OLD TESTAMENT READINGS

A reading from the Book of Job

19: 1, 23-27

Job answered and said:
Oh, Would that my words were written down!
Would that they were inscribed in a record:
That with and iron chisel and with lead
they were cut in the rock forever!
But as for me, I know that my vindicator lives,
and that he will at last stand forth upon the dust;
whom I myself shall see:
my own eyes, not another's, shall behold him;
and from my flesh I shall see God;
my inmost being is consumed with longing.

A reading from the Book of Wisdom

The souls of the just are in the hand of God, and no torment shall touch them.

They seemed in the view of the foolish, to be dead; and their passing away was thought an affliction and their going forth from us, utter destruction.

But they are in peace.

For if before people, indeed, they be punished, yet is their hope full of immortality; Chastised a little, they shall be greatly blessed, because God tried them and found them worthy of himself. and as sacrificial offerings he took them to himself.

In the time of their visitation they shall shine, and shall dart about as sparks through stubble; They shall judge nations and rule over peoples, and the Lord shall be their King forever. Those who trust in him shall understand truth, and the faithful shall abide with him in love: Because grace and mercy are with his holy ones, and his care is with his elect.

The word of the Lord.

3: 1-9

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah

25: 6, 7-9

On this mountain the Lord of hosts will provide for all peoples.
On this mountain he will destroy the veil that veils all peoples.
The web that is woven over all nations; he will destroy death forever.
The Lord God will wipe away the tears from all faces;
The reproach of his people he will remove From the whole earth; for the Lord has spoken.

On that day it will be said:
"Behold our God, to whom we looked to save us!
This is the Lord for whom we looked;
Let us rejoice and be glad that he has saved us!"

A reading from the Book of Lamentations

3: 17-26

My soul is deprived of peace, I have forgotten what happiness is; I tell myself my future is lost, all that I hoped for from the Lord. The thought of my homeless poverty is wormwood and gall; Remembering it over and over leaves my soul downcast within me. But I will call this to mind, as my reason to have hope:

The favors of the Lord are not exhausted, his mercies are not spent;
They are renewed each morning,
So great is his faithfulness.
My portion is the Lord, says my soul;
Therefore will I hope in him.

Good is the Lord to one who waits for him, to the soul that seeks him; It is good to hope in silence for the saving help of the Lord.

A reading from the Book of Ecclesiastes

3: 1-8

There is an appointed time for everything, and a time for every affair under the heavens. A time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to uproot the plant.

A time to kill, and a time to heal; a time to tear down, and a time to build.

A time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn, and a time to dance.

A time to scatter stones, and a time to gather them; a time to embrace, and a time to be far from embraces.

A time to seek, and a time to lose; a time to keep, and a time to cast away.

A time to rend, and a time to sew; a time to be silent, and a time to speak.

A time to love, and a time to hate; a time of war, and a time of peace.

A reading from the second Book of Maccabees

12: 43-46

Judas, the ruler of Israel, took up a collection among all his soldiers, amounting to two thousand silver drachmas, which he sent to Jerusalem to provide for an expiatory sacrifice. In doing this he acted in a very excellent and noble way, inasmuch as he had the resurrection of the dead in view; for if he were not expecting the fallen to rise again, it would have been useless and foolish to pray for them in death. But if he did this with a view to the splendid reward that awaits those who had gone to rest in godliness, it was a holy and pious thought. Thus he made atonement for the dead that they might be freed from this sin.

RESPONSORIAL PSALMS

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

Our response is: The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing

I shall want.

(All repeat:) The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing

I shall want.

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

All: The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

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

All: The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

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

All: The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

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

All: The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

PSALM 25: 6 and 7, 17-18, 20-21

Our response is: To you, O Lord, I lift my soul. (All repeat:) To you, O Lord, I lift my soul.

Remember that your compassion, O Lord, and your kindness are from old. In your kindness remember me, because of your goodness, O Lord.

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

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

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

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

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

PSALMS 27: 1, 4, 7 and 8 and 9, 13-14

Our response is: The Lord is my light and my salvation. (All repeat:) The Lord is my light and my salvation.

The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom should I fear?
The Lord is my life's refuge; of whom should I be afraid?

All: The Lord is my light and my salvation.

One thing I ask of the Lord; this I seek: To dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life, That I may gaze on the loveliness of the Lord and contemplate his temple.

All: The Lord is my light and my salvation.

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

All: The Lord is my light and my salvation.

I believe that I shall see the bounty of the Lord in the land of the living.
Wait for the Lord with courage;
be stouthearted, and wait for the Lord.

All: The Lord is my light and my salvation.

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

Our response is: My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God. (All repeat:) My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.

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

All: My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.

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

All: My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.

Thus will I bless you while I live; lifting up my hands I will call upon your name.

As with the riches of a banquet shall my soul be satisfied, and with exultant lips my mouth shall praise you.

All: My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.

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

All: My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.

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

Our response is: The Lord is kind and merciful. (All repeat:) The Lord is kind and merciful.

Merciful and gracious is the Lord, slow to anger, and abounding in kindness.

Not according to our sins does he deal with us, nor does he requite us according to our crimes.

All: The Lord is kind and merciful.

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

All: The Lord is kind and merciful.

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

All: The Lord is kind and merciful.

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

All: The Lord is kind and merciful.

PSALM 116: 5, 6, 10-11, 15-16

Our response is: I will walk in the presence of the Lord

in the land of the living.

(All repeat:) I will walk in the presence of the Lord

in the land of the living.

Gracious is the Lord and just; yes, our God is merciful.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Our response is: Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord. (All repeat:) Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.

I rejoiced because they said to me, "We will go up to the house of the Lord." And now we have set foot within your gates, O Jerusalem.

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

To it the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord, According to the decree for Israel, to give thanks to the name of the Lord. In it are set up judgment seats, seats for the house of David.

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

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

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

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

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

PSALM 130: 1-2, 3-4, 5-6, 6-7, 8

Our response is: Out of the depths, I cry to you, Lord. (All repeat:) Out of the depths, I cry to you, Lord.

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

All: Out of the depths, I cry to you, Lord.

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

All: Out of the depths, I cry to you, Lord.

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

All: Out of the depths, I cry to you, Lord.

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

All: Out of the depths, I cry to you, Lord.

And he will redeem Israel from all their iniquities.

All: Out of the depths, I cry to you, Lord.

NEW TESTAMENT READINGS

10: 34-36, 42-43

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

Peter proceeded to speak, saying:
"In truth, I see that God shows no partiality.
Rather, in every nation whoever fears him and acts uprightly is acceptable to him.
You know the word that he sent to the children of Israel as he proclaimed peace through Jesus Christ, who is Lord of all. He commissioned us to preach to the people and testify that he is the one appointed by God as judge of the living and the dead.
To him all the prophets bear witness, that everyone who believes in him will receive forgiveness of sins through his name."

5: 5-11

Brothers and sisters:

Hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us. For Christ, while we were still helpless, died at the appointed time for the ungodly. Indeed, only with difficulty does one die for a just person, though perhaps for a good person one might even find courage to die. But God proves his love for us in that while we were still sinners Christ died for us. How much more then, since we are now justified by his Blood, will we be saved through him from the wrath. Indeed, if, while we were enemies, we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son, how much more, once reconciled, will we be saved by his life. Not only that, but we also boast of God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

5: 17-21

Brothers and sisters:

If, by the transgression of the one, death came to reign through that one, how much more will those who receive the abundance of grace and of the gift of justification come to reign in life through the one Jesus Christ. In conclusion, just as through one transgression condemnation came upon all, so, through one righteous act, acquittal and life came to all. For just as through the disobedience of the one man the many were made sinners, so through the obedience of the one the many will be made righteous. The law entered in so that the transgression might increase but, where sin increased, grace overflowed all the more, so that, as sin reigned in death, grace also might reign through justification for eternal life through Jesus Christ our lord.

6: 3-4, 8-9

Brothers and sisters:

Are you unaware that we who are baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death?
We were indeed buried with him through baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might live in newness of life.

If, then, we have died with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with him. We know that Christ, raised from the dead, dies no more; death no longer has power over him.

8: 14-23

Brothers and sisters:

Those who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you received a spirit of adoption, through which we cry, Abba, "Father!"

The Spirit itself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs of Christ, if only we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.

I consider that the sufferings of this present time are as nothing compared with the glory to be revealed for us. For creation awaits with eager expectation the revelation of the children of God; for creation was made subject to futility, not of its own accord but because of the one who subjected it, in hope that creation itself would be set free from slavery to corruption and share in the glorious freedom of the children of God. We know that all creation is groaning in labor pains even until now; and not only that, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, we also groan within ourselves as we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies.

8:31-35, 37-39

Brothers and sisters:

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

He did not spare his own Son
but handed him over for us all,
will he not also give us everything else along with him?
Who will bring a charge against God's chosen ones?

It is God who acquits us.

Who will condemn?

It is Jesus Christ who died, rather, was raised,
who is also at the right hand of God,
who indeed intercedes for us.

What will separate us from the love of Christ?

Will anguish, or distress, or persecution, or famine,
or nakedness, or peril, or the sword?

No, in all these things, we conquer overwhelmingly through him who loved us.

For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor present things, nor future things, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

14: 7-9, 10-12

No one lives for oneself, and no one dies for oneself. For if we live, we live for the Lord, and if we die, we die for the Lord; so then, whether we live or die, we are the Lord's. For this is why Christ died and came to life, That he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

Why then do you judge your brother? For we shall all stand before the judgment seat of God;

for it is written:

Brothers and sisters:

As I live, says the Lord, every knee shall bend before me, and every tongue shall give praise to God.

So then each of us shall give an accounting of himself to God.

A reading from the first Letter of Saint Paul to the Corinthians 15:20-23

Brothers and sisters:

Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep. For since death came through a man, the resurrection of the dead came also through a man. For just as in Adam all die, so too in Christ shall all be brought to life, but each one in proper order: Christ the firstfruits; then, at his coming, those who belong to Christ.

A reading from the first letter of Saint Paul to the Corinthians

15: 51-57

Brothers and sisters:

Behold, I tell you a mystery.

We shall not all fall asleep, but we will all be changed, in an instant, in the blink of an eye, at the last trumpet.

For the trumpet will sound,

the dead will be raised incorruptible,

and we shall be changed.

For that which is corruptible must clothe itself with incorruptibility, and that which is mortal must clothe itself with immortality. And when this which is corruptible clothes itself with incorruptibility and this which is mortal clothes itself with immortality, then the word that is written shall come about:

Death is swallowed up in victory. Where, O death, is your victory? Where, O death, is your sting?

The sting of death is sin, and the power of sin is the law. But thanks be to God who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

A reading from the second Letter of Saint Paul to the Corinthians 4:14--5:1

Brothers and sisters:

We know that the One who raised the Lord Jesus will raise us also with Jesus and place us with you in his presence.

Everything indeed is for you, so that the grace bestowed in abundance on more and more people may cause the thanksgiving to overflow for the glory of God. Therefore, we are not discouraged; rather, although our outer self is wasting away, our inner self is being renewed day by day. For this momentary light affliction is producing for us an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison, as we look not to what is unseen; for what is seen is transitory, but what is unseen is eternal.

For we know that if our earthly dwelling, a tent, should be destroyed, we have a building from God, a dwelling not made with hands, eternal in heaven.

A reading from the second Letter of Saint Paul to the Corinthians 5:1, 6-10

Brothers and sisters:
We know that if our earthly dwelling, a tent, should be destroyed,
we have a building from God,
a dwelling not made with hands,
eternal in heaven.

We are always courageous, although we know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord, for we walk by faith, not by sight. Yet we are courageous, and we would rather leave the body and go home to the Lord. Therefore, we aspire to please him, whether we are at home or away. For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ.

3: 20-21

Brothers and sisters:
Our citizenship is in heaven,
and from it we also await a savior, the Lord Jesus Christ.
He will change our lowly body
to conform with his glorified Body
by the power that enables him also
to bring all things into subjection to himself.

A reading from the first Letter of Saint Paul to the Thessalonians 4:13-18

We do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters, about those who have fallen asleep, so that you may not grieve like the rest, who have no hope. For if we believe that Jesus died and rose, so too will God, through Jesus, bring with him those who have fallen asleep. Indeed, we tell you this, on the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will surely not precede those who have fallen asleep. For the Lord himself, with a word of command, with the voice of an archangel and with the trumpet of God, will come down from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. Thus we shall always be with the Lord. Therefore, console one another with these words.

A reading from the second Letter of Saint Paul to Timothy

2: 8-13

Beloved:

such is my Gospel, for which I am suffering, even to the point of chains, like a criminal.

But the word of God is not chained.

Therefore, I bear with everything for the sake of those who are chosen, so that they too may obtain the salvation that is in Christ Jesus, together with eternal glory.

This saying is trustworthy:

If we have died with him we shall also live with him; if we persevere we shall also reign with him.

A reading from the first Letter of Saint John

3: 1-2

Beloved:

See what love the Father has bestowed on us that we may be called the children of God. Yet so we are.

The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him.
Beloved, we are God's children now; what we shall be has not yet been revealed.
We do know that when it is revealed we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is.

A reading from the Book of Revelation

14:13

I, John, heard a voice from heaven say, "Write this: Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on." "Yes," said the Spirit, "let them find rest from their labors, for their works accompany them."

21: 1-5, 6-7

A reading from the Book of Revelation

I, John, saw a new heaven and a new earth.

The former heaven and the former earth had passed away, and the sea was no more.

I also saw the holy city, a new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.

I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Behold, God's dwelling is with the human race.

He will dwell with them and they will be his people and God himself will always be with them as their God.

He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and there shall be no more death or mourning, wailing or pain, for the old order has passed away."

The one who sat on the throne said "Behold, I make all things new."
I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end.
To the thirsty I will give a gift from the spring of life-giving water.
They who are victorious will inherit these gifts, and I shall be their God, and they will be my children."

GOSPEL READINGS

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

5: 1-12

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain, and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. He began to teach them, saying:

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

The Gospel of the Lord.

11: 25-30

At that time Jesus answered:

"I give praise to you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth. for although you have hidden these things from the wise and the learned you have revealed them to the childlike. Yes, Father, such has been your gracious will. All things have been handed over to me by my Father. No one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the son wishes to reveal to him.

"Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened, and I will give you rest.

Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am meek and humble of heart; and you will find rest for yourselves.

For my yoke is easy, and my burden light."

25: 1-13

Jesus told his disciples this parable:

"The Kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins

who took their lamps and went out to meet the bridegroom.

Five of them were foolish and five were wise.

The foolish ones, when taking their lamps,

brought no oil with them,

but the wise brought flasks of oil with their lamps.

Since the bridegroom was long delayed,

they all became drowsy and fell asleep.

At midnight, there was a cry,

'Behold, the bridegroom! Come out to meet him!'

Then all those virgins got up and trimmed their lamps.

The foolish ones said to the wise,

"Give us some of your oil,

for our lamps are going out.'

But the wise ones replied,

'No, for there may not be enough for us and you.

Go instead to the merchants and buy some for yourselves.'

While they went off to buy it,

the bridegroom came and those who were ready

went into the wedding feast with him.

Then the door was locked.

Afterwards the other virgins came and said,

"Lord, Lord, open the door for us!"

But he said in reply,

"Amen, I say to you, I do not know you."

Therefore, stay awake,

for you know neither the day nor the hour."

15: 33-39

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark

At noon darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon.

And at three o'clock Jesus cried out in a low

And at three o'clock Jesus cried out in a loud voice,

"Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?"

which is translated,

"My God, my God, why have your forsaken me?"

Some of the bystanders who heard it said,

"Look, he is calling Elijah."

One of them ran, soaked a sponge with wine, put it on a reed, and gave it to him to drink, saying,

"Wait, let us see if Elijah comes to take him down."

Jesus gave a loud cry and breathed his last.

The veil of the sanctuary was torn in two from top to bottom.

When the centurion who stood facing him

saw how he breathed his last he said,

"Truly this man was the Son of God!"

7: 11-17

Jesus journeyed to a city called Naim, and his disciples and a large crowd accompanied him. As he drew near to a gate of the city, a man who had died was being carried out, the only son of his mother, and she was a widow. A large crowd from the city was with her. When the Lord saw her, he was moved with pity for her and he said to her, "Do not weep." He stepped forward and touched the coffin; at this the bearers halted, and he said, "Young man, I tell you arise!" The dead man sat up and began to speak, and Jesus gave him to his mother. Fear seized them all, and they glorified God, exclaiming, "A great prophet has arisen in our midst," and "God has visited his people." This report about him spread through the whole Judea and in all the surrounding region.

12: 35-40

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

Jesus said to his disciples: "Gird your lions and light your lamps and be like servants who await their master's return from a wedding, ready to open immediately when he comes and knocks. Blessed are those servants whom the master finds vigilant on his arrival. Amen, I say to you, he will gird himself, have them recline at table, and proceed to wait on them. And should he come in the second or third watch and find them prepared in this way, blessed are those servants. Be sure of this: if the master of the house had known the hour when the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. You also must be prepared, for at an hour you do not expect, the Son of Man will come."

23: 33, 39-43

When the soldiers came to the place called the Skull, they crucified Jesus and the criminals there, one on his right, the other on his left.

Now one of the criminals hanging there reviled Jesus, saying "Are you not the Christ? Save yourself and us."
The other man, however, rebuking him, said in reply, "Have you no fear of God, for you are subject to the same condemnation? And indeed, we have been condemned justly, for the sentence we receive corresponds to our crimes, but this man has done nothing criminal."
Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your Kingdom." He replied to him, "Amen, I say to you, today you will be with me in Paradise."

23: 44-46, 50, 52-53

It was about noon and darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon because of an eclipse of the sun.

Then the veil of the temple was torn down the middle.

Jesus cried out in a loud voice,

"Father, into your hands I commend my spirit";

and when he said this he breathed his last.

Now there was a virtuous and righteous man named Joseph who, though he was a member of the council, went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus.

After he had taken the body down, he wrapped it in a linen cloth and laid him in a rock-hewn tomb in which no one had yet been buried.

24: 13-16, 28-35

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

That very day, the first day of the week, two of the disciples of Jesus were going to a village called Emmaus, seven miles from Jerusalem, and they were conversing about all the things that had occurred. And it happened that while they were conversing and debating, Jesus himself drew near and walked with them, but their eyes were prevented from recognizing him. As they approached the village to which they were going, he gave the impression that he was going on farther. But they urged him, "Stay with us, for it is nearly evening and the day is almost over." So he went in to stay with them. And it happened that, while he was with them at table, he took bread, said the blessing, broke it and gave it to them. With that their eyes were opened and they recognized him, but he vanished from their sight. Then they said to each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he spoke to us on the way and opened the Scriptures to us?" So they set out at once and returned to Jerusalem where they found gathered together the Eleven and those with them, who were saying, "The Lord has truly been raised and has appeared to Simon!" Then the two recounted what had taken place on the way

and how he was made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

6: 37-40

Jesus said to the crowds:

"Everything that the Father gives me will come to me, and I will not reject anyone who comes to me, because I came down from heaven not to do my own will but the will of the one who sent me.

And this is the will of the one who sent me, that I should not lose anything of what he gave me, but that I should raise it on the last day.

For this is the will of my Father, that everyone who sees the Son and believes in him may have eternal life, and I shall raise him on the last day."

6: 51-59

Jesus said to the crowds:

"I am the living bread that came down from heaven; whoever eats this bread will live forever; and the bread that I will give is my flesh for the life of the world."

The Jews quarreled among themselves, saying, "How can this man give us his flesh to eat?" Jesus said to them, "Amen, amen, I say to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you do not have life within you, Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood, has eternal life, and I will raise him on the last day. For my flesh is true food, and my blood is true drink Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood remains in me and I in him. Just as the living Father sent me and I have life because of the Father, so also the one who feeds on me will have life because of me. This is the bread that came down from heaven. Unlike your ancestors who ate and still died, whoever who eats this bread will live forever."

11: 21-27

Martha said to Jesus, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But even now I know that whatever you ask of God, God will give you." Jesus said to her, "Your brother will rise." Martha said to him, "I know he will rise, in the resurrection on the last day." Jesus told her, "I am the resurrection and the life; whoever believes in me, even if he dies, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?" She said to him, "Yes, Lord. I have come to believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, the one who is coming into the world."

11: 32-45

When Mary came to where Jesus was and saw him, she fell at his feet and said to him, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died." When Jesus saw her weeping and the Jews who had come with her weeping, he became perturbed and deeply troubled, and said,

"Where have you laid him?"

They said to him, "Sir, come and see."

And Jesus wept.

So the Jews said, "See how he loved him."

But some of them said,

"Could not the one who opened the eyes of the blind man have done something so that this man would not have died?"

So, Jesus, perturbed again, came to the tomb.

It was a cave, and a stone lay across it.

Jesus said, "Take away the stone."

Martha, the dead man's sister, said to him,

"Lord, by now there will be a stench;

he has been dead for four days."

Jesus said to her, "Did I not tell you that if you believe

you will see the glory of God?"

So they took away the stone.

And Jesus raised his eyes and said,

"Father, I thank you for hearing me.

I know that you always hear me;

but because of the crowd here I have said this,

that they may believe that you sent me."

And when he said this, he cried out in a loud voice,

"Lazarus, come out!"

The dead man came out, tied hand and foot with burial bands, and his face was wrapped in a cloth.

So Jesus said to the crowd,

"Untie him and let him go."

Now many Jews who had come to Mary

and saw what he had done began to believe in him.

12: 23-26

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

Jesus said to his disciples:

"The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified.

Amen, amen, I say to you,
unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies,
it remains just a grain of wheat;
but if it dies, it produces much fruit.

Whoever loves his life will lose it,
and whoever hates his life in this world
will preserve it for eternal life.

Whoever serves me must follow me,
and where I am, there also will my servant be.
The Father will honor whoever serves me."

14: 1-6

Jesus said to his disciples:

"Do not let your hearts be troubled.

You have faith in God; have faith also in me.

In my Father's house there are many dwelling places.

If there were not,

would I have told you that I am going to prepare a place for you?

And if I go and prepare a place for you,

I will come back again and take you to myself,

so that where I am you may also be.

Where I am going you know the way."

Thomas said to him,

"Master, we do not know where you are going;

how can we know the way?"

Jesus said to him, "I am the way and the truth and the life.

No one comes to the Father except through me."

17: 24-26

Jesus raised his eyes to heaven and said:
"Father, those whom you gave me are your gift to me.
I wish that where I am they also may be with me,
that they may see my glory that you gave me,
because you loved me before the foundation of the world.
Righteous Father, the world also does not know you,
but I know you, and they know that you sent me.
I made known to them your name and I will make it known,
that the love with which you loved me
may be in them and I in them."