the Christ should suffer…

Luke 24:13-16,28-35

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.

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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

Gospel Selection:

G14

Whoever hears my word and believes has passed from…

John 5:24-29

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 voices

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

Gospel Selection:

G15

All who believe in the Son will have eternal life…

John 6:37-40

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

Gospel Selection:

G16

All who eat this bread will live for ever…

John 6:51-58

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."

The Gospel of the Lord

Gospel Selection:

G17

I am the resurrection and the life

John 11:17-27

A Reading from the Holy Gospel According to John

When Jesus arrived in Bethany, 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

Gospel Selection:

G18

I am the resurrection and the life

John 11:21-27

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

Gospel Selection:

G19

Lazarus, come out

John 11:32-45

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."

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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

Gospel Selection:

G20

If a grain of wheat falls on the ground and dies…

John 12:23-28

A Reading from the Holy Gospel According to John

Jesus answered them,

“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

Gospel Selection:

G21

If a grain of wheat falls on the ground and dies…

John 12:23-26

A Reading from the Holy Gospel According to John

Jesus answered them,

“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

Gospel Selection:

G22

There are many rooms in my Father's house

John 14.1-6

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

Gospel Selection:

G23

Father, I want those you have given me to be with me…

John 17.24-26

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

Gospel Selection:

G24

Jesus bowed his head and gave up his spirit

John 19:17-18, 25-39

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."

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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."

Continued on the Next Page

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