

ASH WEDNESDAY

First Reading

JOEL 2:12-18

A Reading from the Scroll of Joel

The Lord says, “Now come back to me. Come back to me with all your heart. Come back to me with your fasting, weeping and mourning. You don’t have to tear off your clothes. Just come back with all your heart.”

Come back to the Lord, your God. He is kind, and full of mercy. He is patient and is always ready to forgive. Perhaps the Lord will change his mind and bless you with lots of crops. Then you can offer him grain and wine.

Blow the trumpet on Mt. Zion. Call all the people to fast. Tell them to come in for a holy meeting. Call the old people, call the children and also the babies. Tell the newly married people leave their bedrooms and come. Let the priests serving the Lord in the temple shout and pray, “Lord, have mercy on your people. Do not let the people from other countries hate us and mock us saying ‘Where is your God?’”

The Lord will show his concern for his people and have mercy on them.

The Word of the Lord

Ash Wednesday

RESPONSE: Lord, have mercy on us. We have
sinned

I am always aware of my sins.
I have sinned against you.
You are right for punishing me.
Please wipe away my sins.

RESPONSE:

I have been bad since the day I was born.
Love and truth are what you want.
Teach me your true wisdom.

RESPONSE:

Let me have the joy that is from your salvation.
Make me willing to obey you.
I will teach sinners to obey your Law,
And they will go back to you.

RESPONSE:

Protect me from sin.
Only you can save me!
I will shout and sing about your saving power.
You will not reject a humble and sorrowful heart.

RESPONSE:

Ash Wednesday

Second Reading

2 CORINTHIANS 5:20-6:2

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

Paul said, “We are servants for Christ. We speak for Christ. God is begging you to listen to our message. We speak for Christ and we beg you to make peace with God. Christ never sinned! But God made him share our sin so that with him (Jesus) we can be united with God.

We work together with God. So we beg you to accept the grace God has given you. In the scriptures God says, ‘At the right time I listened to your prayers. You needed help. So I am here to save you.’

Now is the time. Today is the day for you to be saved.”

The Word of the Lord

Ash Wednesday

Gospel Acclamation

Praise and honor to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Lord, make our heart clean.
Give us the joy of your help.

Praise and honor to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Gospel

MATTHEW 6:1-6.16-18

A Reading from the Holy Gospel of Matthew

Jesus said to his disciples, “Be careful. Don’t brag of your good works for the people to see what you did. If you brag, you will not get a reward from your Father in heaven. If you give something to the people that are poor, keep quiet. Don’t be like the hypocrites in the meeting places and on the streets. They like to brag because they want people to look at them so they can get praise from the people. They already have the reward.

Help the poor people but keep quiet about it. Don’t let anyone know what you did. Your Father in heaven knows what you did and he will bless you.

As you pray, don’t be like the hypocrites! They love to stand up and pray in the meeting places and at street corners for the people to see. I tell you that they already have their reward.

Ash Wednesday

So if you want to pray, go into a room alone and close the door. Pray to the Father in private. He knows what you have done and he will reward you.

In your fasting don't show your gloomy face like the hypocrites do in their fasting. They already have reward. Instead wash your face and comb your hair so people will not know that you are fasting. Only your Father in heaven will know. He will see what you have done in secret and he will reward you.”

The Good News of the Lord

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

First Reading

GENESIS 9:8-15

A Reading from the Scroll of Genesis

God said to Noah and his sons, “I am now making my covenant with you and with your descendants and with all the birds and animals that get out of the boat with you. This is my covenant I am making with you. I promise that never again all living things will be destroyed by a flood. Never again a flood will destroy the earth.

I will make a rainbow in the clouds as the sign of my everlasting covenant with you and all living things. The rainbow will be the sign of my covenant with the world.

I will keep my promise to you and to all the animals that I will never again let a flood destroy all living things on earth.

The Word of the Lord

First Sunday of Lent

RESPONSE: Lord, your ways are love and truth.

Show me your ways.
Teach me to follow your ways.
Teach me to live according to your truth.
You are my God that saves me.
I always trust in you.

RESPONSE:

Lord, please remember your kindness.
You are always patience and kind.
Forget the wrong I have done.
Show me how kind you are.
Lord, remember me.

RESPONSE:

You are honest and full of mercy.
You teach sinners how to follow your way.
You lead humble people to do what is right.

RESPONSE:

A Reading from the First Letter of Peter

Christ died once for our sins. An innocent person died for those that are guilty. Christ did this to bring you to God. He was physically killed but his spirit became alive.

Christ preached to the spirits that were in prison. They disobeyed God during the time Noah was building the boat. But God was patient with them. Eight people went into the boat and they went through the flood safely.

Those floodwaters were like baptism that now saves you. Baptism is not like washing your body. It means pledging to God with clear mind. It saves you through the resurrection of Jesus. Now he is in heaven sitting at the right side of God ruling over all angels, authorities and powers.

The Word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation

Praise and honor to you, Lord Jesus Christ

The Lord says, “Don’t depend on bread only
but on the word of God”

Praise and honor to you, Lord Jesus Christ

Gospel

MARK 1:12-15

A Reading from the Holy Gospel of Mark

The Holy Spirit led Jesus into the desert and he was in the desert for 40 days. Satan tried to tempt Jesus. Wild animals were running around Jesus but the angels were protecting him.

John the Baptist was arrested and put into jail. Jesus went to Galilee and began to preach the Good News. He said, “Now is the time! The kingdom will be here soon. Stop sinning and believe the Good News!”

The Good News of the Lord

First Sunday of Lent

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

First Reading

GENESIS 22:1-2, 9-13, 15-18

A Reading from the Scroll of Genesis

One day God decided to test Abraham. So he called him, “Abraham”. Abraham answered, “Yes, here I am!”

Then God said to Abraham, “Take your only son, Isaac. You love him very much. Take him to the land of Moriah. I will show you a mountain and you will offer him as a sacrifice to me.”

Abraham and Isaac went to the place that God showed them. Abraham built an altar and put wood on it. He tied up Isaac and put him on the top of wood on the altar. Then he took out a knife to kill his son. But the angel of the Lord from heaven said to him, “Abraham, Abraham!” Abraham answered, “Yes, here I am.”

The angel said, “Don’t hurt the boy. Now I know that you honor and obey God because you did not hold back your only son from God.”

Abraham looked around and saw a ram with its horns stuck in a bush. He took the ram and offered it as a burnt offering in place of his son.

Second Sunday of Lent

The angel of the Lord called Abraham from heaven a second time, I make a vow by my own name. I will bless you plenty because of what you did. You did not hold back your only son from me. I promise that you will have as many descendants as the stars in the sky or grains of sand on the beach. Your descendants will conquer their enemies. All the people will ask me to bless your descendants because you obeyed my command.”

The Word of the Lord

RESPONSE: I will walk before the Lord in
the land of the living.

Lord, I am your servant.
I serve you just as my mother did.
You have saved me from death.
I will offer you a sacrifice to show that I am happy.

RESPONSE:

I will keep my promise to you for your people in your
temple in Jerusalem.
Praise the Lord!

RESPONSE:

Second Reading

ROMANS 8:31-34

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

Paul said, “If God is for us, who can be against us? God did not hold back his own Son. He gave his son to us. If God did this, will he not freely give us all things? If God says his chosen ones are acceptable to him, can anyone condemn them?”

No! Christ died and he rose to life. Now he is at the right side of God speaking to him for us.”

The Word of the Lord

Second Sunday of Lent

Gospel Acclamation

Praise and honor to you, Lord Jesus Christ

The voice in the cloud says, “This is my beloved son. Pay attention to him.”

Praise and honor to you, Lord Jesus Christ

Gospel

MARK 9:2-10

A Reading from the Holy Gospel of Mark

Jesus with his three disciples, Peter, James and John, went up on a high mountain so they can be alone. Jesus stood in front of his disciples and began to change. His clothes became white, whiter than snow. Two men, Moses and Elijah, came and began to talk with Jesus.

Peter said to Jesus, “Teacher, it is wonderful for us to be here. Let us make three tents; one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.”

The disciples were really scared. Peter didn’t know what he was talking about. Soon a cloud passed over and covered them. Then they heard a voice from the cloud saying, “This is my beloved son. Listen to him!” The disciples looked around but they didn’t see anyone but Jesus.

Second Sunday of Lent

Then Jesus and the disciples went down the mountain. Jesus warned them not to say anything what they saw on the mountain until the Son of Man rise from death. So the disciples kept quiet but they were wondering what Jesus meant “Raised from death.”

The Good News of the Lord

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

First Reading

EXODUS 20:1-17

A Reading from the Scroll of Exodus (Short form---Read in black)

God said, “I am the Lord, your God. Before you were slaves, I brought you out of Egypt. Worship no god but me.

Do not make for yourselves images of anything in heaven or on earth or in the water under the earth. Do not bow down to any idol or worship it because I am the Lord your God. I can't accept enemies. I will punish those hating me and their descendants down to the fourth generation. I will show my love to thousands of generations that love me and obey my laws.

Do not use my name for evil purpose because I, the Lord your God, will punish anyone that doesn't respect my name. Observe the Sabbath and keep it holy.

You have six days to do your work but the seventh day is a day of rest that you honor me. On that day no one is to work.

Third Sunday of Lent

In six days I, the Lord, made the earth, the sky, the seas and everything in them. But on the seventh day I rested. That is why I, the Lord, blessed the Sabbath and made it holy.

Respect your father and your mother so you may live a long life in the land that I am giving you.

Do not kill.

Do not commit adultery.

Do not steal.

Do not lie.

Do not desire another man's house.

Do not desire his wife, his slaves, his cattle, his donkey or anything he owns.”

The Word of the Lord

RESPONSE: Lord, your Word gives us life!

The teachings of the Lord are perfect.
His teachings give strength to people of God.
His teachings can be trusted.
It helps foolish people become wise.

RESPONSE:

The laws of the Lord are right.
People obeying the laws are happy.
The commands of the Lord are fair.
They show people the right way to live.

RESPONSE:

Worshipping the Lord is like a light.
It will shine bright forever.
The judgments of the Lord are good and fair.
They are always right.

RESPONSE:

The laws are more attractive than the finest gold.
They are sweeter than honey.
I am rewarded for obeying the laws.

RESPONSE:

Second Reading

1 CORINTHIANS 1:22-25

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

Paul said, “Jews want miracles for proof. The Greeks look for wisdom. But we preach that Christ was nailed to a cross. The message we proclaim is offensive to the Jews and to the Gentiles the message makes no sense. Our message is the wisdom and power from God. Even though it seems that God is foolish but he is wiser than human wisdom. It seems that God is weak but he is stronger than human strength.”

The Word of the Lord

Third Sunday of Lent

Gospel acclamation

Praise and honor to you, Lord Jesus Christ

God loved the world so much that He gave His only Son. Anyone believing in His Son will have eternal life.

Praise and honor to you, Lord Jesus Christ

Gospel

JOHN 2:13-25

A Reading from the Holy Gospel of John

Just before the time of Jewish festival of Passover, Jesus went to Jerusalem. He entered a temple and saw people selling cattle, sheep and doves. He also saw people sitting at the table exchanging money. He took a rope and made a whip. Then he chased people out of temple with their sheep and cattle. He went to the tables with the coins and turned them over. The coins scattered all over.

Jesus said to the people selling doves, “Get those birds out. Don’t make the house of my Father a place for selling.” The disciples remembered what the Scriptures said, “My love for your house burns in me like a fire.”

Jewish leaders came to Jesus and asked him, “What miracle do you have to show us for what you have done?”

Third Sunday of Lent

Jesus answered, “Destroy the temple and I will build it up again in three days!”

The Jewish leaders replied, “What? You know it took us forty-six years to build this temple. How can you build it up in three days?”

But Jesus was talking about was his body as a temple. That is Jesus will be raised from death. His disciples remembered what Jesus told them and began to believe the Scriptures and the words of Jesus.

Jesus stayed in Jerusalem for the Passover. Many people saw the miracles Jesus did and began to believe in him. But Jesus knew what was in their hearts and did not trust them.

The Good News of the Lord

Third Sunday of Lent

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

First Reading

2 CHRONICLES 36:14-16, 19-23

A Reading from the Second Scroll of Chronicles

Zedekiah became king of Judah and he sinned against the Lord. He won't listen to the prophet Jeremiah. The leaders of Judah, the priests and people began to worship idols. The Lord had made the temple holy but the people ruined it.

The Lord sent the prophets again and again to warn his people because he felt sorry for them. He did not want to destroy them or the temple. But the people made fun of the prophets and refused to listen to them. Finally God gave up. He sent the king of Babylon to attack the people of Judah. The king of Babylon stole all the valuable things from the temple and burned it down. He took all the people that were still alive to Babylon and forced them as slaves. They stayed in Babylon as slaves until the army from the Persian kingdom defeated the kingdom of Babylon. All that happened as the Lord had warned the people of Israel through the prophet Jeremiah. The place became an empty wasteland for 70 years to make up for the Sabbath rest that was not observed in the past.

Fourth Sunday of Lent

In the first year Cyrus was king of Persia. The Lord announced what he said through the prophet Jeremiah became true. He inspired Cyrus to proclaim the command and sent it out in writing to be read throughout his kingdom.kjl

This is what Cyrus, king of Persia, said, “The Lord, the God of heaven, has made me ruler over the whole world and gave me the responsibility of building the temple for him in Jerusalem in Judah. Now all of you, people of God, are free to go to Jerusalem. May the Lord your God be with you.”

The Word of the Lord

**RESPONSE: Let my tongue be silenced if I
forget you**

We sat down by the rivers in Babylon.
We cried about leaving Jerusalem.
We hang up our harps on the trees.

RESPONSE:

How can we sing a song to the Lord in the foreign
land?
If I forget you, Jerusalem, then I may never be able to
play the harp again.

RESPONSE:

I may never be able to sing again.
I promise I will never forget you.
I promise Jerusalem will always be my greatest joy.

RESPONSE:

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

Paul said, “God is full of mercy. With sins we were dead. But God loves us so much that he made us alive with Christ. God is kind to us so he saved us. He raised us from death to life with Jesus Christ. He has given us a place with Christ in heaven. God did this so that in the future he could show how good and kind he is to us because of Jesus Christ. You are saved because of your faith in God. What he did to us is much better than we deserve. This is the gift from God. It has nothing to do with what you have done. It is not something that you earned. So you have nothing to brag. God planned for us to do good things and to live as he wants us to live. That is why he sent Christ to make us what we are.”

The Word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation

Praise and honor to you, Lord Jesus Christ

God loves the world so much that he gave his only son so anyone believing in him will have eternal life.

Praise and honor to you, Lord Jesus Christ

Gospel

JOHN 3:14-21

A Reading from the Holy Gospel of John

Jesus said to Nicodemus, “Moses lifted up a snake in the desert. The same way the Son of Man must be lifted up. Everyone believing in the Son of Man will have eternal life.”

God love the world so much that he gave his only son so that everyone believing in him will have eternal life.

God did not send his son into the world to judge the people. He sent him as a savior.

Anyone believing in the Son of God will not be judged. But anyone not believing will be judged for not having faith in the only son of God.

Fourth Sunday of Lent

The light appeared into the world. But people like darkness better than light because they want to do evil deeds.

Anyone doing evil deed hates light because he doesn't want people to see his bad actions.

Anyone doing good deeds will come to the light because he wants the people to see that he is doing what God wants him to do.

The Good News of the Lord

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

First Reading

JEREMIAH 31:31-34

A Reading from the Scroll of Jeremiah

The Lord says, “The time is now. I will make a new covenant with the people of Israel and with the people of Judah. It will not be like the old covenant I made with their ancestors I led out of Egypt. I was like a husband to them but they did not keep their covenant.

The new covenant I will make with the people of Israel is that I will write my laws on their hearts. I will be their God and they will be my people.

They will not have to teach a neighbor to know the Lord. They will know me. I will forgive their sins and I will not remember their sins.

The Word of the Lord

RESPONSE: Lord, make my heart clean

I know I have sinned.
I did things you say are wrong.
I have sinned against you.
I am wrong and you are right.

RESPONSE:

Don't look at my sins!
Wash them all out!
Give me the joy that is from your salvation.
Make my spirit strong.

RESPONSE:

Help me to speak.
I will teach sinners to obey you.
They will go back to you.
I will praise you.

RESPONSE:

A Reading from the letter to the Hebrews

God had the power to save Jesus from death. Jesus living on earth begged God with loud crying and tears to save him from death. But he (Jesus) was humble and devoted to God. God heard his prayers. Even though Jesus is truly the Son of God but he still had to suffer before he learned what it really means to obey God. Suffering made Jesus perfect. Now he can save all obeying him.

The Word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation

Praise and honor to you, Lord Jesus Christ

The Lord says, “Anyone wishing to serve me must follow me. My servants will be with me where I am.”

Praise and honor to you, Lord Jesus Christ

Gospel

JOHN 12:20-30

A Reading from the Holy Gospel of John

A group of Greeks went to Jerusalem to celebrate Passover. Philip was in Jerusalem. So the Greeks went to Philip and told him that they want to see Jesus. Philip went to Andrew and told him that the Greeks want to see Jesus. Then they went to Jesus and told him that the Greeks want to see him.

Jesus said, “The time is now for the Son of Man to receive his glory. I tell you the truth. A seed of wheat falls into the ground and dies; it will grow into a new plant with many seeds. But if the seed never die, it will stay as a single seed.

Anyone who loves life will lose it. But anyone let go of life will have eternal life.

Fifth Sunday of Lent

Anyone wishing to serve me must follow me so that my servants will be with me where I go. If you serve me, my father will honor you. My Father will honor anyone wishing to serve me.

Now I have a problem and I do not know what to say. But I will not ask my Father to protect me from suffering. I came into this world to suffer. Father, give yourself glory.”

A voice from heaven said, “I have already given glory to myself and I will do it again!” The crowd heard the voice. They thought it was a thunder. Others thought an angel was speaking to Jesus. But Jesus told the crowd that the voice was for them, not for him (Jesus).

The Good News of the Lord

PASSION SUNDAY

Processional Gospel

MARK 11:1-10

A Reading from the Holy Gospel of Mark

Jesus and his disciples were on the way to Jerusalem. They arrived near the towns of Bethphage and Bethany and went to the Mount of Olives. Jesus said to his two disciples, “Go to the village and you will see a donkey that was never ridden before tied up. Untie the donkey and bring it to me. If someone asks you why you are untying the donkey, tell the person that the master needs it and he will bring it back.”

The two disciples went into the village and saw the donkey tied to the door of a house. The disciples untied the donkey. The people said to them, “What are you doing?” They told them what Jesus said to them. So the people let them take the donkey. The disciples brought the donkey to Jesus. They put their cloaks on the back of the donkey and Jesus got on it. People begin to throw cloaks on the road. Others cut branches from the fields. The people in the front and back of Jesus went shouting “Hosanna! Bless him in the name of the Lord! Blessed is the coming kingdom of King David, our father! Hosanna in the highest!”

The Good News of the Lord

Passion Sunday

OR

Processional Gospel

JOHN 12:12-16

A Reading from the Holy Gospel of John

The next day a large crowd went to Jerusalem to celebrate Passover. They heard that Jesus was coming for the festival so they cut off palm branches and went out to meet Jesus. They shouted, “Hosanna! Blessed is he in the name of the Lord! Blessed is the king of Israel!”

Jesus got on a donkey and rode on it as the Scripture said, “People of Jerusalem, don’t be afraid! Your king is coming on the donkey.”

In the beginning the disciples did not understand. But later they begin to remember the Scripture said it would happen.

The Good News of the Lord

Passion Sunday

A Reading from the Scroll of Isaiah

The Lord God told me what to say so I can speak to people to inspire them.

Every morning he makes me eager to hear what he is going to tell me.

The Lord has given me understanding. I have not rebelled or ignored him.

I let people beat me on my back.

The people insulted me and I did not stop them.

They pulled the hairs of my beard and spit in my face but I did not stop them.

Their insults cannot hurt me because the Lord God is with me. I made myself strong so I can accept their insults. I know that I will not be shamed.

The Word of the Lord

Psalm

PSALM 22:8-9,17-18,19-20,23-24

RESPONSE:

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

People look at me and mock me.
They stick out their tongue and say,
“Ask the Lord to save you.
Maybe he will save you.
If he likes you so much, he will save you.”

RESPONSE:

People around me are like dogs.
My enemies tied me up.
They have pierced my hands and my feet.
I can see my bones.

RESPONSE:

They took off my clothes and gamble for them.
They are throwing dices for my robe.
Lord, don't leave me! Hurry and help me!

RESPONSE:

I will tell my people about you.
I will praise you before all people.
Honor him, you people from Jacob.
Worship him, you people of Israel.

RESPONSE:

Passion Sunday

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

Paul said, “Christ was truly God. But he did not think of himself as God. He gave up everything and became servant. He was like one of us. Christ was humble. He obeyed God and died on a cross.

Then God gave Christ the highest place and honored his name above all other name. So at the name of Jesus everyone will bow down those in heaven, on earth and under earth.

Everyone should proclaim to the glory of God the Father that, ‘Jesus Christ is Lord’”.

The Word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation

Praise and honor to you, Lord Jesus Christ

Jesus humbled himself and accepted death on a cross. God praised Him and blessed his name above all other names.

Praise and honor to you, Lord Jesus Christ

Gospel

MARK 14:1-15:47

Narrator-----Jesus Christ-----People

The Passion of Our Lord Jesus Christ from the Holy Gospel of Mark

Two days before the Passover, the Feast of Thin Bread, the chief priests and the teachers of the Law of Moses were planning to arrest Jesus and put him to death. But they were afraid to do so during the Passover feast because the people may riot.

Jesus was in Bethany eating at the home of Simon. Before Simon himself had leprosy. The woman came into the house with a bottle of very expensive sweet smelling perfume. She opened the bottle and poured perfume over the head of Jesus. The people saw and became angry. They said to each other,

Passion Sunday

“Why is the woman doing it? She is wasting the perfume. She should sell it for more than three hundred silver coins and give the money to the poor! They began to criticize the woman.”

Jesus said,

“Leave her alone. Why are you criticizing her? She has done a beautiful thing for me. You will always have the poor with you. Any time you want do you can help the poor. But you will not always have me. She did all she could. She poured perfume over me to prepare my body for my burial. Now I tell you that the Good News is told all over the world. People will remember what the woman did will be told in memory of her.”

Judas Iscariot, one of the twelve apostles, decided to betray Jesus. He went to the chief priests and offered to help them arrest Jesus. The chief priests were glad and offered him some money. Judas decided to look for a good way to betray Jesus.

On the first day of the Feast of Thin Bread the lambs were killed for the Passover meal. The disciples asked Jesus where he wanted them to prepare the Passover meal. Jesus said,

“Go to the city and you will see a man carrying a jar of water. Follow him into a house and tell him ‘Our teacher wants to know if you have a room for him to have the Passover meal with his disciples’. The man will take you upstairs and show you a room. There you prepare the meal.”

The two disciples went into the city and saw everything exactly what Jesus said. So they prepared the Passover meal. During the meal Jesus said to the twelve disciples,

“I tell you that the one eating with us will betray me.”

All the disciples were upset and asked him, ‘Surely you do not mean me.’ Jesus answered,

“One of you twelve eating with us dips his bread in the dish with me. The Son of Man will die as the Scriptures say. It will be terrible for the one to betray me. It would be better off for him not to be born.”

Jesus took the bread, blessed it, broke it and gave it to the disciples. He said,

“Take it. This is my body.”

Then Jesus took a cup of wine, gave thanks and gave it to the disciples. They all drank from it. He said,

“This is my blood of the covenant that will be poured out for many people. I will not drink again the fruit of the vine until the day I drink it in the kingdom of God.”

Then they sang a hymn and went to the Mount of Olives. Jesus said to the disciples,

“All of you will lose faith in me as the Scriptures said, ‘I will kill the shepherd and the sheep will be scattered. But after I am raised to life, I will go to Galilee ahead of you’”.

Peter said, “Not me! I will never leave you.” Jesus said to Peter,

“I tell you the night before the rooster crows twice; you will deny me three times.”

Peter said, “I will die with you. I will not deny you.” Jesus with his disciples went to a place called Gethsemane. He said to them,

“Stay here. I am going up to pray.”

Jesus took Peter, John and James and went up. He said to them,

“I am sad and feel crushed. Stay here and keep awake with me.”

Jesus went up a little way, fell on the ground and prayed,

“Father, is it possible for you to take away the cup from me. But do what you want; not what I want.”

Jesus went back and found the three disciples sleeping. He said to Peter,

“Are you sleeping? Can’t you stay awake just for one hour?” Stay awake and pray that you will not be tempted. Do what is right but you are weak.”

Jesus went back to pray. Then he came back to the disciples and found them sleeping again. They could not keep their eyes open and did not know what to say to Jesus. Jesus went up to pray and came back the third time and he said,

“Are you still sleeping and resting? That is enough! Now is the time for the Son of Man to be taken by the sinners. Get up! Let’s go. Look here is the man that is betraying me.”

Judas came with a mob of men with swords and clubs. He said to the men,

“The man I kiss is Jesus. Arrest him.”

Judas went to Jesus and kissed him. The men grabbed Jesus and tied him up. One was standing by pulled out a sword and cut off the ear of the servant of the high priest. Jesus said to the men,

“Why do you come with swords and clubs to arrest me like a criminal? Day after day I was with you and taught in the temple but you did not arrest me. But what the Scriptures said must happen.”

All the disciples ran away and left Jesus standing alone. The men tried to grab one young man wearing only a linen cloth but he ran away naked leaving his cloth behind.

The men brought Jesus to the chief priest. Peter followed them at a distance and went into the yard of the chief priest. He sat down by the fire to warm himself. The chief priests tried to find some evidence against Jesus so they could put him to death. But they could not find anyone to accuse him. Many people told lies against Jesus but their stories did not agree. The people began to shout,

“We heard him saying that he will destroy the temple and build it up again in three days.”

The chief priest asked him if he has anything to say to defend himself. But Jesus kept quiet and said nothing. The high priest then asked him if he is the Messiah, the Son of God. Jesus answered,

“Yes, I am! You will see the Son of Man seated at the right side of the Almighty God and coming with the clouds of heaven.”

The chief priest ripped off his clothes and said,

“We don’t need any more witness. We heard him saying that he is God.”

People started to spit at Jesus. They blindfolded him, beat him with fists. Peter was still in the yard. A servant girl came up and saw Peter keeping himself warm by the fire. She said to Peter,

“You are with Jesus of Nazareth.”

Peter replied, “No! I do not know what you are talking about.” The rooster crowed. Then another servant girl saw Peter and said to the people,

“That man was with Jesus.”

Again Peter denied. A little later some people said to Peter,

“You are the one with Jesus. You are from Galilee.”

Peter began to swear. I do not know the man you are talking about! At once the rooster crowed a second time. Peter heard and remembered that Jesus told him, “Before the rooster crowed twice you will say three times that you do not know me.” Peter began to cry.

Early next morning the chief priest brought Jesus to Pontius Pilate. Pilate asked him, “Are you the King of the Jews?” Jesus replied,

“You say that yourself.”

The chief priest accused Jesus of many things. So Pilate asked him if he has anything to say. But Jesus did not say one word. Pilate was surprised. It was the custom during the Passover to free one prisoner. So he asked the people which man they wanted to be freed—a killer named Barabbas or Jesus. The people shouted,

“Barabbas, free him!”

Then Pilate asked the people what they want him to do with the King of the Jews. The people shouted,

“Crucify him! Crucify him!”

Pilate asked the people why they wanted Jesus to be crucified. He has not done anything wrong? But the people shouted,

Passion Sunday

“Crucify him!”

So Pilate freed Barabbas. He told his soldiers to whip Jesus and nail him to a cross. The soldiers took Jesus away, put a purple robe on him and a crown of thorns on his head. They began to make fun of him,

“Hail, King of the Jews!”

The soldiers took off the purple robe and led Jesus off to be nailed to a cross. Simon from Cyrene came along so the soldiers forced him to help Jesus to carry the cross. They went up to a place called Golgatha, meaning “place of skull”. They gave him wine mixed with a drug to reduce the pain. But Jesus refused to drink it. They nailed him to a cross and gambled for his clothes.

It was 9 o’clock in the morning they nailed Jesus to a cross. On the cross was a sign saying “King of the Jews”.

The soldiers also nailed two thieves on the cross, one to the right of Jesus and the other on the left. People began to insult Jesus. The chief priests also made fun of Jesus saying,

“He saved others but he cannot save himself. If he is the Messiah, let him come down from the cross. Then we will see and believe.”

At noon the sky became dark and it lasted until 3 o'clock in the afternoon. That time Jesus cried out in a loud voice saying,

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

Some people heard it and said,

“He is shouting for Elijah.”

One of the people ran and soaked a sponge in wine. He put the sponge on a stick and gave to Jesus to drink. Jesus cried and died.

KNEEL

The curtain in the temple tore in two. The Roman army officer saw what had happened and said,

“That man was really the Son of God.”

In the evening Joseph from Arimathea , a good friend of Jesus, went to Pilate and asked him for the body of Jesus. Pilate was surprised that Jesus was already dead so he let Joseph have the body. Joseph took the body from the cross. He wrapped the body with the cloth and put it into a tomb. Then he rolled a big stone to cover the entrance of the tomb. Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of Joseph were watching and saw where the body was placed.

The Good News of the Lord

Passion Sunday

HOLY THURSDAY

First Reading

EXODUS 12:1-8,11-14

A Reading from the Scroll of Exodus

Moses and Aaron were in Egypt. The Lord said to them, “This month is to be the first month of the year for you. You must tell the people of Israel ‘On the tenth day of this month each man must choose either a lamb or a young goat for his family.’

If his family is too small to eat the whole animal, he must share an animal with his neighbor according to the number of people and how much each person can eat. You may choose either a sheep or a goat, but it must be a one-year old male with no blemish. Then on the evening of the fourteenth day of the month the whole community of Israel will kill the animals. The people are to take some of the blood, paint it on the doorposts and above the doors of the houses that the animals are to be eaten.

The night the meat is to be roasted and eaten with bitter herbs and with bread made without yeast. You are to eat the meat quickly. You must be dressed for travel with your sandals on your feet and your walking stick in your hand. It is the Passover festival to honor me, the Lord.”

Holy Thursday

On that night I will go through the land of Egypt, killing every first-born male, both human and animal and punish all the gods of Egypt. I am the Lord. The blood on the doorposts will be a sign to show the houses in which you live. I will see the blood and I will pass over you. I will not harm you but I will punish the Egyptians. You must celebrate this day as a religious festival to remind you what I, the Lord, have done. Celebrate it for all time to come.”

The Word of the Lord

RESPONSE: The cup we share is the blood of Christ.

How can I thank the Lord?
The Lord gave me everything I need.
He saved me so I will give him a drink.
I will call on his name.

RESPONSE:

For the people I will keep my promise to him.
The death of good people is special to you.
Lord, I am your servant.
I worship you just as my mother did.

RESPONSE:

I will offer my thanks.
I will pray to the Lord.
I will keep my promises.

RESPONSE:

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

Paul said, “I have already told you what the Lord did on the night he was betrayed. This is what the Lord did.

He took the bread and gave thanks to God. Then he broke it and said, ‘This is my body given up for you. Eat this and do this in memory of me.’

Then Jesus took a cup of wine and said, ‘This is my blood and with this blood God makes his agreement with you. Drink it in my memory.’

This means that every time you eat this bread and drink from this cup you are to proclaim about his death until he comes.”

The Word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation

Praise and honor to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Jesus said, “Love one another as I love you.”

Praise and honor to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Gospel

JOHN 13:1-15

A Reading from the Holy Gospel of John

The day before Passover Jesus knew it is time for him to leave the world and go back to his Father. He had always loved his people in the world.

Jesus and his disciples were having supper. The devil had already persuaded Judas Iscariot to betray Jesus. Jesus knew that the Father had given him full power and that he is from God and he will go back to his Father.

During the meal Jesus stood up, took off his robe and tied a towel around his waist. Then he poured water into a basin, began to wash the feet of his disciples and dried them with the towel. He came to Peter. Peter said to Jesus, “Are you going to wash my feet?” Jesus answered, “You do not know what I am doing but you will understand.”

Holy Thursday

Peter replied, “You will never wash my feet.” Jesus answered, “If I do not wash your feet, you cannot be my disciple.” Peter said, “Wash not only my feet, but my hands and my head.” Jesus said, “People that have bathed do not need to be washed again. All of you are clean, but one of you is not.” Jesus knew who will betray him. That is why he said ‘but one of you’.

Jesus stood up and put on his robe. He sat down at the table and asked them, “Do you understand what I have done to you? You call me ‘teacher’ and ‘Lord’. You are right because I am your teacher and Lord. But I washed your feet like a servant. So you should wash each other’s feet. I gave you an example so that you should do what I have done to you.”

The Good News of the Lord

Holy Thursday

GOOD FRIDAY

First Reading

ISAIAH 52:13-53:12

A Reading from the Scroll of Isaiah

The Lord says, “My servant will succeed in his work. He will be highly honored. Many people saw him and they were shocked. He was hurt so badly that the people could not recognize him.

But more people will be amazed. The kings will also be amazed that they can’t say anything. They will see and understand something that they never know.

The people will say, “Will anybody believe? Will anyone would accept his punishment?”

He was like a plant with a root growing in dry ground. He did not look special. If we look at him, we would see nothing special about him that would makes us like him.

People made fun of him and his friends left him. He suffered so much pain. People did not even notice him. He suffered but his pain should be ours. He accepted the pain for our sins. We were healed because of his pain.

We were like sheep that were lost. But the Lord humbly accepted the beatings that should be ours.

Good Friday

He said nothing like a sheep carried out to be killed. He never opened his mouth to protect himself. Men arrested him and took him away. They did not judge him fairly. He was killed for the sins of the people. He died and was buried.

The servant gave himself up to die for us. But he will live a long life and he will see his people. He will do things the Lord wants him to do. He will be satisfied with the things he did. He will make many people free from guilt. He will take away their sins. For that I will make him a great man among people. People said he was a thief. But he took away the sins of many people. Now he speaks for people that have sinned.

The Word of the Lord

Good Friday

RESPONSE: Father, I give you my Spirit.

Lord, I depend on you.
Don't disappoint me.
Be nice to me and save me.
Lord, you are the God we trust.

RESPONSE:

My enemies hate me.
Also my neighbors hate me.
They are afraid of me and avoid me.
The people forgot me completely.

RESPONSE:

Lord, I trust you.
You are my God.
My life is in your hands.
Save me from my enemies.

RESPONSE:

A Reading from the Letter to the Hebrews

Jesus, the Son of God, is our high priest. He went up to live with his Father in heaven.

Let us continue to be strong in faith. Jesus, the high priest, can understand our weakness. Jesus lived on earth and he was tempted in every way. He was tempted like we are tempted but he never sinned. With Jesus we can feel free to face God for forgiveness. We get help through his mercy and kindness we need.

Christ lived on earth and he prayed God for help. God saved him from death. Jesus prayed with loud cries and tears. God answered because Jesus was humble and did everything God wanted him to do.

Jesus was the Son of God. He learned through his suffering because he obeyed God. Jesus was perfect. All people obeying him will be saved.

The Word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation

Praise and honor to you, Lord Jesus Christ

Christ was humble and accepted death on a cross. God raised him to life.

Praise and honor to you, Lord Jesus Christ

Gospel

JOHN 18:1-19-19:42

Narrator-----Jesus Christ-----People

The Passion of Our Lord Jesus Christ from the Holy Gospel of John

Jesus with his disciples went through the valley of Kidron and into a garden. Jesus went to that garden often with his disciples. Judas knew that place so he went into the garden with a group of Roman soldiers. They had torches and swords. Jesus knew that something would happen to him. So he said,

“Who are you looking for?”

“We are looking for Jesus from Nazareth.”

“I am Jesus from Nazareth.”

The men were surprised and moved back and fell to the ground. Again Jesus asked,

Good Friday

“Who are you looking for?”

“Jesus from Nazareth”

“I have already told you I am Jesus from Nazareth. If you want me, let my friends go free.”

Simon Peter took out a sword and cut off the right ear of the servant of the high priest. The name of the servant was Malchus. Jesus said to Peter,

“Put your sword back! I must drink from the cup that the Father has given me.”

The soldiers ran to Jesus and grabbed him. They tied him up and brought him to Annas, the father in law of Caiaphas. Caiaphas was the high priest of that year.

Peter and another disciple followed Jesus. The soldiers brought Jesus to the house of the high priest. Peter waited outside by the door. The woman guarding the door saw Peter and said to him,

“Are you a disciple of Jesus?”

Peter answered that he is not the disciple of Jesus. It was cold outside so the servant made a fire. They were standing around the fire keeping warm. Peter stood with them near the fire. The high priest was questioning Jesus. Jesus said,

“I talked freely to everybody. I always taught in the temple that the Jews gather. I have not hidden anything. So why question me? Ask the people. They heard me and they know what I said.”

One of the guards slapped Jesus saying

“You should not talk like that to the chief priest!”

“What did I say is wrong? Tell me what I said is wrong. Why slap me?”

Simon Peter still stood outside by the fire trying to keep warm. Someone said to him,

“Are you a disciple of Jesus?”

Peter denied, saying that he is not. Another person saw Peter and said to him,

“You are a disciple of Jesus. I saw you with him in the garden.”

But Peter said, “No, not me. I was not with him.”

At once a cock crowed. Early in the morning the Jews brought Jesus to Pontius Pilate. They did not go into the house of Pontius Pilate because they wanted to keep themselves clean so they can celebrate Passover. So Pontius Pilate went outside and asked the people, “What the man, Jesus, had done wrong?” The Jews answered,

He is criminal. That is why we brought him here for you.”

Pilate said to the Jews, “You, Jews, take him yourself. Judge him with your law.” The Jews answered,

Your Roman law will not permit us to punish Jesus with death.”

Pilate asked Jesus, “Are you the king of the Jews?” Jesus replied,

“Are you asking that question yourself or did the people tell you that?”

Pilate said, “I am not a Jew. Your people brought you here. What have you done wrong?” Jesus said,

“My kingdom is not in this world. If it is, my people will fight to stop the Jews from arresting me. No, my kingdom does not belong to this world.”

Good Friday

Pilate said, “So, are you the king?” Jesus replied,

“You said that. Yes, I am the king. I was born to be a king. I came into this world to tell the people about the truth.”

Pilate told the Jews that he sees nothing wrong with Jesus. It is the Passover time and it is the custom that one prisoner will be freed. So Pilate asked the people which one they want to be freed, Jesus or Barabbas? All the people shouted,

“Free Barabbas!”

Pilate told the soldiers to whip Jesus. The soldiers whipped Jesus, made a crown from thorns and put it on his head. They put a purple robe on him, slapped him and mocked him,

“Hail the king of the Jews!”

Then the soldiers brought Jesus in front of the people. Pilate was eager to free Jesus. He said to them, “Look, here is Jesus. I find nothing wrong against him.” The people saw Jesus and shouted,

“Crucify him! Crucify him!”

Pilate said, “You crucify Jesus yourself. I see nothing wrong with him.” But the Jews said,

“We have a law. Our Jewish law says that if anyone says he is the Son of God, he must die.”

Pilate became afraid so he asked Jesus, “Where he is from?” Jesus said nothing. So Pilate said to him, “Why are you refusing to speak to me?” You know I have power to free you. Also I have power to crucify you.” Jesus replied,

“You have power over me because God gave you the power. That is why the person that betrayed me is guilty.”

Now Pilate really wanted to free Jesus but the Jews shouted,

“If anyone makes himself a king, he is against Caesar. If you free Jesus, you are not a friend of Caesar!”

It was almost noon. So Pilate said to the Jews, “Here is your king!” The Jews shouted,

“Away with him! Kill him! Crucify him!”

Pilate said, “Do you want me to crucify your king?” The chief priests answered,

“We have no king but Caesar.”

Then Pilate let the Jews crucify Jesus. The soldiers forced Jesus to carry a cross. He carried it out of the city to Golgotha meaning “place of skull”. There the soldiers crucified Jesus with two thieves one on the right and the other on the left. Pilate had a sign to be put up on the top of the cross. It said, “Jesus from Nazareth, King of the Jews.” The Jews saw the sign and complained to Pilate,

“You should not write ‘King of the Jews’. You should write ‘This man said, ‘I am the king of the Jews.’”

Pilate replied, “What is written on the sign will stay.”

Mary, the mother of Jesus, her sister, Mary, the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene were standing near the cross. Jesus saw his mother and his favorite disciple. He said to his mother,

“This man is now your son.”

Then Jesus said to his favorite disciple,

“She is now your mother.”

Jesus knew that everything was finished and said,

“I am thirsty.”

Near the cross there was a jar of cheap wine. One soldier soaked a sponge with wine, put the sponge on a stick and bring it up to Jesus. Jesus tasted the wine and said,

“It is finished.”

Jesus bowed his head and died.

KNEEL

The next day was the Sabbath. The Jewish laws did not allow for the bodies to be left on the cross. So the soldiers went and broke the legs of the men. Then they went to Jesus but he was already dead. One soldier took a spear and pierced the side of Jesus. Blood and water came out.

Joseph from Arimathea, secret follower of Jesus, went to Pilate and asked him for the body of Jesus. He and Nicodemus, another follower of Jesus, took the body down, wrapped the body with linen cloth and spices. That is how the Jewish people bury the dead. Near the place where Jesus was crucified was a garden and in the garden was a new tomb that was not used before. There they buried Jesus.

The Gospel of the Lord

Good Friday

EASTER VIGIL

First Reading

GENESIS 1:1-2:2

A Reading from the Scroll of Genesis (Short Form---Read in black)

In the beginning God created (made) heaven and earth. The earth had no shape and was empty. It was dark and the wind was blowing over the water. The spirit of God moved over the water. God said, "Let there be light." The light began to shine. God saw the light was good so he separated the light from darkness. God called the light "day" and the darkness "night". The evening came and the morning began. That was the first day.

God said, "Let there be a dome to divide the water into two parts." And it happened. God made a dome and it separated the water under it from the water above it. He called the dome "sky". The evening came and the morning began. That was the second day.

God said, "Let the water under the sky be gathered in one place so the dry land will appear." And it happened. God called the dry land "earth" and the water "sea". God saw it was good.

Easter Vigil

Then he said “Let plants that give seeds and trees that give fruits with seeds grow on earth.” And it happened. God saw it was good. Evening came and the morning began. That was the third day.

God said, “Let there be lights in the sky to separate day from night and to show the times, days and years.” And it happened. God made two large lights, the sun for the day and the moon for the night. He also made stars. He put them in the sky to shine on the earth to control the day and the night and to separate the light from darkness. God saw it was good. Evening came and the morning began. That was the fourth day.

God said, “Let the water be filled with different kinds of fish and the sky be filled with birds.” And it happened. God made all kinds of fish in the water and all kinds of birds in the sky. He was satisfied with what he saw. He blessed them and told them to increase the number. Evening came and morning began. That was the fifth day.

God said, “Let the earth have all kinds of animals, tame and wild, large and small.” And it happened. So he made them all and was satisfied with what he saw. Then God said, “Now let us make a man like us. They will have power over the fish, the birds and all animals”.

God made a man like himself. He created (made) male and female, blessed them and say have many children so that your descendants (future children) will live all over the earth. He gave them charge over the fish, birds and animals.

Then God said, “I have provided all kinds of seeds and fruits for you to eat and for all the animals and birds. I have provided grass and leaves for food and it was done. And it happened. God looked at everything he made and saw it was good. Evening came and morning began. That was the sixth day.

The whole creation was completed. And on the seventh day God finished with his work and he rested.

The Word of the Lord

Psalm

PSALM 33:4-5,6-7,12-13,20-22

RESPONSE: The Lord fills the earth with his love.

The word of the Lord is always true.
We trust his work.
The Lord loves justice and peace.
The Lord fills the earth with his love.

RESPONSE:

The word of the Lord made the world.
His word made the sun, moon and stars.
He gathered all the seas into one place.

RESPONSE:

The Lord looks at the world.
He sees all his people.
The people are happy because God is their Lord.
We trust the Lord.

RESPONSE:

We depend on the Lord.
He is our protector and our help.
We trust his holy name.

RESPONSE:

Easter Vigil

A Reading from the Scroll of Genesis
(Short Form---Read in black)

God decided to test Abraham. So he called Abraham and said to him, “Take your son Isaac, the one you love so much and go to the land of Moriah. There on the mountain kill your son as a sacrifice for me.

Early the next morning Abraham cut the wood and put the wood on his donkey. Then he took Isaac and two servants. They went to the place God told him to go. They traveled for three days. On the third day Abraham saw the mountain far away. So Abraham said to the servants, “Stay here with the donkey. Isaac and I are going up there and worship. Then we will come back.” Abraham took the wood from the donkey and put it on the shoulder of Isaac. Abraham took a knife and coals for starting the fire. They were walking and Isaac said to his father, “Father, we have the wood and coals but where is the lamb for the sacrifice?” Abraham answered, “God will provide.” The two of them walked together.

They arrived at the place that God told Abraham to go. Abraham built an altar and put the wood on the altar. Then he tied Isaac and put him on the top of wood on altar. Abraham took out his knife and was ready to kill his son.

The angel of the Lord shouted from heaven, “Abraham, Abraham!” Abraham answered, “Here I am.” The angel of the Lord said, “Don’t kill the boy or hurt him. Now I know that you honor and obey God because you did not refuse to offer your only son to me.” Abraham looked around and saw a ram got stuck in a bush. So Abraham took the ram and offered it as a burnt offering instead of his son. **Abraham named the place, “The Lord provided.”**

The angel of the Lord called Abraham the second time from heaven, “You were ready to kill your son and because you obeyed me, I promise you many blessings. I will give you many descendants (future children) as the stars in the sky or grains of sand on the beach.

The Word of the Lord

(Required; cannot be omitted)

A Reading from the Scroll of Exodus

The Lord said to Moses, “Why are you still asking me for help? Tell the people of Israel to keep on walking. Hold up the walking stick in your hand over the Red Sea. The sea will split so the people of Israel can walk through on dry ground. I will make the Egyptian soldiers stubborn so they will go after you. I will show them that I am more powerful than Pharaoh, the soldiers and the chariots. I will win over them and they will know that I am the Lord.”

The angel of the Lord that were in front of the people of Israel moved to the back of people. Also the pillar of cloud moved from the front to the back of people between the people of Israel and the Egyptian soldiers. The cloud became dark so the soldiers could not come closer to the people of Israel.

Moses held up his hand over the sea and the sea split into two. The wind blew from the east all night and made the ground dry. The people from Israel walked on the dry land between the walls of the water on the left and on the right. The Egyptian soldiers and chariots followed them into the sea.

In the morning the Lord looked down from the pillar of cloud and saw the Egyptian army. The army became confused. The wheels of their chariot got stuck and they could not move. The soldiers said, “The Lord is helping the people of Israel and fighting against us. Let’s get out of here.”

The Lord said Moses, “Raise your hand over the sea so the water will go over the soldiers and the chariots.” So Moses stretched out his hand over the sea. The walls of the water closed and covered the army. The soldiers tried to escape from the water but the Lord threw them into the sea. All the soldiers and chariots drowned and died. The people of Israel walked through the sea on dry ground with walls of water on the right and the left. That day the Lord saved the people of Israel from the Egyptian soldiers and the people saw the dead bodies of the soldiers on the shore. They saw the great power of the Lord against the soldiers. They began to trust the Lord and his servant Moses. So they began to sing this song to the Lord:

“I will sing to the Lord.

He has won great victory.

He has thrown the horses and their riders into the sea.”

The Word of the Lord

RESPONSE: Praise the Lord for his wonderful victory.

I will sing to the Lord. He has won great victory.
He threw horses and armies into the sea.
The Lord is my strength.
I will praise him.

RESPONSE:

The Lord is a great soldier.
He threw chariots and armies into the sea.
Egyptian soldiers drowned in the sea.

RESPONSE:

The deep water covered the armies.
They sank to the bottom like a rock and drowned.
Lord, your right hand is powerful.
Your right hand destroyed the enemy.

RESPONSE:

You will lead people to your mountain.
You will give them a home on your mountain.
You will build your temple.
The Lord will reign forever and ever.

RESPONSE:

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

St Paul said, “Do you know that through our baptism we share our death with Jesus? Through our baptism we died and were buried with Jesus. Also because of our baptism, we will have a new life with Jesus. He was raised from death by the glorious power of God. We must realize that our old life died with Christ on the cross. Jesus destroyed our sinful body. He freed us from sin. So a person dies and this person has no more sin.

We believe that in our death with Christ we will come back to life with him. We know that Christ rose from death and he will never die again. Death has no power over Jesus. Jesus died and he died once. He died for everybody. He has conquered the power of sin. Jesus now has new life with God. In the same way you must think of yourself dead under the power of sin. But Christ gave you life and you live for God.

The Word of the Lord

Alleluia---Alleluia---Alleluia

Give thanks to the Lord for he is good.
Let the people of Israel say,
“His mercy continues forever.”

Alleluia---Alleluia---Alleluia

Gospel

MARK 16:1-7

A Reading from the Holy Gospel of Mark

One evening after Sabbath, three women, Mary Magdalene, Salome and Mary, mother of James, went to the tomb with sweet smelling spices. They want to rub the spices over the body of Jesus.

The next day, early in the morning before the sun went up, the women went to the tomb. They said to each other, “Who will move the stone for us?”

The women arrived at the tomb and they saw the stone was already moved from the entrance of the tomb. They went into the tomb and saw a young man wearing a white robe sitting on the right. The women became afraid. The man said to the women, “Don’t be afraid. I know you are looking for Jesus that was crucified. He is not here. God has raised him to life. Now you go and tell the disciples, especially Peter, that Jesus will be at Galilee and you will see him there exactly what Jesus told you before”.

The Good News of the Lord

Easter Vigil

EASTER SUNDAY

First Reading

ACTS 10:34, 37-43

A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles

Peter said to the people, “I am sure all of you know what happened recently in Judea. It began in Galilee that John told the people to be baptized. God gave the Holy Spirit and power to Jesus from Nazareth. God was with Jesus. He went around doing good work and healing everyone that was under the power of the devil. We saw what Jesus did both in Israel and in the city of Jerusalem.

We saw people killed Jesus on a cross. But three days later God raised him to life. Jesus appeared but not everyone saw him. We saw him, ate and drank with him. We were the ones God chose to tell others about him.

Jesus told us to proclaim that God has chosen Jesus to judge the living and the dead. All the prophets have said that all people having faith in Jesus will have their sins forgiven in his name.”

The Word of the Lord

Easter Sunday

RESPONSE: Alleluia

Give thanks to the Lord for he is good.
He is always full of mercy.
Let the house of Israel shout,
His mercy continues forever.

RESPONSE:

The Lord has won.
I shall not die. I shall live.
The work of the Lord is wonderful.

RESPONSE:

The stone that the builders threw out.
That stone is the most important.
The Lord did that.
It is wonderful for us.

RESPONSE:

Second Reading

COLOSSIANS 3:1-4

A Reading from the Letter of St Paul to the Colossians

Paul said, “You have been raised to life with Christ. Now look what is in heaven. Jesus is there at the right side of God.

Think about what is up there, not what is on earth. You died and that means your life is now with Christ.

Christ is your life. Christ will come and you will appear with him in glory.”

The Word of the Lord

Easter Sunday

Alleluia---Alleluia---Alleluia

Christ has risen. Let us rejoice.

Alleluia---Alleluia---Alleluia

Gospel

JOHN 20:1-9

A Reading from the Holy Gospel of John

One early Sunday morning and it was still dark. Mary Magdalene went to the tomb and saw that the stone that covered the entrance of the tomb moved out. Mary ran to Simon Peter and to other disciple that Jesus loves and said to them, “They have taken the body of Jesus from the tomb and I don’t know where they put his body.

Peter and the other disciple ran to the tomb. The other disciple ran faster than Peter and he got to the tomb first. But he did not go into the tomb. He bent over and saw the cloth on the ground. Peter arrived later and he went into the tomb. He saw the cloth on the ground and also the cloth that was wrapped around the head of Jesus. That cloth was rolled up and was in a place by itself. The other disciple went in. He saw and believed. That time they did not understand what the Scriptures said that Jesus would rise to life.

The Good News of the Lord

Easter Sunday

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

First Reading

ACTS 4:32-35

A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles

The followers were filled with the Holy Spirit. They felt the same way about everything. None of them said that all things were theirs and they shared everything they had with each other.

With a great power the apostles told everyone that the Lord Jesus is now alive. God had blessed his followers and none of them was in need of anything. Anyone owning the land or houses would sell them and give the money to the apostles. Then the apostles would give out the money to anyone needing it.

The Word of the Lord

RESPONSE: Lord, your love is forever!

Israel says, “His true love is forever!”

Priests say, “His true love is forever!”

People worshipping God say, “His true love is forever!”

RESPONSE:

The enemy beat me up and almost killed me.

But the Lord is with me.

The Lord is my strength and he saves me.

From his house you can hear the celebration of victory.

The Lord is powerful

RESPONSE:

The stone that the builders threw out is the most important stone.

The Lord made this happen and it is wonderful for us.

Today is the day the Lord has made.

Let us celebrate and be glad today.

RESPONSE:

Second Reading

1 JOHN 5:1-6

A Reading from the First Letter of John

If we really believe that Jesus is truly Christ, then we are children of God. Everyone that loves the Father will also love his children.

If we love and obey God, we know that we will love his children. We show love for God by obeying his commandments. His commands are not too hard for us.

Every child of God can defeat the world. Our faith is what gives us this victory. No one can defeat the world without having faith in Jesus as the Son of God.

Water and blood flowed out of the side of Jesus. It was not just water but both water and blood. The Spirit said that this because the Spirit is full of truth.

The Word of the Lord

Second Sunday of Easter

Alleluia---Alleluia---Alleluia

Jesus said, “You believe because you saw me.
The people did not see but believe are blessed.

Alleluia---Alleluia---Alleluia

Gospel

JOHN 20:19-31

A Reading from the Holy Gospel of John

One Sunday evening the disciples gathered in a room. The doors were locked because they were afraid of the Jewish leaders. Suddenly Jesus appeared and stood in the middle. He said, “Peace be with you.”

Then he showed his hands and side. The disciples saw and they became very happy. Then Jesus said again, “Peace be with you. My Father has sent me. So I send you.”

Then he breathed on them saying, “Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive sins of the people, their sins will be forgiven. But if you don’t forgive their sins, they will not be forgiven.”

It happened that evening Thomas, one of the twelve, was not in the room that Jesus appeared. So the disciples told him that they saw Jesus

Second Sunday of Easter

Thomas said, “I don’t believe. First I must see the holes in his hands, put my finger into the holes and put my hand into his side. Then I will believe.

One week later the disciples were together in a room. This time Thomas was in the room. The doors were locked. Jesus appeared and stood in the middle. He said, “Peace be with you.”

Then he said to Thomas, “Look at my hands. Put your finger into the holes. Put your hand into my side. Stop doubting and believe!”

Thomas answered, “My Lord and my God!”

Then Jesus said, “Now you believe because you saw me. But the people have not seen me and they believed. They are more blessed.”

Many followers saw Jesus did many other wonderful works that are not listed in the book. Now they are listed so you can believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God and through your faith you will have life in his name.

The Good News of the Lord

Second Sunday of Easter

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

First Reading

ACTS 3:13-15,17-19

A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles

The God that Abraham, Isaac, Jacob and our other ancestors worshipped has given honor to his servant Jesus. But you rejected him. You were against Jesus during the time he was questioned by Pilate even though Pilate wanted to free him.

You rejected Jesus. He was good and holy. You asked for a killer to be freed. You killed the one that leads people to life. But God raised him from death. Now all of us can tell you what he has done.

My friends, I am sure that you and your leaders did not know what you were doing. But God told the prophets tell that his Messiah would suffer. Now he has kept that promise. So turn to God! Give up your sins and you will be forgiven.

The Word of the Lord

Third Sunday of Easter

RESPONSE: Lord, show us your face

How long will you people insult me?
You love foolish things.
They are not worth anything.

RESPONSE:

You better tremble with fear and stop sinning.
Search your heart while you are in your beds.

RESPONSE:

The joy you gave me is worth more than a good harvest.
Now I can lie down and sleep in peace because you are
protecting me.

RESPONSE:

A Reading from the First Letter of John

My children, I am writing this to you so that you will not sin. But if you do sin, Jesus will speak to the Father for us. Jesus is the sacrifice that takes away our sins and the sins of all the people in the world.

Obey God. Then we are sure that we know him. But if we say that we know him and not obey his commands, then we are liars. The truth is not in our hearts. We will truly love God only if we obey him.

The Word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia---Alleluia---Alleluia

Lord, speak to us so our hearts burn inside of us.

Alleluia---Alleluia---Alleluia

Gospel

LUKE 24:35-48

A Reading from the Holy Gospel of Luke

The two disciples were explaining what happened to them on their way to Emmaus and how they recognized Jesus through his breaking the bread. As they were explaining Jesus appeared to them and said, “May God give you peace.” They were frightened because they thought they were seeing a ghost.

Jesus said to them, “Why are you frightened? Why do you doubt? Look at my hands and feet and you can see who I am. Touch me and see for yourselves. Ghosts do not have flesh and bones. You see I have flesh and bones.

Then Jesus showed them his hands and feet. The disciples were glad and amazed that they could not believe it. Then Jesus asked them, “Do you have anything to eat? The disciples gave Jesus a piece of baked fish and watched him eating the fish.

Third Sunday of Easter

Then Jesus said to them, “The time I was with you I told you everything written about me in the Law of Moses, the books of the Prophets and in the psalms had to happen.”

Then he helped them understand the Scriptures. He said to them, “The Scriptures say that the Messiah must suffer and in three days he will rise from death. The Scriptures also say that all people in the world must be told in my name to turn to God so they can be forgiven. So beginning in Jerusalem you must tell everything that had happened.

The Good News of the Lord

Third Sunday of Easter

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

First Reading

ACTS 4:8-12

A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles

Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, told the leaders and the elders, “You are questioning us today about the good deed that was done to the crippled man and how he was healed. But there is something that you and everyone else in Israel must know. This man standing here is completely healed because of the power of Jesus Christ from Nazareth. You crucified Jesus but God raised him to life. He is the one as the Scripture says is the stone that you builders threw out. He is the most important stone of all. Only Jesus has the power to save! His name is the only one in all the world that can save anyone.

The Word of the Lord

RESPONSE: The stone that the builders rejected
became the cornerstone

Give thanks to the Lord.
He is kind and is always full of mercy.
His love is eternal.

RESPONSE:

It is better to trust the Lord for protection.
It is better to depend on the Lord than on people.
I praise the Lord for answering my prayers.

RESPONSE:

The stone that the builders threw out become the most
important stone.
The Lord did that and it is amazing to us.

RESPONSE:

God bless people that come in the name of the Lord!
We praise you from here in the house of the Lord.
The Lord is my God!
I will praise him and give him my thanks.
His love is eternal.

RESPONSE:

A Reading from the First Letter of John

God, the Father, loves us so much so he made us his children. We are really children of God! The world refused to believe God because it does not understand that we are children of God.

Dear friends, we are now children of God. We do not know yet what we will be in the future. But we know that Christ will come again and we will be like him because we will see him as he really is.

The Word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia---Alleluia---Alleluia

The Lord says, “I am the good shepherd. I know my sheep and they know me.”

Alleluia---Alleluia---Alleluia

Gospel

JOHN 10:11-18

A Reading from the Holy Gospel of John

Jesus said, “I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd gives up his life for his sheep. Workers are hired to take care of sheep. They are not like the shepherd because they don’t own the sheep. They see a wolf coming and they ran off leaving the sheep. Then the wolf grabs and scatters the sheep. The workers run away because they don’t care about the sheep.

I am the good shepherd. I know my sheep and they know me. The Father knows me and I know the Father. I am willing to give up my life for my sheep. I have other sheep that are not with me. So I must get them together. They hear my voice and they will come to me. Then they will be together as one flock with one shepherd.

Fourth Sunday of Easter

The Father loves me because I am willing to give up my life so that I can get it back again. No one takes my life from me. I have the power to give it up and the power to get it back again as my Father commanded me to do.”

The Good News of the Lord

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

First Reading

ACTS 9:26-31

A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles

Saul went to Jerusalem and he tried to join the followers. But the followers were afraid of him because they thought that he was not a true follower of Jesus. Then Barnabas came and brought Saul to the apostles. He explained to them that Saul had seen the Lord on the road to Damascus and that the Lord had spoken to him. Barnabas also told them that Saul was brave in his preaching in the name of Jesus in Damascus.

Saul went around with the followers in Jerusalem and preaching about the Lord. He argued with the Greek speaking Jews and they tried to kill him. The followers heard about this so they took Saul to Caesarea and then he went to the city of Tarsus.

The church in Judea, Galilee and Samaria now had a time of peace and kept on worshipping the Lord. The church became stronger as the Holy Spirit encouraged it and helped it grow.

The Word of the Lord

Fifth Sunday of Easter

RESPONSE: I will praise you before your people.

The poor people will eat and be satisfied.
All people worshipping you will be thankful.
They will live in hope.

RESPONSE:

Everyone on this earth will remember you.
People all over this world will worship you.
You are the ruler of all nations.

RESPONSE:

In the future everyone will worship you.
They will learn about you.
People not yet born will be told,
“The Lord has saved us!”

RESPONSE:

A Reading from the First Letter of John

My children, show your love for others through your action; not by talking. True love must be shown in action.

If we love others, we know that we belong to the truth. We feel comfortable in the presence of God. But if we do not feel comfortable, God is more important than our feelings. He knows everything.

So my dear friends, if we feel comfortable in the presence of God, we will have courage to go to him. He will give us whatever we ask for because we obey him and do what makes him happy. God wants us to have faith in his Son, Jesus Christ and to love with each other.

This is what Jesus taught us to do. If we obey the commandments, we will be one in our hearts and he will be with us. The Spirit that the Lord gave us is the proof that we are one with him.

The Word of the Lord

Gospel acclamation

Alleluia---Alleluia---Alleluia

The Lord says, “Remain in me and I will remain in you. Remain in me and you will produce lots of fruit.

Alleluia---Alleluia---Alleluia

Gospel

JOHN 15:1-8

A Reading from the Holy Gospel of John

Jesus said to his disciples, “I am the true vine and my Father is the farmer. He cuts off every branch that does not give fruit. He will also trim off every branch that gives fruit so that it will give more fruit. You are already made clean because of what I told you.

Stay with me and I will stay with you. A branch that is not connected to the vine cannot give fruit. The same way if you do not stay with me, you cannot give fruit.

I am the vine and you are the branches. If you are connected to me and I am connected to you, you will produce lots of fruit.

Fifth Sunday of Easter

Without me you can do nothing! If you are not connected to me, you will be like the branches that are cut off and be thrown into a fire.

So stay with me and accept my message. Then you can pray for anything you want and your prayer will be answered. If you make lots of fruit, you will be my disciples and also you will bring glory to my Father.”

The Good News of the Lord

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

First Reading

ACTS 10:25-26,34-35,44-48

A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles

Peter arrived Caesarea. Cornelius went to Peter and kneeled before him. He began to worship him. But Peter told him to stand up and said, "I am only a human."

Peter began to speak. He said, "I am sure God treats all people equally. God is pleased with everyone that worships him and does everything right, no matter from what countries the people are from."

Peter was speaking and the Holy Spirit came down on everyone listening to Peter. Some Jewish followers traveling with Peter were surprised that the Gentiles also received the Holy Spirit. They heard the Gentiles speaking strange languages and praising God.

Peter said, "These Gentiles already received the Holy Spirit the same as we have received. I am sure that no one can stop us from baptizing them."

So Peter ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they asked him to stay with them for a few days.

The Word of the Lord

Sixth Sunday of Easter

REFRAIN: All people have seen the saving power
of God.

Sing to the Lord!
He has done wonderful things.
He saved all people with his power.

REFRAIN:

The Lord has shown his power.
God is faithful in his love for Israel.
All people have seen his saving power.

REFRAIN:

Sing with joy to the Lord.
Praise the Lord!

REFRAIN:

A Reading from the First Letter of John

My dear friends, we must love one another. Love is from God. If we love one another, we will have new life. We are now children of God and we know him. God is love and anyone that does not love others does not know God.

God sent his only son into this world to give us life. His sending his son is his love for us. Real love is not our love for God but his love for us. God sent his Son to be the sacrifice so our sins can be forgiven.

The Word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia---Alleluia---Alleluia

The Lord says, “Anyone loves me will obey me.
My Father will love them and we
will come to them and live in them.

Alleluia---Alleluia---Alleluia

Gospel

JOHN 15:9-17

A Reading from the Holy Gospel of John

Jesus said, “I love you just as my Father loves me. Stay in my love. If you obey me, you will remain in my love the same way as I obey my Father and remain in his love.

I am telling you so you will be happy as I am. Now I tell you to love one another as I love you. The greatest love you can have for your friends is to give your life for them. You are my friends if you obey me.

Servants do not know what their master is doing. I do not speak to you as my servants. I speak to you as my friends because I have told you everything that my Father has told me.

Sixth Sunday of Easter

You did not choose me. I chose you. I sent you out to proclaim the message. That message will last. Then my father will give you what ever you ask for in my name.

So I command you to love one another.

The Good News of the Lord

ASCENSION OF THE LORD

First Reading

ACTS 1:1-11

A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles

Dear Theophilus,

I am writing to tell you what Jesus did and taught from the time he began his work until he went up into heaven. Before Jesus went up into heaven, he ordered his apostles to stay in Jerusalem.

Jesus died and for forty days he showed up that he is alive. He showed himself to the apostles in many ways to prove that he was raised from death. He spoke to them about the kingdom of God. He said, “Don’t leave Jerusalem. Wait here for the gift my Father promised you. John baptized with water but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.”

The apostles asked Jesus, “Lord, will you give back the kingdom to Israel?” Jesus said to them, “It is not for you to know the time for that to happen. Only the Father knows. But you will be filled with the Holy Spirit and you will have the power. Then you will tell everyone about me in Jerusalem, in all Judea, in Samaria and everywhere in the world.”

Ascension of the Lord

Then Jesus went up into heaven. The apostles were watching until Jesus disappeared into a cloud. They kept on watching until he disappeared.

They were still watching two men dressed in white clothes suddenly appeared beside the apostles. The men said to them, “Why are you still standing here and look up in the sky? Jesus is already in heaven and he will come back. He will come back in the same way that you saw him go into heaven.”

The Word of the Lord

Psalm

PSALM 47:2-3,6-7,8-9

RESPONSE: Let us clap and shout praises to God.

Clap your hands for the Lord.
The Lord is wonderful.
He is the ruler of all the earth.

RESPONSE:

Sing praises to God, our king.
He is the ruler of all the earth.
Praise God with songs.

RESPONSE:

For the king of all the earth is God.
Sing him songs of praise.
God reigns over the nations.
God sits upon his holy throne.

RESPONSE:

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

Paul said, “I pray that God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory to give you his Spirit to make you wise. The Spirit will show God so you will know him. I pray that you will see his light so you will know the hope that God wants you to have. You will know the wonderful blessings that God promised to his people.

I want you to know about the great and mighty power that God has for us followers. It is the same wonderful power God used in raising Christ from death and let him sit at his right side in heaven. God made Christ more important than all authorities, powers and rulers. His name is more important than all other names in the world or in the future. God puts everything under the control of Christ. Christ is the head of the church. We, the church, are his body. Christ makes everything in the world perfect.”

The Word of the Lord

Ascension of the Lord

OR

EPHESIANS 4:1-13

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

(Short Form—Read in Black)

Paul said, “I am a prisoner of the Lord. I beg you to live in a life worthy of the call you have received. Be humble and gentle. Be patient and bear with one another in love. Try your best to keep the unity of the Spirit through peace. All of you are part of the same body. There is one Body and one Spirit—just as you were called to one hope. You were called to one Lord, one faith and one baptism. There is one God and he is the Father of all. He is above all others but he works through us and lives in us.

To each of us Christ has given us grace. As the scripture says, ‘Jesus went up to high he took many prisoners with him and gave gifts to people.’

Now what does “he ascended” mean? It means that he first came down to the lowest earth. The one that came down is the same one that is up higher than all heavens to fill the whole universe with his presence.

He is the one that gave gifts some to be his apostles, some to be prophets, some to be evangelists, some to be pastors, some to be teachers.

Ascension of the Lord

He did this to prepare all people of God for works of service to build up the body of Christ. So we all come together in one faith and in our knowledge of the Son of God we become more mature in the fullness of Christ.”

The Word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia---Alleluia---Alleluia

The Lord says, “Go and teach to all the people of all nations. I will always be with you until the end of the world.

Alleluia---Alleluia---Alleluia

Gospel

MARK 16:15-20

A Reading from the Holy Gospel of Mark

Jesus said to his disciples, “Go out into the world and preach the Good News to all people. Anyone believes and is baptized will be saved. But anyone refuses to believe will be condemned. Everyone believes will be able to do wonderful things. In my name they will force out demons and they will speak new languages. They will pick up snakes or drink poison and they will not be hurt. They will also heal sick people with their hands on them.”

Then Jesus went up to heaven and sat at the right side of God. The disciples went out and preached everywhere. The Lord was with them and the miracles they did proved that their messages were true.

The Good News of the Lord

Ascension of the Lord

SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

First Reading

ACTS 1:15-17-20-26

A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles

Peter stood up and began to speak before a group of about one hundred twenty followers of the Lord. He said, “My friends, the scripture said that the Holy Spirit speaking through David professed something about Judas. Judas was one of us and had worked with us but he betrayed Jesus.”

In the book of psalm David said, “May someone else take his place of service.”

So we need someone else to help us tell others that Jesus has been raised from death. The one must be with us from the beginning. He must have been with us from the time Jesus was baptized by John until the day he went up to heaven.

Two men were suggested. One of them was Joseph Barsabbas, known as Justus and the other was Matthias. Then they all prayed, “Lord, you know which one is to be chosen. Show us the one you have chosen to be an apostle to serve in place of Judas.” They drew names and Matthias was chosen.

The Word of the Lord

Seventh Sunday of Easter

RESPONSE: The Lord has set his throne in heaven.

I praise the Lord with all my heart.
I praise his holy name with all my heart.
I will never forget that he is kind to me.

RESPONSE:

How great is his love for us?
Greater than the distance between heaven and earth!
How far has the Lord taken our sins from us?
Farther than the distance from east to west!

RESPONSE:

The Lord set up his throne in heaven.
He is king over all.
Praise the Lord.

RESPONSE:

A Reading from the First Letter of John

Dear friends, God loves us so much. Then we must love one another. No one has seen God. But if we love one another, God lives in us and his love is full in us.

God gave us his Spirit. That is how we know that we are one with him and he is one with us. God sent his Son to be the Savior of the world. We saw his Son. So we are now telling others about him. If we declare that Jesus is the son of God, we stay united with God and God will live in us.

God is love. If we keep on loving one another, we will remain one in our hearts with God and he will stay one with us.

The Word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia---Alleluia---Alleluia

The Lord says, “I will not leave you orphans. I will come back to you and your hearts will rejoice.

Alleluia---Alleluia---Alleluia

Gospel

JOHN 17:11-19

A Reading from the Holy Gospel of John

Jesus looked up to heaven and prayed, “Holy Father, protect my followers and keep them safe by the power of your name, the name you gave me. Then they will be one as we are one. During the time I was with the followers I kept them safe by the power of your name you gave me. No one was lost except one that was lost according to the scripture.

Father, now I am on way to you. But I say that while I am here so my followers can have the same joy that I have. I gave them your message. But the people of this world hate them because they do not belong to the world just as I do not belong to the world.

Father, I am not asking you to take my followers out of the world but to protect them from the evil one. They don't belong to this world and neither do I.

Seventh Sunday of Easter

Your word is the truth. So let this truth make them full. I am sending them into the world just as you sent me. For them make them holy so they will be united to the truth.

The Good News of the Lord

Seventh Sunday of Easter

PENTECOST

First Reading

ACTS 2:1-11

A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles

On the day of Pentecost (50th day of Easter) the apostles were sitting together in one room. Suddenly they heard a noise from the sky. It sounded like a strong wind blowing through the room they were sitting in. Then they saw something that looked like fiery tongues moving in all directions. They went over the heads of the apostles and they were filled with the Holy Spirit. They began to speak different languages that the Holy Spirit let them speak.

Many people from different countries were living in Jerusalem. They heard the noise and were puzzled. They heard the apostles speaking their language. They were amazed and said, "Are these men speaking different languages from Galilee? We hear them speaking our very own languages. We are from different places; Partha, Media, Mesopotamia, Judea, Cappadocica, Pontus, Asia, Phrygia, Pamphylia, Egypt, Libya, Cyrene, Rome, Crete and Arabia. Some of us were born Jews and others later became Jews. We hear them speaking in our own language about wonderful things God has done."

The Word of the Lord

Pentecost

RESPONSE: Lord, make the earth new!

Praise the Lord!

Lord, you are wonderful!

Your works are wonderful.

The earth is full of things you made.

RESPONSE:

Lord, all things depend on you.

You give food at the right time.

You gave them food and they ate.

You feed them until they are full.

RESPONSE:

You take away their breath and they die.

They become dust.

You give them breath and they are alive.

You give new life to earth.

RESPONSE:

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

Paul said, “I want you to remember that, through the Holy Spirit, Jesus is the Lord. You should never curse him.

There are different kinds of spiritual gifts but they are from the same Spirit. There are different ways to serve the Lord but it is the same Lord. We each have different ways to serve God but the same God. The Spirit gives each of us a special way of serving others.

The body of Christ is one but it has many different parts. The same way some of us are Jews and others are Gentiles. Some of us are slaves and others are free people. But we are baptized into one body by the same Spirit.

The Word of the Lord

OR

Second Reading

GALATIANS 5:16-25

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

Paul said, “I tell you to let the Spirit live in you. Do not let human desire control you. The Spirit and human desires are against each other. They are always fighting with each other and do not let you do what you should do. But if you obey the Spirit, you will not be under the control of the Law of Moses.

The human desire makes the people do immoral ways, dirty thoughts and shameful deeds. They worship idols, do witchcraft, hate each other and they become enemies. They become jealous, angry and selfish. They get drunk, do sexual sins and do other evil things.

I told you before and I am warning that no one doing these evil things will get into the kingdom of God. The Spirit of God gives us love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, humility and faithfulness. There is no law against behaving in any of these ways because we belong to Christ. The Spirit of God gave us life. So we should follow his Spirit

The Word of the Lord

Pentecost

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia---Alleluia---Alleluia

Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your people.
Let it burn in them with the fire of your love.

Alleluia---Alleluia---Alleluia

Gospel

JOHN 20:19-23

A Reading from the Holy Gospel of John

One Sunday evening the disciples gathered in a room. The doors were locked because they were afraid of the Jewish leaders. Suddenly Jesus appeared and stood in the middle. He said, "Peace be with you."

Then he showed them his hands and side. The disciples saw and they became happy. Jesus said again, "Peace be with you. My Father has sent me and I am sending you."

Then he breathed on them saying, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of the people, their sins will be forgiven. But if you don't forgive their sins, they will not be forgiven."

The Good News of the Lord

Pentecost

TRINITY SUNDAY

First Reading

DEUTERONOMY 4:32-34,39-40

A Reading from the Scroll of Deuteronomy

Look back the time before you were born. Look back all the way to the time God created human beings on the earth. Look over the whole earth. Did anything happen that is as great as before? Has anyone ever heard of anything like this? Did any people ever live hearing a god speak to them from a fire that you did? Has any god ever dared to go and take a people from another nation and make them his own as the Lord did for you in Egypt? Before your eyes he used his great power and strength. He brought plagues and war, did miracles and wonders and made terrifying things to happen.

As you went on he drove out nations greater and more powerful than you so he can bring you in and give you the land, the land that is still yours. So today remember not to forget the Lord is God in heaven and on earth. There is no other god. Obey all his laws that I have given you today and all will go well with you and your descendants. You will continue to live in the land that the Lord your God is giving you to be yours forever.

The Word of the Lord

Trinity Sunday

RESPONSE: Lord, show us your great love.

The words of the Lord are true,
We depend on everything the Lord does!
The Lord loves justice and fairness.
He is kind to everyone.

RESPONSE:

The Lord made the heavens by his command.
With his word he made the sun, moon and stars.
The Lord spoke and the world was created.
At his command the earth was formed.

RESPONSE:

The Lord watches over the people honoring him.
His great love protects the people worshipping him.
He saves them from death.
We depend on the Lord.

RESPONSE:

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

Paul said, “Only people led by the Spirit of God are the children of God. The Spirit God gave you does not make you slaves and make you afraid of him. Instead the Spirit makes you children of God and you will call him Father.

The Spirit of God makes sure that we are his children. This Spirit lets us know that with Christ we will be given what God has promised. We will share in the glory of Christ because we have suffered with Christ.”

The Word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia---Alleluia---Alleluia

Glory to the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.
To God who is, who was and who will come.

Alleluia---Alleluia---Alleluia

Gospel

MATTHEW 28:16-20

A Reading from the Holy Gospel of Matthew

The eleven disciples went up on a mountain in Galilee. That was the place Jesus told them to go. They arrived on the top and saw Jesus waiting for them. Then they worshipped him. But some of the disciples doubted that the man standing was Jesus.

Jesus came to them and said, “My Father has given me the power in heaven and on earth. Go to all people and make them my follower. Baptize them in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. Teach them everything that I have told you. I will always be with you until the end of the world.”

The Good News of the Lord

Trinity Sunday

CORPUS CHRISTI

First Reading

EXODUS 24:3-8

A Reading from the Scroll of Exodus

Moses went to the people and gave them instruction from the Lord. The people answered that they will do everything the Lord said. Then Moses wrote down all the commandments of the Lord.

The next morning Moses got up early and built an altar at the foot of the mountain. He set up twelve stones, one for each of the twelve tribes of Israel. Then he sent young men to burn offerings of bulls as special offerings to the Lord. Moses took half of the blood from the animals and sprinkled it on the altar. Then he read the commands of the Lord. The people responded that they will obey the Lord and do everything the Lord has commanded.

Moses took the other half of blood and threw it on the people, saying with this blood the Lord has made his covenant (agreement) with them.

The Word of the Lord

Corpus Christi

RESPONSE: I will take the cup of salvation and call
on the name of the Lord.

Lord, how can I offer for all the goodness to me?
I will lift up the cup of salvation.
I will call on the name of the Lord.

RESPONSE:

You are deeply concerned for the death of one person.
Lord, I am your servant.
You have saved me from death.

RESPONSE:

I will offer you a sacrifice to show my thanks.
I will offer you my prayer for my thanks.
I will keep my promise to you for the people at your
temple in Jerusalem.

RESPONSE:

A Reading from the Letter to the Hebrews

Christ came as high priest. All good things are already here. He went into a much better place that was not made by humans. It does not belong to this world. Christ went once for all into the most holy place and freed us from sin forever. He did this by offering his own blood instead of the blood of goats and bulls.

According to the Jewish religion people that are unclean are not worthy to worship God. They will be made clean if they are sprinkled with blood of goats and bulls and with the ashes of a sacrificed calf. But Christ was without sin. He offered himself as an eternal and spiritual sacrifice to God. That is why his blood is much more powerful and makes our consciences clear. Now we can serve the living God and no longer do things that lead to death.

Christ died to save us from sins and broke the old agreement. Now he brings his chosen ones a new agreement with its guarantee of eternal blessings of God.

The Word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia---Alleluia---Alleluia

The Lord says, “I am the living bread from heaven. Anyone eating this bread will have eternal life.

Alleluia---Alleluia---Alleluia

Gospel

MARK 14:12-16,22-26

A Reading from the Holy Gospel of Mark

On the first day of the Feast of Thin Bread the disciples went to Jesus and asked him, “Where do you want us to prepare the Passover meal?”

Jesus said to his two disciples, “Go into a city and you will see a man carrying a jar of water. Follow him going into a house. Go in and tell him that ‘our teacher wants to know if you have a room so he can eat the Passover meal with his disciples’. The man will show you a large room upstairs that is already set up. In that room prepare the meal.”

The disciples went into the city and saw the man carrying a jar of water. So they followed him and went into the house and saw everything just as Jesus told them. So they prepared the Passover meal.

Corpus Christi

During the meal Jesus took the bread, blessed it and broke it. Then he gave the bread to his disciples and said, “Eat it, this is my body.”

Then he took a cup of wine and gave thanks to God. He gave the cup to the disciples and said, “Drink it!” The disciples drank the wine. Jesus said, “This is my blood that is poured out for many people and with it God makes his agreement. From now on I will not drink again until I drink new wine in the kingdom of God. Then they went out to the Mount of Olives and they sang a hymn.

The Good News of the Lord

