



The Bereavement Ministry was formed so that no member of our faith community grieves alone. The members of this ministry try to ensure that all in our faith community experience the compassion of a Loving God when losing a loved one, through the care and concern of parish members.

We communicate our faith by acts of kindness and compassion. Members of this ministry attend visitations and offer support as needed. All in this ministry are dedicated to ensuring that our faith community bands together to help each other by witnessing our faith in the Resurrection.

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**Revised August 2023**

## PREPARING A FUNERAL LITURGY

AN AID FOR FAMILIES



**St. John the Evangelist Parish**  
**Greenfield, Wisconsin**

**D**ear Friends,

Jesus told Martha, “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.”

(John 11:25-27)



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- † Fr. Grom Fund - assists families of St. John's School and Religious Education program to continue student education at St. John's School or any Catholic High School.
- † Sacramental Vessels/Environment - assist in the replacement of Liturgical articles (chalices, vestments, books, lectionaries)
- † Angel Fund - helps provide financial assistance to families with students attending St. John's Grade School.
- † Parish Building/Maintenance Fund - helps sustain the on-going operations of the parish.

Thank you for your support!



In the midst of death, the Christian community confidently proclaims that God has created each person for eternal life and that Jesus, the Son of God, by his death and resurrection, has broken the chains of sin and death. As Jesus is the resurrection and the life, we too are called to live a new life.

The Catholic funeral rites celebrate the mystery of our life, death and resurrection in Christ. Through Baptism we enter into this mystery. We live our lives in the hope of sharing eternal life with God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit when we complete our passage through death. For us Christians, death in Christ results in life in greater abundance. This new life, like a seed, was planted in us at Baptism, flowered during our lifetime, and at death yields a rich harvest. Faith in this mystery should motivate people arranging the funeral of a loved one. With this in mind, we hope that this booklet will assist you in planning your loved one's funeral celebration.

During this time of loss, the community of St. John's celebrates the life of your loved one and remembers the family, relatives and friends in our prayers. As we walk with you during these difficult days, may the God of all consolation bring peace to your grieving hearts.

The Parish Community of St. John the Evangelist



## Old Testament

Special Note:

Either **one or two readings plus a responsorial psalm** may precede the Gospel.

If two readings are to be used, the family (in collaboration with the Priest or Director of Liturgy & Music) would select one Old Testament reading and one New Testament reading (or two New Testament readings) as well as a Gospel reading and Responsorial Psalm. Non-biblical texts may not replace scriptural readings at Mass.

### OT - 1

#### Job 19:1, 23 - 26

A reading from the Book of Job:

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.



## Other Considerations

- † Family members are encouraged to place the funeral pall on the casket at the opening rite of the liturgy. The Funeral Director helps with this. Christian symbols (such as a Bible or rosary), important in the life of the deceased, can be brought in and placed on top of the funeral pall.
- † Family members and/or friends are encouraged to proclaim the first and second readings and the Prayers of the Faithful. Copies of the readings and prayers will be provided by the Parish.
- † Family members are encouraged to bring up the Eucharistic gifts of bread and wine at the preparation time.
- † If any family members, relatives or friends are Eucharistic Ministers and wish to assist with the distribution of Communion, please let the priest know at the preparation meeting or before the funeral.
- † A short eulogy may be given prior to the start of Mass. The eulogy, as understood within the context of the Christian Funeral, should be a short (no more than five minutes) expression of how the deceased lived a Christian life, how that person was a witness to Christ in the world, and how he/she lived his/her baptismal calling or vocation.
- † St. John's Director of Liturgy & Music will prepare a worship aid for the funeral, following the funeral rite guidelines and copyright laws. You may have a photo of your loved one on the cover or we can provide an appropriate image. The DLM may be contacted at (414) 321-1965 ext. 125 if you have any questions.
- † St. John's is fully equipped to live stream the funeral Mass. However, visitation is not live streamed. Please let the parish know if you desire live streaming. The fee for live streaming is \$50 which includes a recording of the Mass on a thumb drive.
- † All Souls Day ~ Every year St. John's remembers the deceased members of the preceding year in a special Mass of Remembrance. Your family will be invited to attend this special Mass where a photo of your loved one will be displayed and your loved one's name will be proclaimed. Following the Sunday Masses, a complimentary pancake breakfast will be served.

## **Gospel Acclamation**

Celtic Alleluia with Easter verse

Lenten Gospel Acclamation (used only during Lent)

## **Mass Acclamations**

Mass of Christ the Savior (Schutte)

## **Solo Songs**

Solos (optional, only with Cantor)

Ave Maria (Schubert)

Carry Me Home (Modlin)

Panis Angelicus (Franck)

## **Song of Commendation**

(Choose one of the three selections below)

Jesus Remember Me (Berthier)

Song of Farewell (Old Hundredth)

O Loving God (tune “Danny Boy”)



## **OT - 2**

### **Wisdom 3:1 - 6, 9 (short version)**

A reading from the Book of Wisdom:

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.†

The Word of the Lord.

## **OT - 2**

### **Wisdom 3:1 - 9 (long version)**

A reading from the Book of Wisdom:

The souls of the just are in the hands 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 His elect.†

The Word of the Lord.

### OT - 3

#### Wisdom 4:7 - 15

A reading from the Book of Wisdom:

The just man, though he die early, shall be at rest. For the age that is honorable comes not with the passing of time, nor can it be measured in terms of years. Rather, understanding is the hoary crown for men, and an unsullied life, the attainment of old age. He who pleased God was loved; he who lived among sinners was transported—snatched away, lest wickedness pervert his mind or deceit beguile his soul; for the witchery of paltry things obscure what is right and the whirl of desire transforms the innocent mind.

Having become perfect in a short while, he reached the fullness of a long career; for his soul was pleasing to the LORD, therefore he sped him out of the midst of wickedness. But the people saw and did not understand, nor did they take this into account. Because grace and mercy are with His holy ones, and His care is with His elect.†  
The Word of the Lord.

### OT - 3a

#### Wisdom 4:7 - 15 (different version)

A reading from the Book of Wisdom:

But the righteous, though they die early, will be at rest. For old age is not honored for length of time, or measured by number of years; but understanding is gray hair for anyone, and a blameless life is a ripe old age. There were some who pleased God and were loved by Him, and while living among sinners were taken up. They were caught up so that evil might not change their understanding. For the fascination of wickedness obscures what is good, and roving desire perverts the innocent mind. Being perfected in a short time they fulfilled long years; for their souls were pleasing to the Lord. Therefore He took them quickly from the midst of wickedness. Yet the peoples saw and did not understand, or take such a thing to heart, that God's grace and mercy are with His elect, and He watches over His holy ones.†  
The Word of the Lord.

## Liturgical Music Selections

St. John the Evangelist Parish provides the Resurrection Choir and accompaniment for funerals. Please choose from our repertoire below, to ensure that we can appropriately lead the assembly in full participation.

**Up to four song selections** will be placed appropriately within the Mass by family or by the Director of Liturgy & Music. If you need help choosing appropriate songs for the funeral, we would be happy to assist you.

A supplemental seasonal hymn list is provided during the liturgical seasons of Advent, Christmas, Lent and Easter.

Alleluia! Sing to Jesus

Amazing Grace

Be Not Afraid

Beautiful Savior

City of God

Eye Has Not Seen

Gift of Finest Wheat

Hail Mary, Gentle Woman

Here I Am, Lord

How Great Thou Art

I Am the Bread of Life

I Have Loved You

Like a Shepherd

On Eagle's Wings

One Bread, One Body

Prayer of St. Francis

Precious Lord, Take My Hand

Taste and See

We Walk By Faith

We Will Rise Again

You are Mine

You are Near





**Gospel Reading 19**  
**John 19:17 - 18, 25 - 30**

Jesus carrying the cross Himself 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 to His mouth. When Jesus had taken the wine, He said, "It is finished." And bowing His head, He handed over the spirit.

**Gospel Reading 20**  
**John 15:9 - 17**

Jesus said to His disciples: "As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you. Live on in my love. You will live in my love if you keep my commandments, even as I have kept my Father's commandments, and live in His love. All this I tell you that my joy may be your joy and your joy may be complete.

This is my commandment: love one another as I have loved you. There is no greater love than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you.

I no longer speak of you as slaves, for a slave does not know what his master is about. Instead, I call you friends because I have told you everything I have heard from my Father. It was not you who chose me, it was I who chose you to go forth and bear fruit. Your fruit must endure, so that all you ask the Father in my name He will give you. The command I give you is this: that you love one another."

**OT - 4**  
**Isaiah 25:6a, 7 - 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 evil 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.

**OT - 5**  
**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.



## OT - 6

### 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 our 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 in 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.

## OT - 7

### 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 in-as-much 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.



## Gospel Reading 17

### John 14:1 - 6

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.”†

## Gospel Reading 18

### John 17:24 - 26

Jesus raised His eyes to heaven and said:

“Father, my disciples 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.”†



### **Gospel Reading 16**

**John 12:23 - 28** (long version)

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.”†

### **Gospel Reading 16**

**John 12:23 - 26** (short version)

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.”†

### **OT - 8**

**Ecclesiastes 3:1 - 13**

A reading from the Book of Ecclesiastes:

For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven: a time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant and a time to pluck up what is planted; a time to kill, and a time to heal; a time to break down, and a time to build up; a time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn, and a time to dance; a time to throw away stones, and a time to gather stones together; a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing; a time to seek, and a time to lose; a time to keep, and a time to throw away; a time to tear, and a time to sew; a time to keep silence, and a time to speak; a time to love, and a time to hate; a time for war, and a time for peace. What gain have the workers from their toil? I have seen the busyness that God has given to everyone to be busy with. He has made everything suitable for its time; moreover, He has put a sense of past and future into their minds, yet they cannot find out what God has done from the beginning to the end.†

The Word of the Lord.

### **OT - 9**

**Sirach 3:2 - 6, 12 - 14**

A reading from the Book of Sirach:

The Lord honors a father above his children, and He confirms a mother’s right over her children. Those who honor their father atone for sins, and those who respect their mother are like those who lay up treasure. Those who honor their father will have joy in their own children, and when they pray they will be heard. Those who respect their father will have long life, and those who honor their mother obey the Lord.

My child, help your parents in their old age, and do not grieve them as long as they live; even if their minds fail, be patient with them; because you have all your faculties do not despise them. For kindness to your mother and father will not be forgotten, and will be credited to you against your sins.†

The Word of the Lord.

# Psalm Selections

## Responsorial Psalm Selections

Select **one Psalm** from the following:

Psalm 23: The Lord is My Shepherd (Schulteis)

Psalm 23: Shepherd Me, O God (Haugen)

Psalm 25: To You, O Lord (Haugen)

Psalm 27: The Lord is My Light (Alonso)

Psalm 63: My Soul Thirsts (Schutte)

Psalm 103: The Lord is Kind and Merciful (Haugen)

Short familiar lines from the Psalms are included above to help identify them. The Psalm at liturgy is always sung and led by the Director of Liturgy & Music.

Other Psalms may be appropriate as well.



## Gospel Reading 15 John 11:32 - 45

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 me go.”

Now many of the Jews who had come to Mary and seen what He had done began to believe in Him.†

**Gospel Reading 14**  
**John 11:17 - 27** (long version)

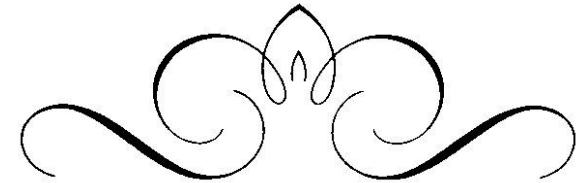
When Jesus arrived in Bethany He found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb for four days. Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, only about two miles away. And many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to comfort them about their brother.

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."†

**Gospel Reading 14**  
**John 11:21 - 27** (short version)

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 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."†

# New Testament



**NT - 1**  
**Acts 10:34 - 43** (long version)  
A reading from the Book of Acts:

Peter proceeded to address the people in these words:  
"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 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.

## NT - 1

### Acts 10:34 - 36, 42-43 (short version)

A reading from the Book of Acts:

Peter proceeded to address the people in these words:

“In truth, I see that God shows no partiality. Rather, in every nation whoever fears Him and acts uprightly is acceptable to Him. You know the word that He sent to the Israelites as He proclaimed peace through Jesus Christ, who is Lord of all. He commissioned us to preach to the people and testify that He is the one appointed by God as judge of the living and the dead. To Him all the prophets bear witness, that everyone who believes in Him will receive forgiveness of sins through His name.”†

The Word of the Lord.

## NT - 2

### Romans 5:5 - 11

A reading from the Book of 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.

## Gospel Reading 13

### John 6:51 - 59

Jesus said to 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 flesh to eat?” Jesus said the 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.”†



## **Gospel Reading 11**

### **John 5:24 - 29**

“Amen, amen I say to you, whoever hears my word and believes in the one who sent me has eternal life and will not come to condemnation, but has passed from death to life. Amen, amen, I say to you, the hour is coming and is now here when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God, and those who hear will live. For just as the Father has life in Himself, so also He gave to his Son the possession of life in Himself. And He gave Him power to exercise judgment, because He is the Son of Man. Do not be amazed at this, because the hour is coming in which all who are in the tombs will hear His voice and will come out, those who have done wicked deeds to the resurrection of condemnation. †

## **Gospel Reading 12**

### **John 6:37 - 40**

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.” †

## **NT - 3**

### **Romans 5:17 - 21**

A reading from the Book of Romans:

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 our Lord. †  
The Word of the Lord.

## **NT - 4**

### **Romans 6:3 - 9 (long version)**

A reading from the Book of Romans:

Are you unaware that we who are 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.

#### NT - 4

##### **Romans 6:3 - 4, 8 - 9 (short version)**

A reading from the Book of Romans:

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.†

The Word of the Lord.

#### NT - 5

##### **Romans 8: 14 - 23**

A reading from the Book of Romans:

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.

#### **Gospel Reading 10 (continued)**

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.†





## **Gospel Reading 10**

### **Luke 24:13 - 35 (long version)**

Now that very day, two of the disciples 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 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, "O 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?"

(continued on next page)

## **NT - 6**

### **Romans 8:31b - 35, 37 - 39**

A reading from the Book of Romans:

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 one? 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 loves 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.

## **NT - 7**

### **Romans 14:7 - 12**

A reading from the Book of 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. Why then do you judge your brother or sister? Or you, why do you look down on your brother or sister? 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.

## **NT - 8**

### **1 Corinthians 15:20 - 28 (long version)**

A reading from the First Book of Corinthians:

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. 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.

## **NT - 8**

### **1 Corinthians 15:20 - 23 (short version)**

A reading from the First Book of Corinthians:

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. †

The Word of the Lord.

## **Gospel Reading 10**

### **Luke 24:13 - 16, 28 - 35 (short version)**

Now that very day, two of the disciples 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 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 made known to them in the breaking of the bread. †

### **Gospel Reading 9**

**Luke 23:44 - 46, 50, 52 - 53, 24:1 - 6a** (long version)

It was now about noon and darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon because of an eclipse of the sun. Then the veil of the temple was torn down the middle. Jesus cried out in a loud voice, "Father, into your hands I commend my spirit;" and when He had said this He breathed his last.

Now there was a virtuous and righteous man named Joseph who, though he was a member of the council, went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. After he had taken the body down, he wrapped it in a linen cloth and laid Him in a rock-hewn tomb in which no one had yet been buried. But at daybreak on the first day of the week the women took the spices they had prepared and went to the tomb. They found the stone rolled away from the tomb; but when they entered, they did not find the body of the Lord Jesus. While they were puzzling over this, behold, two men in dazzling garments appeared to them. They were terrified and bowed their faces to the ground. They said to them, "Why do you seek the living one among the dead? He is not here, but He has been raised."†

### **Gospel Reading 9**

**Luke 23:44 - 46; 50, 52 - 53** (short version)

It was now about noon and darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon because of an eclipse of the sun. Then the veil of the temple was torn down the middle. Jesus cried out in a loud voice, "Father, into your hands I commend my spirit" and when He had said this He breathed his last. Now there was a virtuous and righteous man named Joseph who, though he was a member of the council, went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. After he had taken the body down, he wrapped it in a linen cloth and laid him in a rock-hewn tomb in which no one had yet been buried.†

### **NT - 9**

#### **1 Corinthians 15:51 - 57**

A reading from the First Book of 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.

### **NT - 10**

#### **2 Corinthians 4:13 - 5:1**

A reading from the Second Book of Corinthians:

We know 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 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.

## **NT - 11**

### **2 Corinthians 5:1, 6 - 10**

A reading from the Second Book of Corinthians:

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.

## **NT - 12**

### **Philippians 3:20 - 21**

A reading from the Book of Philippians:

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.



## **Gospel Reading 7**

### **Luke 12:35 - 40**

“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.”†

## **Gospel Reading 8**

### **Luke 23:33, 39 - 43**

When they came to the place called the Skull, they crucified Jesus 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.”†

## **Gospel Reading 5**

**Mark 15:33 - 39** (short version)

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!"†

## **Gospel Reading 6**

**Luke 7:11 - 17**

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.†

## **NT - 13**

**1 Thessalonians 4:13 - 18**

A reading from the First Book of Thessalonians:

We do not want you to be unaware, brothers (and sisters), 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.

## **NT - 14**

**2 Timothy 2:8 - 13**

A reading from the Second Book of 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.

## **NT - 15**

### **1 John 3:1 - 2**

A reading from the First Book 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.

## **NT - 16**

### **1 John 3:14 - 16**

A reading from the First Book of John:

We know that we have passed from death to life because we love our brothers (and sisters). 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 Jesus laid down His life for us; so we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers (and sisters).†

The Word of the Lord.

## **NT - 17**

### **Revelation 14:13**

A reading from the Book of Revelation:

I 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.

## **Gospel Reading 5**

### **Mark 15:33 - 39, 16:1 - 6 (long version)**

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 sabachtani?" 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 brought 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."†





**Gospel Reading 4**  
**Matthew 25:31 - 46**

“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 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.”†

**NT - 18**  
**Revelation 20:11 - 21:1**

A reading from the Book of Revelation:

I saw a large white throne and the one who was sitting on it. The earth and the sky fled from His presence and there was no place for them. I saw the dead, the great and the lowly, standing before the throne, and scrolls were opened. Then another scroll was opened, the book of life. The dead were judged according to their deeds, by what was written in the scrolls. The sea gave up its dead; then Death and Hades gave up their dead. All the dead were judged according to their deeds. 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.

**NT - 19**  
**Revelation 21:1 - 5a, 6b - 7**

A reading from the Book of Revelation:

I saw a new heaven and a new earth. The former heaven and the former earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. I also saw the holy city, a new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “Behold, God’s dwelling is with the human race. He will dwell with them and they will be His people and God Himself will always be with them as their God. He will wipe every tear from their eyes, and there shall be no more death or mourning, wailing or pain, for the old order has passed away.”

The one who sat on the throne said, “Behold, I make all things new. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give a gift from the spring of life-giving water. The victor will inherit these gifts, and I shall be his God, and he will be my son.”†

The Word of the Lord.

## **NT - 20**

### **1 Peter 1:3 - 9**

A reading from the First Book of Peter:

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who in His great mercy gave us a new birth to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled and unfading, kept in heaven for you who by the power of God are safeguarded through faith, to a salvation that is ready to be revealed in the final time.

In this you rejoice, although now for a little while you may have to suffer through various trials, so that the genuineness of your faith, more precious than gold that is perishable even though tested by fire, may prove to be for praise, glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ. Although you have not seen Him you love Him; even though you do not see Him now yet believe in Him, you rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy, as you attain the goal of your faith, the salvation of your souls. †

The Word of the Lord.

## **NT - 21**

### **2 Timothy 4:6 - 8**

A reading from the Second Book of 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 also to all who have longed for His appearing. †

The Word of the Lord.

## **Gospel Reading 2**

### **Matthew 11:25 - 30**

On one occasion Jesus spoke thus, “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 yourselves. For my yoke is easy, and my burden light.”†

## **Gospel Reading 3**

### **Matthew 25:1 - 13**

“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.”†

# Gospel Readings



## **Gospel Reading 1** **Matthew 5:1 - 12a**

When He saw the crowds, Jesus went up the mountain, and after He had sat down, His disciples came to Him. He began to teach them, saying:

“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.  
Blessed are they who mourn, for they will be comforted.  
Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the land.  
Blessed are they who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be satisfied.  
Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy.  
Blessed are the clean of heart, for they will see God.  
Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.  
Blessed are they who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.  
Blessed are you when they insult you and persecute you and utter every kind of evil against you falsely because of me.

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

## **NT - 22**

### **1 Corinthians 2:6 - 10**

A reading from the First Book of Corinthians:

Brothers and sisters: We speak a wisdom to those who are mature, 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 know; or, 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 loved 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.

## **NT - 23**

### **1 Corinthians 2:35 - 38, 41 - 44**

A reading from the First Book of Corinthians:

But someone will ask, “How are the dead raised? With what kind of body do they come?” Fool! What you sow does not come to life unless it dies. And as for what you sow, you do not sow the body that is to be, but a bare seed, perhaps of wheat or of some other grain. But God gives it a body as He has chosen, and to each kind of seed its own body. So it is with resurrection of the dead. What is sown is perishable, what is raised is imperishable. It is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness, it is raised in power. It is sown a physical body, it is raised a spiritual body.†

The Word of the Lord.

NT - 24

**1 Corinthians 13:4 - 13**

A reading from the First Book of Corinthians:

Brothers and sisters: Love is patient, love is kind; it is not jealous, it is not pompous; it does not inflate, it is not rude; it does not seek its own interests, it does not rejoice over wrongdoing but rejoices with the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

Love never fails. If there are prophecies, they will be brought to nothing; if tongues, they will cease; if knowledge, it will be brought to nothing.

For we know partially and we prophesy partially, but when the perfect comes, the partial will pass away. When I was a child, I used to talk as a child, think as a child, reason as a child; when I became a man, I put aside childish things. At present we see indistinctly, as in a mirror, but then face to face. At present I know partially; then I shall know fully, as I am fully known.

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

The Word of the Lord.



**The Broken Chain**

We little knew that day,  
God was going to call your name.  
In life we loved you dearly,  
In death, we do the same.

It broke our hearts to lose you.  
You did not go alone.  
For part of us went with you,  
The day God called you home.

You left us beautiful memories,  
Your love is still our guide.  
And although we cannot see you,  
You are always at our side.

Our family chain is broken,  
And nothing seems the same,  
But as God calls us one by one,  
The chain will link again.

—Ron Tranmer