

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 of your clothes. Just come back with all your heart.”

Go back to the Lord. He is kind, patient and full of mercy. He 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.

Come and 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, the children and also the babies. Let all the newly married people leave their bedrooms and come. Let the priests serving the Lord in the temple shout, “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 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 in punishing me.
Please wipe away my sins.

RESPONSE:

I have been bad since 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.
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 beg you to make peace with God. Christ never sinned! But God made him share our sin so that through him we can be united with God.

We work together with God. So we beg you to accept the grace God gave 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

Verse before the Gospel

PSALM 95:8

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. 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 and keep quiet. Don’t let anyone know what you did. Your Father in heaven knows what you did and he will bless you.

When 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

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

DEUTERONOMY 26:4-10

A Reading from the Scroll of Deuteronomy

Moses said to the people, “The priest will take the basket from you and placed it in front of the altar of the Lord your God.

Then, in the presence of the Lord, you will say these words, ‘My ancestor was wandering Aramean. He brought his family to live in Egypt. He had few people in his family. But in Egypt they became large and powerful. The Egyptians forced us to work as slaves. Then we cried out to the Lord for help. The Lord heard us and saw our suffering and hard work. The Lord with his great power brought us out of Egypt. He did miracles and brought us here. He gave us this land. Now I bring to the Lord the first harvest from the land he gave me.’

Then you must put the harvest down before the Lord your God and bow down to worship him.

The Word of the Lord

Psalm

PSALM 91:1-2,10-11,12-13,14-15

RESPONSE: Lord, stay with me. I am in trouble.

Go to the Lord for protection.

Stay with him.

Say to the Lord, "You are my protector and my God."

RESPONSE:

Terrible sufferings will not happen to you.

No harm will happen to your home.

God will command his angels to protect you.

RESPONSE:

They will carry you in their arms.

Your feet won't get hurt on the rocks.

You will overpower the lions and the snakes.

RESPONSE:

The Lord says "If you love me, you will know me."

I will save you and protect you.

Cry out for me and I will answer you.

RESPONSE:

First Sunday of Lent

Second Reading

ROMANS 10:8-13

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

Paul said, “This is what the scripture says, ‘The message is with you. It is on your lips and in your heart.’

If you believe with all your heart that God raised him from death, you will be saved. If you really believe this, tell this to others.

The scriptures say that no one that has faith will be disappointed. No matter if that person is a Jew or a Gentile, there is only one Lord and he is generous to everyone. All calling out to the Lord will be saved.”

The Word of the Lord

Verse before the Gospel

MATTHEW 4:4b

Praise and honor to you, Lord Jesus Christ

No one can live on bread alone but on the word of God.

Praise and honor to you, Lord Jesus Christ

Gospel

LUKE 4:1-13

A Reading from the Holy Gospel of Luke

Jesus left Jordan with the power of the Holy Spirit and went into the desert. He was in the desert for 40 days. He ate nothing and was so hungry. The devil came up to him and began to tempt him. The devil said to Jesus, “If you are really the son of God, you can order the stone to change into bread”

Jesus answered, “It is already said in the scripture that no person can live only on bread”.

Then the devil led Jesus up on a mountain and showed him all the beautiful places with all the power and glory. He said, “These all are mine and I can give it to anyone I want to. I’ll give it to you if you would bow down and worship me.”

Jesus answered, “The scripture said that we are to worship the Lord, your God and serve only Him!”

First Sunday of Lent

Finally the devil took Jesus to Jerusalem and went up the top of temple and said to him, “If you are the son of God, jump off. The scripture said God will tell his angels to protect you. They will catch you so your feet won’t get hurt on the stones.”

Jesus said, “But the scripture also said that you should not doubt the power of God.”

The devil gave up and left Jesus alone.

The Good News of the Lord

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

First Reading

GENESIS 15:5-12,17-18

A Reading from the Scroll of Genesis

The Lord took Abram outside and said to him, “Look at the sky and try to count the stars. You will have as many descendants as the stars.”

Abram trusted the Lord and for that the Lord was happy and accepted him. Then the Lord said to him, “I am the Lord. I led you out of Ur in Babylonia and give you this land as your own.” But Abram asked, “Lord, how can I know that the land will be mine?”

The Lord answered, “Bring me a cow, a goat and a ram, each of them three years old and a dove and a pigeon.” Abram brought the animals to God, cut them in half and placed the halves in two rows opposite of each other. But he did not cut up the birds. Vultures came down on the bodies and Abram chased them away.

As sun was going down, Abram fell asleep and became afraid. It became dark. A fire pot and torch suddenly appeared and went between the animals that were cut up. Then the Lord made a covenant with Abram, “I promise to give your descendants all this land from the border of Egypt to Euphrates River.”

The Word of the Lord

Second Sunday of Lent

Psalm

PSALM 27:1,7-9,13-14

RESPONSE: The Lord is my light and my salvation

Lord, you are my light and my salvation.
I shall fear no one.
Protect me from all danger.
I will not be afraid.

RESPONSE:

Please hear my prayer.
Have mercy on me and answer my prayer.
My heart tells me to pray.
Don't hide from me.

RESPONSE:

I know I will live to see your kindness.
Trust the Lord.
Have faith and be strong.
Trust the Lord.

RESPONSE:

Second Sunday of Lent

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

(Short Form---Read in Black)

Paul said, “My friends, I want you to follow my example. Pay attention to those following the right example we set for you. I told you many times and I am begging with my heart that many people are living as enemies of the cross of Christ. They will go to hell because of their bodily desires. They brag about disgusting things they do. All they can think about the things of this world.”

“We are citizens of heaven eagerly waiting for our Savior to come down from heaven. Our Lord Jesus Christ has power over everything. He will change our weak poor bodies and make them like his own glorious body.

Dear Friends, I love you and I miss you! Please keep on being faithful to the Lord. You are my pride and joy.”

The Word of the Lord

Praise and honor to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

The voice from the cloud said,
“Listen, this is my beloved Son.”

Praise and honor to you, Lord Jesus Christ

Gospel

LUKE 9:28-36

A Reading from the Holy Gospel of Luke

Jesus, with Peter and two brothers, James and John, went on a mountain to pray. While Jesus was praying, his face changed its appearance and his clothes became very white.

Suddenly two men, Moses and Elijah, appeared and began to talk with Jesus about the way in which Jesus would soon fulfill the purpose by dying in Jerusalem. Peter and the two other disciples were asleep but they woke up and saw the two men standing with him. As the two men were leaving Jesus, Peter said to Jesus, “Master, it is good for us to be here! Let us make three tents, one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.”

While Peter was still talking, a cloud appeared. But Peter did not know what he was saying. While he was still speaking, the cloud began to cover over them. They became afraid and a voice from the cloud said, “This is my Son I have chosen. Listen to him!”

After the voice, Jesus stood alone. The disciples kept quiet about all what had happened. They told no one what they saw.

The Good News of the Lord

THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT

First Reading

EXODUS 3:1-8, 13-15

A Reading from the Scroll of Exodus

One day Moses was taking care of the sheep and goats of his father-in-law, Jethro. Jethro was the priest of Midian. Moses led the sheep and goats across the desert and came to Sinai, the holy mountain. The angel of the Lord appeared to Moses as a flame in a bush. Moses saw that the bush was on fire but it was not burning. He thought it was strange so he went up closer to look at the bush.

The Lord saw Moses was coming closer to the bush and called him from the bush. He said, "Moses! Moses!" Moses answered, "Yes, here I am."

God said, "Do not come closer. You are standing on the holy ground. Take off your sandals. I am the God of your ancestors, the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob." Moses covered his face because he was afraid to look at God.

Then the Lord said, "I have seen the people in Egypt suffering. I have heard them cry out for freedom from slavery. I know all about their sufferings."

So I come down to rescue them from the Egyptians and bring them out of Egypt to the land that is fertile and in which the Canannites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites and the Jebusites now live.”

Moses replied, “But if I go to the Israelites and say to them, ‘The God of your ancestors sent me to you, they will ask me what his name is?’ How can I tell then?”

God said, “I am who I am. Tell them, ‘The one who is called I AM has sent me to you.’ Tell the Israelites that I, the Lord, the God of their ancestors, the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob have sent you to them. This is my name forever. This is what all the future generations are to call me,”

The Word of the Lord

Psalm

PSALM 103:1-4,6-8,11

RESPONSE: The Lord is kind and merciful

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

RESPONSE:

The Lord forgives all my sins.
He heals all my sickness.
He protects me from death.
He blesses me with love and mercy.

RESPONSE:

The Lord is full of mercy.
He is kind and patient.
His love never fails.
He does not punish us for our sins.

RESPONSE:

The Lord is full of love.
He does not get angry easy.
His love for all honoring him is great.

RESPONSE:

Third Sunday of Lent

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

Paul said, “My friends, I want you to remember what happened to our ancestors that followed Moses. They walked under the cloud and went through the sea. In the cloud and in the sea they were baptized as followers of Moses. They all ate the same spiritual bread and drank the same spiritual drink that flowed from the spiritual rock. That rock was with them and it was Christ himself. But God was not happy with most of them. So they died and their bodies were scattered all over the desert.

What happened to them is a warning for us not to desire evil things as they did. We must not complain as some of them did. They were destroyed by the Angel of Death. All these happened to them as a warning for us as written in the Scriptures. If you think you can stand firm against temptation, you better be careful not to be hooked.

The Word of the Lord

Third Sunday of Lent

Verse before the Gospel

MATTHEW 4:17

Praise and honor to you, Lord Jesus Christ

The Lord says, “Repent! The Kingdom of Heaven will be here soon.

Praise and honor to you, Lord Jesus Christ

Gospel

LUKE 13:1-9

A Reading from the Holy Gospel of Luke

Some people told Jesus that Pilate ordered some people from Galilee killed while they were offering sacrifices in a temple. Jesus replied, “Do you think that these people killed were worse sinner than other people from Galilee? No! I tell you that if you don’t stop sinning, you will also die like the people.”

Then Jesus said, “What about the eighteen people that were killed in Siloam when the tower fell on them? Do you think they were worse sinners than the people living in Jerusalem? No! But I tell you that if you don’t stop sinning, you all will also die.”

Third Sunday of Lent

Then Jesus told a parable, “A man had a fig tree in his yard. One day the man went to look for figs but he could not find any. So he told the farmer, ‘For three years I have been looking for figs on that tree and I could not find one. Chop that tree down! Why should it take up the space?’ ”

The farmer answered, “Master, please leave the tree alone for one more year. Let me dig around and put in some fertilizer. Maybe it will have figs next year. If not, then you can have the tree cut down.”

The Good News of the Lord

FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

First Reading

JOSHUA 5:9-12

A Reading from the Scroll of Joshua

The Lord said to Joshua, “You were slave in Egypt and it made you ashamed. But today I am taking away your shame.”

The Israelites were camping at Gilgal on the plain near Jericho. They were celebrating Passover on the evening of the fourteenth day of the month. The next day was the first time they ate food grown in Canaan: roasted grain and bread made without yeast. The manna stopped falling and the Israelites had no more of it. From that time on they ate food grown in Canaan.

The Word of the Lord

Psalm

PSALM 34:2-3,4-5,6-7

RESPONSE: Taste and see; taste and see
the goodness of the Lord

With all my heart I will praise the Lord.
Let all oppressed people listen and be glad!
Honor the Lord with me.
Let us praise his great name!

RESPONSE:

I asked the Lord for help.
He answered me
He freed me from all my fears.
The oppressed looked to the Lord.
They will never be disappointed.

RESPONSE:

I was nobody and I called him.
He answered me.
Honor the Lord.
His angel will save you from danger.

RESPONSE:

Fourth Sunday of Lent

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

Paul said, “Anyone belonging to Christ is a new person. The past is forgotten and everything is new. God did it all! He sent Christ to make peace between himself and us. He gave us the work of making peace between God and others.

What we mean is that God was in Christ, offering peace and forgiveness to the people of this world. He has given us the work of sharing his message about peace. God sent us to speak for Christ and he is begging you to listen to our message. We speak for Christ and ask you to make peace with God. Christ never sinned! But for us God made him share our sin so that Christ could make us acceptable to God.”

The Word of the Lord

Verse before the Gospel

LUKE 15:18

Praise and honor to you, Lord Jesus Christ

I will leave and go to my father and tell him
that I have sinned against God and against you.

Praise and honor to you, Lord Jesus Christ

Gospel

LUKE 15:1-3,11-32

A Reading from the Holy Gospel of Luke

One day the tax collectors and sinners gathered around Jesus to hear him speaking. The Pharisees and teachers of the Law began to grumble. They said, “Look, Jesus welcomes the sinners. He even eats with them.”

Jesus looked at them and began to tell a parable.

“A man had two sons. The younger son went to his father and said, ‘Give me the share of all things that is mine.’ So the father divided his property and gave the younger son his share.

Few days later the son sold his share and with the money he left home for a country far away. There he spent all his money on booze, gambling and women. His money ran out.

Fourth Sunday of Lent

A famine happened in that country and he had nothing to eat. So he went to work for a farmer and he sent him out to feed pigs. The son was so hungry that he wanted to eat what the pigs were eating. No one would give him anything to eat. Then he began to realize that he was foolish and thought about his father and his servants back home.

‘All the servants that work for my father back home have plenty to eat and here I am starving. I’ll leave here and go back to my father. I’ll tell him that I have sinned against God and against you. I am not good enough to be called your son. Let me be like one of your servants.’

So the son left and went back home to his father. The father was out in the field working and he saw his son still far away coming. He felt sorry for him. So he ran to him, hugged him and kissed him. The son said to his father, ‘I am not good enough to be called your son. I have sinned against God and against you.’

But his father called his servants and said to them, ‘Hurry and bring new clothes, new shoes for his feet and a ring for his finger. Go and kill the best calf and have a big feast.’ The father was so happy because before the son was dead and now he is alive. Before he was lost and now he is found.

The older son was out in the field working. On his way home, he heard music and dancing. He wondered what was going on. So he asked one of the servants, ‘What is up?’ The servant answered, ‘Your brother came home safely and your father is very happy so he had the best calf killed for the party.’

The older son became so angry that he refused to go into the house. His father came out and begged the older son to come to the party. But the older son spoke back ‘Why should I come in and celebrate? I have always worked for you like a slave and obeyed you for many years. What have you given me? Nothing! No party for me and for my friends. You did not even kill a goat for me. For your son, he wasted all your money on prostitutes. You killed the best calf for him.’

The father said to him, ‘Son, you are always with me. Everything I have now is yours. But we should celebrate and be glad because before your brother was dead and now he is alive. He was lost and now he is found.’”

The Good News of the Lord

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

First Reading

ISAIAH 43:16-21

A Reading from the Scroll of Isaiah

The Lord made a road through the sea, a path through the rough water.

The Lord says, “The people will fight against me with their chariots and horses. They will be defeated. They will never come up again. They will be destroyed like the flame of a candle that is blown out.

Don’t remember the things that happened before and don’t think about the past. Watch out for new things I will do. I will make a road through the desert and I will make rivers there. Even the wild animals will thank me. Large animals and birds will praise me for rivers I made flow in the desert. I will give water to the people I choose. They are the people I made for myself and they will sing my praises.”

The Word of the Lord

Psalm

PSALM 126:1-2,2-3,4-5,6

RESPONSE: The Lord has done great things for us.
We are filled with joy.

The Lord freed us and it was like a dream!
We celebrated with laughter and joyful song.
The Lord did wonderful things for his people.

RESPONSE:

The Lord freed us.
So we celebrated
The Lord did wonderful things for us

RESPONSE:

We ask you to bless our people again.
Let us be like rivers in the desert.
We cried as we planted our seeds.
Now let us celebrate as we bring in the harvest.

RESPONSE:

We cried on our way to plant our seeds.
But we will celebrate and shout as we bring in the
harvest.

RESPONSE:

Fifth Sunday of Lent

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

Paul said, “Nothing is as wonderful as knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. I have given up everything and it is all garbage. All I want is Christ and to know that I belong to him. I could not make myself acceptable to God by obeying the Law of Moses. God accepted me because of my faith in Christ. All I want is to know Christ and the power that raised him to life. I want to suffer and die as he did so that I also may be raised to life.

I am not saying that I have succeeded. I am not perfect. But Christ is with me. So I keep on trying to win the prize.

My friends, I don’t think that I have already won. I forget what is behind and I struggle for what is ahead. I run straight toward the goal so that I can win the prize that God offers because of what Christ Jesus did.”

The Word of the Lord

Verse before the Gospel

JOEL 2:12-13

Praise and honor to you, Lord Jesus Christ

The Lord says, “Repent and come to me.
I am full of mercy.”

Praise and honor to you, Lord Jesus Christ

Gospel

JOHN 8:1-11

A Reading from the Holy Gospel of John

Jesus went to the Mount of Olives. Early in the morning he went to the temple. People came to him. Jesus sat down and began to teach.

The Pharisees and the teachers of the Law dragged in a woman caught in bed with a man. The man was not her husband. They made the woman stand in the middle. Then they said to Jesus, “Teacher, that woman was caught doing adultery. The Law of Moses said that the woman must be stoned to death. Now what do you have to say?”

They did to test Jesus so they can have a charge against Jesus. Jesus bent down and began to write on the ground with his finger. The Jewish authorities continued asking him questions about the woman.

Fifth Sunday of Lent

Finally Jesus stood up and said to them, “Let any one of you without sin be the first one to throw a stone against her”. Then he bent down and began to write on the ground. The people began to leave one by one with the oldest one leaving first. At last Jesus was left alone with the woman.

Jesus stood up and said to the woman, “Where are the people? Is there anyone here to condemn you?”

The woman answered, “No”.

Then Jesus said to her, “I am not going to condemn you. You may go but do not sin anymore.”

The Good News of the Lord

PASSION SUNDAY

Processional Gospel

LUKE 19:28-40

A Reading from the Holy Gospel of Luke

Jesus on his way to Jerusalem arrived near Bethphage and Bethany on the Mount of Olives. He said to two of his disciples, “Go into the next village and you will see a young donkey that was never been ridden. Untie that donkey and bring it here. If anyone asks you why you are doing that, just say, ‘The Lord needs it.’ ”

The two disciples went into the village and saw everything just as Jesus said. As they were untying the donkey the owner of the donkey asked them, “Why are you doing that?” The disciples answered, “The Lord needs it.”

Then they lead the donkey to Jesus. They put some of their clothes on the back of the donkey and helped Jesus get on. Jesus was riding and the people spread their clothes on the road in front of him. Jesus was riding down the Mount of Olives and the large crowds of people were happy and praised God because of all the miracles they saw before. They shouted, “Blessed is the king. He comes in the name of the Lord! Peace in heaven and glory to God.”

Some Pharisees in the crowd said to Jesus, “Teacher, tell the people to stop shouting!” But Jesus answered, “If they stop shouting, the stones will start shouting.”

The Good News of the Lord

First Reading

ISAIAH 50:4-7

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 but 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 did not hurt me because the Lord God is with me. I made myself strong to accept their insults. I know that I will not be shamed.

The Word of the Lord

Passion Sunday

RESPONSE:

My God, my God, why are you ignoring me?

People look at me and mock me.
They stick out their tongues and say,
“Ask the Lord to 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 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:

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

Paul said, “Christ was truly God. But he did not make 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 names. 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

Verse before the Gospel

PHILIPPIANS 2:6-11

Praise and honor to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Jesus was humble and accepted death on a cross. God gave him the highest place and honored his name above all other names.

Praise and honor to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Gospel

LUKE 22:14-23:56

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

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

Jesus and the apostles gathered to eat Passover meal. Jesus said to the apostles,

“I wanted very much to eat this Passover meal with you before I suffer. I tell you that I will not eat another Passover meal until it is finally eaten in the kingdom of God.”

Jesus took a cup of wine, gave thanks to God and said,

“Take this wine and share it with each other. I tell you that I will not drink this wine until the kingdom of God comes.”

Jesus took some bread, gave thanks to God, broke it and gave it to the apostles saying,

Passion Sunday

“This is my body given for you. Eat it in memory of me.”

After the meal Jesus took another cup of wine and gave the cup to the apostles saying,

“This is my blood poured out for you and with it God makes his covenant. The one is here at the table with me and he will betray me. The Son of Man will die in the way as God decided. It will be terrible for the one to betray him!”

The apostles began to ask each other who would do that. Then they began to argue which one of them should be the greatest. So Jesus said to them,

“The kings have power over their people and the rulers call themselves as friends of the people. But don't be like them. The most important one of you must be like the least important and your leader should be like a servant. Who is greater- the one that sits down to eat or the one that serve? It is the one that is seated but I am with you as a servant. You have been with me in all my troubles. So I will give the right to rule as kings just as my Father has given me the right to rule as a king. You will eat and drink in my kingdom and you will sit on thrones to rule over the twelve tribes of Israel.”

“Simon, listen to me! Satan has demanded the right to test each of you like a farmer separating wheat from the husks. But I have prayed for you that your faith will be strong. You will come back and you must help your brothers.”

Peter said,

“Lord, I am ready to go to prison with you and die with you!”

Jesus replied,

“Peter, I tell you that before a rooster crows tomorrow morning you will say three times that you don’t know me.”

Then Jesus asked his disciples,

“Before I told you to go out without a money bag, a traveling bag or sandals, did you need them?”

They answered,

“No, we did not need them.”

Jesus said,

“But now if you have a money bag, take it with you and also a traveling bag. If you don’t have a sword, sell some of your clothes and buy one. Do this because the scriptures say, ‘He is a criminal.’ It is true because it was written about me.”

The disciples said,

“Lord, here are two swords!”

“That is enough.”

Jesus went out to the Mount of Olives as he often went there. His disciples went with Jesus. They arrived at the place. Jesus said to them,

“Pray that you will not fall into temptation.”

Then Jesus went up a short way, kneeled and prayed,

“Father, if you will, please take this cup of suffering away from me. But it is your will and not what I want.”

An angel from heaven appeared to Jesus and comforted him. He was in a great pain and prayed so hard that his sweat was like drops of blood falling to the ground. Then he got up from praying and went over to his disciples. They were asleep and worn out by their grief. He said to them,

“Why are you sleeping? Wake up and pray that you will not fall into temptation.”

Jesus was still speaking and a crowd with Judas, one of the twelve apostles, came up to Jesus. He went over to Jesus to kiss him. Jesus asked him,

“Are you betraying the Son of Man with a kiss?”

The disciples saw what will happen to Jesus so they asked him,

“Lord, should we use our swords against them?”

One of the disciples took out a sword and cut off the right ear of the servant of the high priest. Jesus said,

“Enough of this!”

Jesus touched the ear of the servant and healed him. Then he asked the chief priests, temple police and the leaders coming to arrest him,

“Why did you come with swords and clubs? Am I like a criminal? I was with you in the Temple every day and you did not arrest me.”

Jesus was arrested and was brought to the house of the high priest. Peter was following him at a distance. Some people built a fire in the center of the courtyard and were sitting around it. Peter went to sit with them. A servant girl saw Peter and said,

“This man was with Jesus!”

Peter said to the girl,

“Woman, I do not know him!”

Later a man noticed Peter and said to him,

“You are one of them.”

Peter replied,

“No, I am not!”

About one hour later another man saw Peter said,

“I am sure this man was with Jesus because they both are from Galilee.”

Peter answered,

“I don’t know what you are talking about!”

At once a rooster crowed. Jesus turned around and looked at Peter. Peter remembered that Jesus told him, “Before the rooster crowed tonight, you will say three times that you don’t know me.” Peter went away crying.

The men guarding Jesus mocked him and beat him. Then they blindfolded Jesus and said to him,

“Guess, tell us who hit you?”

The next day the elders, the chief priests and the teachers of the Law gathered. Jesus was brought before the council. They said to him,

“Tell us, are you the Messiah?”

Jesus replied,

“If I tell you, you will not believe me. And if I ask you a question, you will not answer. But from now on the Son of Man will be seated at the right side of God All-Powerful.”

Then they all asked Jesus,

“Are you the Son of God?”

“You say that I am.”

“We don’t need anymore witness. We heard what he said!”

The men got up and brought Jesus to Pontius Pilate. They began to accuse Jesus saying,

“We caught the man trying to tell the people to riot and stop paying taxes to the Emperor. He also says that he is the Messiah, a king.”

Pilate asked Jesus if he is the king of the Jews.” Jesus answered,

“You say that yourself.”

Pilate told the chief priests and the crowd that he did not see him guilty of anything. But the people kept on saying,

“His teaching is making trouble for the people all over Judea. He started in Galilee and now it is spreading all the way down here.”

Pilate heard that Jesus was from the area of Galilee. So he sent him to Herod. Herod happened to be in Jerusalem. He was very happy to see Jesus because for a long time he wanted to see Jesus. He heard many things about Jesus and was hoping to see him to do miracles. So Herod asked Jesus many questions but Jesus did not answer. The chief priests and the teachers of the Law went up to Herod and accused Jesus of many things. Herod and his soldiers mocked Jesus and insulted him. They put a fine robe on Jesus and sent him back to Pilate. That day Herod and Pilate became friends even though they were enemies before.

Pilate called the chief priests, the leaders and the people and told them that he did not think that Jesus is guilty of anything. Herod also did not think Jesus guilty. That is why Herod sent Jesus back to us. This man does not deserve death. But I will have him whipped and let him go. But the crowd shouted,

“Kill Jesus! Free Barabbas!”

Barabbas was in jail because he started a riot in the city and for murder. Pilate wanted to free Jesus so he spoke again to the crowds. But the people shouted back,

“Crucify him! Nail him to a cross!”

Pilate said to the crowd the third time but what crime he had done? I cannot see anything wrong he did that he should be killed. I will have him whipped and will let him go. The people kept on shouting that Jesus should be crucified. Finally Pilate gave up and freed Barabbas because the crowd wanted to see him go free.

The soldiers took Jesus away. On the way some soldiers grabbed a man from Cyrene named Simon and forced him to carry the cross behind Jesus. A large crowd was following Jesus. Many women in the crowd were crying. Jesus said to the women,

“Women of Jerusalem, don’t cry for me! Cry for yourselves and your children.”

Two criminals were brought out to be crucified with Jesus. They came to the place called “The Skull” and the soldiers nailed Jesus to a cross. They also nailed the two criminals to crosses, one on each side of Jesus. Jesus said,

“Father, forgive those people! They do not know what they are doing.”

The crowd was standing watching Jesus. The soldiers gambled for his clothes. The leaders insulted Jesus saying,

“He saved the people. If he is really the Messiah, he should save himself.”

The soldiers mocked Jesus. They brought him cheap wine and said,

“If you are the king of the Jews, save yourself!”

Above the head of Jesus was a sign saying “This is the king of the Jews.” One of the criminals on the cross insulted Jesus saying,

“If you are the Messiah, save yourself and us!”

But the other criminal shouted at the first criminal saying,

“Don’t you fear God? We are getting our punishment for what we have done but for this man he did not do anything wrong.”

Then he said to Jesus,

“Remember me in your kingdom.”

Jesus said to him,

“I promise you that today you will be with me in Paradise.”

Around noon the sky became dark and it lasted until three o’clock. The curtain in the temple was torn in two. Jesus cried out,

“Father, in your hands I put my spirit!”

SILENCE

Passion Sunday

The army officer saw what had happened. So he praised God saying,

“This man was a good man.”

The crowd saw what had happened, they were heartbroken and went home. All the close friends of Jesus and the women stood at a distance to watch. A man named Joseph from Arimathea, a town in Judea, was also in the crowd. He was a good man and was eager for the kingdom of God to come. He was also a member of the Jewish council, he did not agree with their decision. He went to Pilate and asked him for the body of Jesus. He took the body down from the cross, wrapped it in a fine cloth and put it in the tomb that was cut out of a rock and was never used before. It was Friday and the Sabbath was about to begin.

The women following Jesus from Galilee went with Joseph and saw how the body of Jesus was placed in the tomb. Then they went home to prepare some sweet-smelling spices for his body. But on the Sabbath they rested as the Law of Moses commanded.

The Gospel of the Lord

HOLY THURSDAY

First Reading

EXODUS 12:1-8,11-14

A Reading from the Scroll of Exodus

The Lord spoke to Moses and Aaron in Egypt. He said to them, “This month is to be the first month of the year for you. 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 and paint it on the doorposts and above the doors of the houses where 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

Holy Thursday

Verse before the Gospel

JOHN 13:34

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

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

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

Good Friday

Verse before the Gospel

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,

Good Friday

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.”

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.

Good Friday

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

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 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.

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 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. On the seventh day God finished with his work and he rested.

The Word of the Lord

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:

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

Third Reading

EXODUS 14:15-15:1

(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

Psalm

EXODUS 15:1-2,3-4,5-6,17-18

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:

Easter Vigil

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

LUKE 24:1-12

A Reading from the Holy Gospel of Luke

One very early Sunday morning the women went to the tomb. They brought spices. They got to the tomb and saw the stone rolled away from the entrance of the tomb. They went into the tomb but the body of Jesus was gone. They didn't know what to do.

Suddenly two men in shining white clothes appeared. The women were afraid and bowed on the ground. The men said to the women, “Why are you looking for the dead. He is already alive? He is not here! He had risen! Remember the time Jesus was in Galilee, he told you, ‘The son of Man will be brought over to sinners and they will nail him to a cross. But in three days he will rise to life.’ ”

The women remembered that. The women that went to the tomb were Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James and some other women.

They left the tomb and went to the eleven apostles and other people. The women told them what had happened. But the apostles thought the women had no sense and would not believe them.

Peter ran to the tomb, stooped down and looked in it. He saw only the cloth that was wrapped around Jesus' body. Then Peter left and wondered what had happened.

The Good News of the Lord

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 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 other people 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

Psalm

PSALM 118: 1-2,16-17,22-23

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

RESPONSE:

Easter Sunday

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

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 5:12-16

A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles

The apostles did many wonderful works on the people. All of the followers of Jesus often met together in Solomon's porch. Many people outside their group liked the apostles but were afraid to join them.

Many men and women began to have faith in the Lord. They brought in many sick people on cots and mats out into the streets. They hoped that Peter would walk by so his shadow would touch the sick people and they would get healed. Many people living in the towns near Jerusalem brought people that were sick or had evil spirits in them and they were healed.

The Word of the Lord

Psalm

PSALM 118:2-4,13-15,22-24

RESPONSE: Give thanks to the Lord.
His love continues forever!

Israel says, “His true love continues forever!”
Priests say, “His true love continues forever!”
You people say, “His true love continues forever!”

RESPONSE:

My enemy attacked me and almost destroyed me.
But the Lord gave me strength.
He saved me!
The Lord is powerful.

RESPONSE:

The stone the builders threw out became the most
important stone.
The Lord did this and it is wonderful!
Today is the day the Lord has made.
Let us rejoice and be glad today!

RESPONSE:

Second Sunday of Easter

A Reading from the Book of Revelation

I am John, your brother, and as a follower of Jesus I am with you. We all suffer because Jesus is our king but he gives us strength to accept suffering. I was sent to Patmos Island because I preached the word of God about Jesus. On the day of the Lord the Spirit took control of me and I heard the loud voice behind me that sounded like a trumpet. The voice said, "Write in a book what you see." I turned around to see who was speaking to me but I saw seven golden lampstands. There was with the lampstands someone like the Son of Man. He was wearing a robe that went down to his feet and a gold band around his chest.

I saw him and I fell down at his feet like a dead man. He put his right hand on me and said, "Don't be afraid! I am the first and the last. I am the living one! I died but now I am alive forever and ever. I have authority over death and the world of the dead. Write what you have seen and what is and what will happen afterward."

The Word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation

JOHN 20:29

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 his 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

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

First Reading

ACTS 5:27-32,40-41

A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles

The leader of the temple brought the apostles before the council. The high priest said to them, “We told you not to teach in the name of Jesus. But look what you have done! You have been teaching all over Jerusalem and you are trying to blame us for the death of Jesus.”

Peter and the apostles replied, “We don’t obey people. We obey God. You nailed Jesus on the cross and killed him. But God our ancestors worshipped raised Jesus to life and made him our leader and savior. Then God gave him a place at his right side so that the people of Israel would turn to him and have their sins forgiven. We are here to tell you about this and the Holy Spirit as the gift from God to everyone that obeys God.”

The apostles were whipped and were warned not to speak in the name of Jesus. Then they let them go.

The apostles left the council very happy because God made them feel worthy to suffer for the love of Jesus.

The Word of the Lord

Third Sunday of Easter

Psalm

PSALM 30:2,4,5-6,11-12,13

RESPONSE: Praise the Lord. He saved me.

Lord, I praise you.
You saved me from my enemies.
I cried to you for help and you healed me.
You saved me from death and out of the grave.

RESPONSE:

Praise the Lord with songs.
Praise his holy name!
Remember what he has done.
Give him thanks.

RESPONSE:

His anger lasts for a short time.
His kindness lasts for a lifetime.
At night we may cry but will be happy in the morning.
I will never be sad.

RESPONSE:

You changed my sadness to joy.
No more I will be sad.
I will sing praise to you.
Lord, you are my God.

RESPONSE:

Third Sunday of Easter

A Reading from the Book of Revelation

I looked around and heard the voices of the angels, thousands and millions of them, standing around the throne. They sang in a loud voice, “The lamb that was killed is worthy to receive power, wealth, wisdom and strength, honor, glory and praise!”

Then I heard all people in heaven and on earth and under the earth and in the sea offer praise. They were singing, “Praise, honor, glory and strength forever and ever to the one that sits on the throne and to the lamb!”

The four living creatures answered, “Amen” and the elders kneeled down and worshipped.

The Word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia---Alleluia---Alleluia

Christ has risen. He has pity for people.

Alleluia---Alleluia---Alleluia

Gospel

JOHN 21:1-19

A Reading from the Holy Gospel of John
(Short Form---Read in Black)

Jesus appeared to his disciples at Lake Tiberias. It happened during the night the disciples Simon Peter, Thomas, called the Twin, Nathanael, the one from Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee and two other disciples gathered. Simon Peter said, "I am going fishing." The disciples said, "We will go with you."

They got into a boat and fished all night but they did not catch any fish. Early the next morning Jesus stood on the shore but the disciples in the boat did not recognize him. Jesus shouted, "Did you catch any fish." The disciples answered, "No." So Jesus said to them, "Throw out the net on the right side of the boat. You will catch some fish." The men threw out the net and caught so many fish that they could not pull it up to the boat.

Third Sunday of Easter

One of Jesus' favorite disciple, said to Peter, "It is the Lord." Peter heard that it was the Lord he put on his clothes that he had taken off while he was working. Then he jumped into the water. The other disciples stayed in the boat about 100 yards from the shore. They rowed the boat to the shore pulling the net full of fish.

They got out of the boat and saw a fire with a fish on it and some bread. Jesus said to the men, "Bring some of the fish you just caught." Simon Peter went to the boat and dragged the net full of big fish, one hundred fifty three of them and the net did not break. Jesus said to them, "Come and eat." Not one of the disciples had nerve to ask him who he was because they knew he was the Lord. Jesus took the bread and gave it to the disciples and also with fish he gave it to them. This was the third time Jesus appeared to the disciples after he was raised from death.

After they finished eating, Jesus asked Simon Peter, "Simon, son of John, do you love me more than other people love me?" Peter answered, "Yes, Lord, you know that I love you." Jesus then said, "Feed my lamb." Jesus asked a second time, "Simon, son of John, "Do you love me?" Peter answered, Yes, Lord, you know I love you." Then Jesus told him, "Take care of my sheep."

Jesus asked a third time, “Simon, son of John, do you love me?” Peter was hurt because Jesus asked him three times if he loved him. So he told Jesus, “Lord, you know everything. I love you.” Jesus replied, “Feed my sheep. I tell you for sure that you as young man you dressed yourself and went anyplace you wanted to go. But now you are old you will hold out your hands. Then others will tie a belt around you and take you where you do not want to go.”

Jesus said that to tell how Peter would die and bring honor to God. Then Jesus said to Peter, “Follow me!”

The Good News of the Lord

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

First Reading

ACTS 13:14,43-52

A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles

Paul and Barnabas left Perga and went to Antioch in Pisidia. On the Sabbath they went into the synagogue and sat down.

After the service many Jews and Gentiles that became Jewish followed Paul and Barnabas. They (Paul and Barnabas) spoke to them and urged them to remain faithful to God.

The next Sabbath almost everybody in town came to hear the message about the Lord. The Jewish people saw the crowds and they were jealous. They insulted Paul and spoke against everything Paul said.

But Paul and Barnabas said, “We have to tell God’s message to you before we told it to anyone. But you rejected the message! This proves that you are not worthy of eternal life. Now we are going to the Gentiles.

The Lord gave us this command ‘I made you a light for the Gentiles so that all the world may be saved.’ ” This message made the Gentiles happy so they praised what they had heard about the Lord. Everyone chosen for eternal life put their faith in the Lord.

Fourth Sunday of Easter

The message about the Lord spread all over the city. The Jewish leaders went to some important men in the town and to some religious women. They urged them to go against Paul and Barnabas and started to make trouble for them. They chased them out of the country.

Paul and Barnabas shook the dust from their feet and went to the city of Iconium. But the followers of the Lord in Antioch were very happy and were filled with the Holy Spirit.

The Word of the Lord

Psalm

PSALM 100:1-2,3,5

RESPONSE: Lord, we are your sheep

Let everyone on earth sing to the Lord.
Serve the Lord with joy.
Praise him with happy songs!

RESPONSE:

Know the Lord is God.
He created us and we belong to him.
We are his people.
We are his sheep.

RESPONSE:

The Lord is good!
His love lasts forever.
We can trust him forever and ever.

RESPONSE:

Fourth Sunday of Easter

A Reading from the Book of Revelation

I saw a large crowd with more people than I can count. They were from different race, tribe, nation and language. They stood before the throne and before the lamb. They wore white robes and held palm branches in their hands.

One of the elders said to me, “Those people went through great suffering. They have washed their robes in the blood of lamb and made them white. That is why they stand before the throne of God and worship day and night in his temple. The one that sits on the throne will protect them with his presence. Never again they will hunger or thirst. They will not be burned by the sun. The lamb in the center of the throne will be their shepherd. He will lead them to stream of life-giving water. God will wipe all tears from their eyes.”

The Word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation

JOHN 10:14

Alleluia---Alleluia---Alleluia

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

Alleluia---Alleluia---Alleluia

Gospel

JOHN 10:27-30

A Reading from the Holy Gospel of John

Jesus said, “My sheep know my voice and I know them. My sheep follow me and they will never die. My sheep will never get lost. No one will grab them out of my hand.

My Father gave me the sheep and he is greater than all others. No one can snatch my sheep from the hands of my Father.

I am one with the Father.”

The Good News of the Lord

Fourth Sunday of Easter

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

First Reading

ACTS 14:21-27

A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles

Paul and Barnabas preached the good news in Derbe and drew some people to the Lord. Then they went back to Lystra, Iconium and Antioch in Pisidia. They encouraged the followers and begged them to remain faithful. They told them, “We have to suffer a lot before we can get into kingdom of God.” Paul and Barnabas chose some people having faith in the Lord to be leaders for each of the churches. They went without eating and prayed that the Lord would take good care of these leaders.

Paul and Barnabas went on through Pisidia to Pamphylia. They preached in the town of Perga. Then they went down to Attalia and sailed to Antioch in Syria. They did their work there. They called the church together. They told the people that God had helped them and how he made it possible for the Gentiles to believe. Then they stayed there with the followers for a while.

The Word of the Lord

Fifth Sunday of Easter

Psalm

PSALM 145:8-9,10-11,12-13

RESPONSE: Lord, I will praise your name forever.

Lord, you are full of mercy.
Lord, you are patient and full of love.
Lord, you are good to everyone.
You take care of all things you made.

RESPONSE:

All things you made will thank you.
Your people will praise you.
They will tell about your marvelous kingdom.
They will tell about your great power.

RESPONSE:

Everyone will know about great things you do.
Everyone will know about your wonderful kingdom.
Your kingdom will continue forever.
You will rule forever.

RESPONSE:

Fifth Sunday of Easter

A Reading from the Book of Revelation

I saw a new heaven and a new earth. The first heaven and the first earth disappeared and the sea vanished. Then I see the New Jerusalem, the holy city, coming down from God in heaven. It was like a bride dressed in her wedding gown ready to meet her husband.

I heard a loud shout from the throne, “Now the home of God is with people. He will live with them and they shall be his people. God himself will be with the people and he will be their God. He will wipe all tears from their eyes. There will be no more death, suffering, crying or pain. The old things are gone forever.”

Then the one sitting on the throne said, “Now I am making all things new.”

The Word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation

JOHN 13:34

Alleluia---Alleluia---Alleluia

The Lord says, “I am giving you a new
Commandment “Love one another as I love you.”

Alleluia---Alleluia---Alleluia

Gospel

JOHN 13:31-35

A Reading from the Holy Gospel of John

Judas left and Jesus said, “Now the Son of Man will get glory and he will bring glory to God. The glory of God will be shown through the son. God will do that very soon.

My children, I will be with you for a while. Then I will be gone and you will not find me. I will tell you as I told the Jewish authority ‘You cannot go where I am going.’ Now I am giving you a new commandment. You must love each other as I love you. If you love each other, all the people will know that you are my followers.”

The Good News of the Lord

Fifth Sunday of Easter

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

First Reading

ACTS 15:1-2,22-29

A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles

Some men went from Judea to Antioch began to teach the followers of the Lord that they cannot be saved if they were not yet circumcised as required by the Law of Moses. That started trouble. Paul and Barnabas argued with them about this teaching. So Paul and Barnabas and few others went to Jerusalem to discuss this problem with the apostles and the church leaders.

The apostles, leaders and all church members decided to send some men to Antioch with Paul and Barnabas. They chose Silas and Judas Barsabbas. They were the two leaders of the followers of the Lord. They wrote a letter saying:

“We, the apostles and leaders, send friendly greetings to all of you Gentiles, followers of the Lord in Antioch, Syria and Cilicia. We heard that some people from here have upset you by what they said. We did not send them! So we met and decided to choose some men and send them to you along with our good friends Barnabas and Paul. These men have risked their lives for our Lord Jesus Christ. We are also sending Judas and Silas and they will tell you in person the same things that we are writing.

Sixth Sunday of Easter

The Holy Spirit has shown us that we should not place extra burden on you. But you should not eat anything offered to idols. You should not eat any meat that still has the blood in it or any meat of any animal that has been strangled. You must also not do any sexual sins. If you do what I told you, you will be fine. We send our best wishes.”

The Word of the Lord

Psalm

PSALM 67:2-3,5,6,8

RESPONSE: Let all the nations praise you!

Lord, have mercy on us and bless us.
Then everyone on earth will learn to follow you.
Let all people see you your power.

RESPONSE:

Make everyone praise you.
Make them shout your praises.

RESPONSE:

May God bless us.
May all people on earth honor him.

RESPONSE:

A Reading from the Book of Revelation

The Spirit took me to the top of a very high mountain. He showed me the Holy City of Jerusalem coming down from God in heaven. The glory of God made the city bright. The city shone like a precious stone like a jasper stone. The city had a high and thick wall with twelve gates and each of them was guarded by an angels. The names of the twelve tribes of Israel were written on the gates. Three of the gates were on the east, three were on the north, three more were on the south and the other three were on the west. The city was built on twelve foundation stones. The names of the twelve apostles of the lamb were written on the stones.

I did not see a temple in the city. The Lord God All-Powerful and the Lamb were its temple. The city did not need the sun or the moon to shine on it. The glory of God was shining on it and the Lamb was its light.

The Word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation

JOHN 14:23

Alleluia---Alleluia---Alleluia

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

Alleluia---Alleluia---Alleluia

Gospel

JOHN 14:23-29

A Reading from the Holy Gospel of John

Jesus said to his disciples, “Anyone loves me will obey my teaching. My Father will love them. Then we will come to them and live in them. But anyone not loving me will not obey my teaching. The teaching you heard is not mine. It is from the Father who sent me.

I am telling you this while I am still with you. The Father will send the Holy Spirit in my place. It will teach you everything and remind you of all what I have told you.

I leave you peace; the peace that I can give you. It is not like the peace that the world gives. So don't be worried or afraid.

Sixth Sunday of Easter

You already heard me say to you that I am leaving but I will come back to you. If you really love me, you would be glad that I am going back to the Father. He is greater than I am.

I am telling you this before I leave so that when it happens, you will have faith in me”.

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 until two men dressed in white clothes suddenly appeared beside them. The men said to them, “Why are you still standing here and looking 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
7,8-9

PSALM 47:2-3,6-

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:

God is the king of all the earth.
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 the glorious Father and God of our Lord Jesus Christ to give you his Spirit. The Spirit will make you wise and let you understand what it means to know God. I pray that you will see his light so you will understand 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. The church is the body of Christ. Christ makes everything in the world perfect.”

The Word of the Lord

Alleluia---Alleluia---Alleluia

The Lord says, “Go and teach all nations. I am with you always until the end of the world.”

Alleluia---Alleluia---Alleluia

Gospel

LUKE 24:46-53

A Reading from the Holy Gospel of Luke

Jesus said to his disciples, “The Scriptures said that the Messiah must suffer and in three days he will rise from death. Also you must preach in my name the message about forgiveness to all the people of all nations. So beginning in Jerusalem you must proclaim everything that happened. I will send you what my Father had promised. But you must stay in Jerusalem until you are given power from heaven.”

The disciples went with Jesus to Bethany. In Bethany Jesus raised his hands and blessed them. While he was blessing the disciples, Jesus went up into heaven. His disciples worshiped him. Then they went back to Jerusalem with great joy and went into the temple praising God.

The Good News of the Lord

Ascension of the Lord

SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

First Reading

ACTS 7:55-60

A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles

Stephen filled with the Holy Spirit looked up to heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right side of God. He said, “Look, I see heaven open and the Son of Man standing at the right side of God!”

The council members shouted and covered their ears with their hands. Then they beat Stephen up, dragged him out of the city and began to throw stones at him. The men throwing stones against Stephen left their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul.

While Stephen was being stoned to death, he called out, “Lord Jesus, please welcome me!” He kneeled down and shouted in a loud voice, “Lord, don’t blame them for what they have done.” Then he died.

The Word of the Lord

Psalm

PSALM 97:1-2,6-7,9

RESPONSE: Lord is king for all the earth

The Lord is King!
Tell all the people to celebrate and shout.
He rules with goodness and justice.

RESPONSE:

The heaven proclaim his goodness
The Lord brings justice.
Everyone sees the glory of God.
All worshipping false gods will be ashamed.

RESPONSE:

Lord almighty, you are ruler of all the earth.
He is much greater than all the false gods.

RESPONSE:

A Reading from the Book of Revelation

Jesus said, “Listen, I will come soon. I will give rewards to everyone what they have done. I am Alpha and Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end.”

God will bless all that washed their robes clean. They will have the right to eat fruit from the tree that gives life and go through the gates into the city.

“I am Jesus! I have sent the angels to tell you all things in the churches. I am from the family of David. I am bright morning star. Come! Everyone hearing this should say ‘Come!’ If you are thirsty, come! If you want life-giving water, come and take it. It is free!”

The one saying those things says, “I am coming soon!”

The Word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation

JOHN 14:18

Alleluia---Alleluia---Alleluia

The Lord says, “I will not leave you alone.
I will come back to you and you will be happy.”

Alleluia---Alleluia---Alleluia

Gospel

JOHN 17:20-26

A Reading from the Holy Gospel of John

Jesus looked up to heaven and prayed, “I am not praying only for my disciples but for everyone believing in me because of their faith in me. I want all of them to be one with each other just as I am one with you and you are one with me. I also want them to be one with us. Then the people of this world will believe that you sent me.

I gave them the same glory you gave me so they may be one with each other as we are one. I am one with them. You are one with me so we may be completely one. Then the people in the world will know that you sent me. They will know that you love my followers as much as you love me.

Father, you gave them to me and I want them to be with me where I am. Then they will see the glory that you gave me because you loved me before the world was made.

Seventh Sunday of Easter

Good Father, the people of this world don't know you but I know you. My followers know that you sent me. I told them what you are like and I will continue to tell them more. Then the love you have for me will be in them and I will be one with them.”

The Good News of the Lord

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.

That time many people from different countries were 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

Psalm

PSALM 104:1,24,29-30,31,34

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 become alive.

You give new life to earth.

RESPONSE:

Pentecost

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

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

PROVERBS 8:22-31

A Reading from the Scroll of Proverbs

From the beginning I was with the Lord. The Lord was there before the world was made. At the very beginning the Lord gave me life. I was born before the oceans. There were no springs of water. I was born before the mountains were made or hills were put in place. It happened long before God made the earth or any of its field or even the dust.

I was there the Lord put the heavens in place and stretched the sky over the sea. I was with him as he put the clouds in the sky and created the springs that filled the ocean. I was there that he set boundaries for the sea to obey him and put in foundations to support the earth. I was with the Lord helping him plan and build. I made him happy each day and I was happy at his side. I was satisfied with his world and happy with his people.

The Word of the Lord

Trinity Sunday

Psalm

PSALM 8:4-5,6-7,8-9

RESPONSE: Lord, your name is wonderful.

I look at the sky that you made.
I see the moon and stars.
I wonder why we are important to you.
Why are you concerned about us?

RESPONSE:

You made us lower than yourself.
You bless us with glory and honor.
You let us be in charge of everything you made.

RESPONSE:

You gave us authority over all animals.
Also over the birds in the sky.
And all the fish in the sea.

RESPONSE:

Trinity Sunday

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

Paul said, “Because of our faith, God accepted us. Through our Lord Jesus Christ we are now at peace with God. Christ showed us that God is kind so we can experience his love. We are happy and look forward to sharing in the glory of God. But that is not all! We will gladly suffer because we know that suffering helps us to endure. Our endurance gives us a hope that will never disappoint us. All this happens because God has given us the Holy Spirit to fill our hearts with his love.”

The Word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation

REVELATION 1:8

Alleluia---Alleluia---Alleluia

The Lord God says, “I am the first and the last.
I am who is, who was and who will come.”

Alleluia---Alleluia---Alleluia

Gospel

JOHN 16:12-15

A Reading from the Holy Gospel of John

Jesus was speaking with his followers. He said, “I have many more things to tell you but it will be too hard for you to understand. The Spirit will tell the truth about God and will lead you into all truth. The Spirit does not speak in his own words. He will tell you only what he heard from me. He will let you know what will happen. The Spirit will bring glory to me. He will get my message and give it to you.

Everything that my father has is mine. That is why I said that the Spirit gets my message and gives it to you.”

The Good News of the Lord

Trinity Sunday`

CORPUS CHRISTI

First Reading

GENESIS 14:18-20

A Reading from the Scroll of Genesis

Melchizedek, the king of Salem and also a priest of the Most High God, went to meet Abram. He brought bread and wine to Abram and blessed him.

He said to Abram, “May the Most High God, maker of heaven and earth, bless you. The Most High God gave you victory over your enemies. Let us praise him!”

Then Abram gave Melchizedek a tenth of everything he has.

The Word of the Lord

Psalm

PSALM 110:1,2,3,4

RESPONSE: You are a priest forever!

The Lord says to my Lord,
“Sit at my right side!
I will put your enemies under your control.”

RESPONSE:

The Lord will give you power.
He will give you power to rule over Zion.
You will rule over your enemies.

RESPONSE:

The day you fight your enemies,
Your people will fight for you.
They will wear special clothes.
They will shine like the morning sun.

RESPONSE:

The Lord made a promise.
He will not break it.
You are a priest forever.
You will be priest like Melchizedek.

RESPONSE:

Corpus Christi

A Reading from the First Letter of Paul to the Corinthians

Paul said, “I have already told you what the Lord did on the night he was betrayed. It is from the Lord himself. He took some bread in his hands, gave thanks, broke it and said, ‘This is my body given up for you. Eat this and remember me.’

After the meal, Jesus took a cup of wine and said, ‘This is my blood and with it God makes his new agreement with you. Drink this and remember me.’

The Lord meant that when you eat this bread and drink from this cup, you tell about his death until he comes again.”

The Word of the Lord

Gospel Acclamation

JOHN 6:51

Alleluia---Alleluia---Alleluia

The Lord says, “I am the living bread from heaven. If you eat this bread, you will live forever.”

Alleluia---Alleluia---Alleluia

Gospel

LUKE 9:11-17

A Reading from the Holy Gospel of Luke

Jesus was speaking to a crowd. He was explaining to them about the kingdom of God. Many people that are sick came to Jesus and he healed them.

The sun was setting and it was beginning to get dark. The apostles said to Jesus, “Tell the people to go to villages and farms for a place to sleep and food to eat. Here is like a desert and it is not the right place for them to sleep and eat.”

Jesus said to them, “You give them something to eat.” The apostles answered, “How can we feed them. We have only five loaves of bread and two small fish and they are not enough to feed all those five thousand people. Do you mean that we have to go out and buy food for them?”

Corpus Christi

Jesus said to them, “Tell the people to sit in groups of fifty.” So the apostles told the people to sit in groups. Jesus took the five loaves of bread and two fish. He looked up to heaven, thanked God for the food and blessed them. Then he broke the bread and fish and handed them to the apostles. Then the apostles gave them to the people.

Everyone ate all they wanted. The food left over was enough to fill twelve baskets.

The Good News of the Lord

