

Scripture Readings for the Funeral Liturgy

Old Testament Readings

Job 19:1, 23-27
Proverbs 31:10-31
Ecclesiastes 3:1-8
Wisdom 3:1-9
Wisdom 4:7-15
Sirach 3:2-6, 12-14
Isaiah 25:6a, 7-9
Isaiah 43:1b-3
Lamentations 3:17-26
Daniel 12:1-3

New Testament

Romans 5:5-11
Romans 6:3-9
Romans 8:14-23
Romans 8:31b-35, 37-39
Romans 14:7-12
I Corinthians 15:20-28
I Corinthians 15:51-57
II Corinthians 4:13 – 5:1
II Corinthians 5:1, 6-10
I Thessalonians 4:13-18
II Timothy 2:8-13
I John 3:1-2
I John 3:14-16
Revelation 14:13
Revelation 21:1-5a, 6b-7

Gospel Readings

Matthew 5:1-12a
Matthew 11:25-30
Matthew 25:31-46
Luke 23:33, 39-43
John 6:37-40
John 6:51-59
John 11:17-27
John 11:32-45
John 12:23-28
John 14:1-6

A reading from the book of Job.

Job said:

Oh, would that my words were written down!

Would that they were inscribed in a record:

that with an iron chisel and with lead

they were cut in the rock forever!

But as for me, I know that my Vindicator lives,

and that God will at last stand forth upon the dust;

Whom I myself shall see:

my own eyes, not another's, shall behold God,

and from my flesh I shall see God;

my inmost being is consumed with longing.

The Word of the Lord.

A reading from the book of Proverbs.

**When one finds a worthy wife, her value is far beyond pearls.
Her husband, entrusting his heart to her, has an unfailing prize.**

She brings him good, and not evil, all the days of her life.

She obtains wool and flax and makes cloth with skillful hands.

Like merchant ships, she secures her provisions from afar.

She rises while it is still night,

and distributes food to her household.

She picks out a field to purchase;

out of her earning she plants a vineyard.

She is girt with strength, and sturdy are her arms.

She enjoys the success of her dealings;

at night her lamp is undimmed.

She puts her hands to the distaff, and her fingers to the spindle.

She reaches out her hands to the poor,

and extends her arms to the needy.

She fears not the snow for her household;

all her charges are doubly clothed.

She makes her own coverlets;

fine linen and purple are her clothing.

Her husband is prominent at the city gates

as he sits with the elders of the land.

She makes garments and sells them,

and stocks the merchants with belts.

She is clothed with strength and dignity,

and she laughs at the days to come.

She opens her mouth in wisdom,

and on her tongue is kindly counsel.

She watches the conduct of her household,

and eats not her food in idleness.

Her children rise up and praise her; her husband, too, extols her.

Many are the women of proven worth,

but you have excelled them all.

Charm is deceptive and beauty fleeting;

the woman who fears the Lord is to be praised.

Give her a reward of her labors,

and let her works praise her at the city gates.

The Word of the Lord.

A reading from the book of Ecclesiastes.

**There is an appointed time for everything,
and a time for every affair under the heavens.
A time to 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.**

What advantage has the worker from his toil?

I have considered the task

which God has appointed for us to be busied about.

He has made everything appropriate to its time,

and has put the timeless into our hearts,

**without our ever discovering, from beginning to end,
the work which God has done.**

I recognized that there is nothing better than to be glad

and to do well during life.

For all people, moreover,

to eat and drink and enjoy the fruit of all their labor

is a gift of God.

The Word of the Lord.

A reading from the book of Wisdom.

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

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

But they are at peace.

**For if before other 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.**

**As gold is to the furnace, God proved them,
and as sacrificial offerings God took them.**

**In the time of their visitation they shall shine,
and shall dart about as spark through stubble;**

**They shall judge nations and rule over peoples,
and God shall be their Ruler forever.**

**Those who trust in God shall understand truth,
and the faithful shall abide with God in love:**

**Because grace and mercy are with God's holy ones,
and God's care is with the elect.**

The Word of the Lord.

A reading from the book of Wisdom.

The just, though they die early, shall be at rest.

For the age that is honorable

comes not with the passing of time,

nor can it be measured in terms of years.

Rather, understanding is the ancient crown of people,

and an unsullied life, the attainment of old age.

The one who pleased God was loved.

The one who lived among sinners was transported –

snatched away, lest wickedness pervert the mind

or deceit beguile the soul;

for the witchery of paltry things obscures what is right

and the whirl of desire transforms the innocent mind.

Having become perfect in a short while,

***he/she* reached the fullness of a long career;**

for *his/her* soul was pleasing to the Lord,

therefore God sped *him/her*

out of the midst of wickedness.

But the people saw and did not understand,

nor did they take this into account.

Because grace and mercy are with God's holy ones,

and God's care is with the elect.

The Word of the Lord.

A reading from the book of Sirach.

**The Lord sets a father in honor over his children;
a mother's authority he confirms over them.
Those who honor their father atone for sins;
they store up riches who revere their mother.
Those who honor their father are gladdened by children,
and when they pray, they are heard.
Those who revere their father will live a long life;
they obey the Lord who bring comfort to their mother.**

**My children, take care of your father when he is old;
grieve him not as long as he lives.
Even if his mind fails, be considerate of him;
revile him not in the fullness of your strength.
For kindness to a father will not be forgotten,
it will serve as a sin offering – it will take lasting root.**

The Word of the Lord.

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

On this mountain the Lord of hosts will provide for all peoples.

On this mountain God will destroy the veil

that veils all peoples,

the web that is woven over all nations;

God will destroy death forever.

The Lord God will wipe away the tears from all faces;

The reproach of God's people

God 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 the Lord for whom we looked!

Let us rejoice and be glad that God has saved us!”

The Word of the Lord.

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

Do not be afraid, for I have redeemed you.

I have called you by your name; you are mine.

Should you pass through the sea, I will be with you;

or through rivers, they will not swallow you up.

Should you walk through fire, you will not be scorched

and the flames will not burn you.

For I am Yahweh, your God,

the Holy One of Israel, your Savior.

The Word of the Lord.

A reading from the book of Lamentations.

**My soul is deprived of peace,
I have forgotten what happiness is;
I tell myself my future is lost,
all that I hoped for from the Lord.**

**The thought of my homeless poverty is wormwood and gall;
Remembering it over and over
leaves my soul downcast within me.
But I will call this to mind as my reason to have hope:
The favors of the Lord are not exhausted,
God's mercies are not spent.
They are renewed each morning,
so great is God's faithfulness.
My portion is the Lord, says my soul;
therefore will I hope in God.**

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

The Word of the Lord.

A reading from the book of the prophet Daniel.

I, Daniel, mourned, and I heard this word of the Lord:

**“At that time there shall arise Michael, the great prince,
guardian of your people;
It shall be a time unsurpassed in distress,
since nations began until that time.
At this time your people shall escape,
everyone who is found written in the book.
Many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake;
Some shall live forever,
others shall be an everlasting horror and disgrace.
But the wise shall shine brightly
like the splendor of the firmament,
and those who lead the many to justice
shall be like the stars forever.”**

The Word of the Lord.

A reading from the letter of Saint Paul to the Romans.

Hope does not disappoint,

because the love of God

has been poured out into our hearts

through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.

For Christ, while we were still helpless,

yet died at the appointed time for the ungodly.

Indeed, only with difficulty does one die for a just person,

though perhaps for a good person

one might even find courage to die.

But God proves his love for us

in that while we were still sinners Christ died for us.

How much more, then,

since we are now justified by his blood,

will we be saved through him from the wrath?

Indeed, if, while we were enemies,

we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son,

how much more, once reconciled,

will we be saved by his life?

Not only that, but we also boast of God

through our Lord Jesus Christ,

through whom we have now received reconciliation.

The Word of the Lord.

A reading from the letter of Saint Paul to the Romans.

**Are you unaware that we, who were baptized into Christ Jesus,
were baptized into his death?**

**We were indeed buried with him through baptism into death,
so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead
by the glory of the Father,
we too might live in newness of life.**

**For if we have grown into union with him
through a death like his,
we shall also be united with him in the resurrection.**

**We know that our old self was crucified with him,
so that our sinful body might be done away with,
that we might no longer be in slavery to sin.**

For a dead person has been absolved from sin.

**If, then, we have died with Christ,
we believe that we shall also live with him.**

**We know that Christ, raised from the dead, dies no more;
death no longer has power over him.**

The Word of the Lord.

A reading from the letter of Saint Paul to the Romans.

**Those who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God.
For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear,
but you received a spirit of adoption,
through which we cry “Abba, Father!”
The Spirit itself bears witness with our spirit
that we are children of God,
and, if children, then heirs,
heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ,
if only we suffer with him
so that we may also be glorified with him.**

**I consider that the sufferings of this present time
are as nothing compared with the glory
to be revealed for us.**

**For creation awaits with eager expectation
that 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 firstfruits of the Spirit,
we also groan within ourselves as we wait for adoption,
the redemption of our bodies.**

The Word of the Lord.

A reading from the letter of Saint Paul to the Romans.

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

He who did not spare his own Son

but handed him over for us all,

how will he not also give us everything else

along with him?

Who will bring a charge against God's chosen ones?

It is God who acquits us.

Who will condemn?

It is Christ Jesus who died, rather, was raised,

who also is at the right hand of God,

who indeed intercedes for us.

What will separate us from the love of Christ?

Will anguish, or distress, or persecution, or famine,

or nakedness, or peril, or the sword?

No, in all these things we conquer overwhelmingly

through him who loved us.

For I am convinced that neither death, nor life,

nor angels, nor principalities,

nor present things, nor future things,

nor powers, nor height, nor depth,

nor any other creature will be able to separate us

from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

The Word of the Lord.

A reading from the letter of Saint Paul to the Romans.

None of us lives for oneself, and no one dies for oneself.

For if we live, we live for the Lord,

and if we die, we die for the Lord;

so then, whether we live or die, we are the Lord's.

For this is why Christ died and came to life,

that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

For we shall all stand before the judgment seat of God;

for it is written:

“As I live, says the Lord,

every knee shall bend before me,

and every tongue shall give praise to God.”

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

The Word of the Lord.

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

**Christ has been raised from the dead,
the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep.**

**For since death came through a human being,
the resurrection of the dead
came also through a human being.**

**For just as in Adam all die,
so too in Christ shall all be brought to life,
but each one in proper order:**

**Christ the firstfruits,
then, at his coming, those who belong to Christ;
then comes the end, when he hands over the kingdom
to his God and Father,
when he has destroyed every sovereignty
and every authority and power.**

**For he must reign
until he has put all his enemies under his feet.**

**The last enemy to be destroyed is death,
for “He subjected everything under His feet.”**

**But when it says that everything has been subjected,
it is clear that it excludes
the one who subjected everything to him.**

**When everything is subjected to him,
then the Son Himself will also be subjected
to the one who subjected everything to him,
so that God may be all in all.**

The Word of the Lord.

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

Behold, I tell you a mystery.

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

**For the trumpet will sound,
the dead will be raised incorruptible,
and we shall be changed.**

**For that which is corruptible
must clothe itself with incorruptibility,
and that which is mortal
must clothe itself with immortality.**

**And when this which is corruptible
clothes itself with incorruptibility,
and this which is mortal clothes itself with immortality,
then the Word that is written shall come about:**

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

**The sting of death is sin,
and the power of sin is the law.**

**But thanks be to God who gives us the victory
through our Lord Jesus Christ.**

The Word of the Lord.

A reading from the second letter of Saint Paul to the Corinthians.

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

**Everything indeed is for you,
so that the grace bestowed in abundance
on more and more people
may cause the thanksgiving to overflow
for the glory of God.**

**Therefore, we are not discouraged;
rather, although our outer self is wasting away,
our inner self is being renewed day by day.
For this momentary light affliction is producing for us
an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison,
as we look not to what is seen but to what is unseen;
for what is seen is transitory,
but what is unseen is eternal.**

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

The Word of the Lord.

A reading from the second letter of Saint Paul to the Corinthians.

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

**So we are always courageous,
although we know that while we are at home in the body
we are away from the Lord,
for we walk by faith, not by sight.**

**Yet we are courageous,
and we would rather leave the body
and go home to the Lord.**

**Therefore, we aspire to please him,
whether we are at home or away.**

**For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ,
so that each one may receive recompense,
according to what we did in the body,
whether good or evil.**

The Word of the Lord.

A reading from the first letter of Saint Paul to the Thessalonians.

**We do not want you to be unaware, brothers and sisters,
about those who have fallen asleep,
so that you may not grieve like the rest,
who have no hope.**

**For if we believe that Jesus died and rose,
so too will God, through Jesus,
bring with him those who have fallen asleep.**

**Indeed, we tell you this, on the Word of the Lord,
that we who are alive,
who are left until the coming of the Lord,
will surely not precede those who have fallen asleep.**

**For the Lord himself, with a word of command,
with the voice of an archangel
and with the trumpet of God,
will come down from heaven,
and the dead in Christ will rise first.**

**Then we who are alive, who are left,
will be caught up together with them in the clouds
to meet the Lord in the air.**

Thus we shall always be with the Lord.

Therefore, console one another with these words.

The Word of the Lord.

A reading from the second letter of Saint Timothy.

**Remember Jesus Christ, raised from the dead,
a descendant of David:
such is my gospel, for which I am suffering,
even to the point of chains,
like a criminal.**

**But the Word of God is not chained.
Therefore, I bear with everything
for the sake of those who are chosen,
so that they too may obtain the salvation
that is in Christ Jesus,
together with eternal glory.**

**This saying is trustworthy:
“If we have died with him
we shall also live with him.
If we persevere we shall also reign with him.
But if we deny him, he will deny us.
If we are unfaithful he remains faithful,
For he cannot deny himself.**

The Word of the Lord.

A reading from the first letter of Saint John.

**See what love the Father has bestowed on us,
that we may be called the children of God.**

Yet so we are.

**The reason the world does not know us
is that it did not know him.**

**Beloved, we are God's children now;
what we shall be has not yet been revealed.**

**We do know that when it is revealed we shall be like him,
for we shall see him as he is.**

The Word of the Lord.

A reading from the first letter of Saint John.

**We know that we have passed from death to life
because we love our brothers and sisters.**

Whoever does not love remains in death.

**Everyone who hates a brother or sister is a murderer,
and you know that no murderer
has eternal life remaining.**

**The way we came to know love
was that Jesus laid down his life for us;
so we ought to lay down our lives
for our brothers and sisters.**

The Word of the Lord.

A reading from the book of Revelation.

I heard a voice from heaven say,

“Write this:

Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on.”

**“Yes,” said the Spirit, “let them find rest from the labors,
for their works accompany them.”**

The Word of the Lord.

A reading from the book of Revelation.

I saw a new heaven and a new earth.

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

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

**I heard a loud voice from the throne saying,
“Behold, God’s dwelling is with the human race.
He will dwell with them and they will be his people
and God himself will always be with them as their God.
He will wipe 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.
The Victor will inherit these gifts,
and I shall be their God,
and they will be my children.”**

The Word of the Lord.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Saint Matthew.

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

**“Blessed are the poor in spirit,
for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.**

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

**Blessed are the meek,
for they will inherit the land.**

**Blessed are they who hunger and thirst for righteousness,
for they will be satisfied.**

**Blessed are the merciful,
for they will be shown mercy.**

**Blessed are the clean of heart,
for they shall 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.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Saint Matthew.

On one occasion Jesus spoke thus:

**“I give praise to you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth,
for although you have hidden these things
from the wise and the learned
you have revealed them to the childlike.**

Yes, Father, such has been your gracious will.

All things have been handed over to me by my Father.

**No one knows the Son except the Father,
and no one knows the Father except the Son
and anyone to whom the Son wishes to reveal him.**

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

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

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

The Gospel of the Lord.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Saint Matthew.

**“When the Son of Man comes in his glory,
and all the angels with him,
he will sit upon his glorious throne,
and all the nations will be assembled before him.
And he will separate them one from another,
as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats.
He will place the sheep on his right
and the goats on his left.**

**Then the king will say to those on his right,
‘Come, you who are blessed by my Father.
Inherit the kingdom prepared for you
from the foundation of the world.
For I was hungry and you gave me food,
I was thirsty and you gave me drink,
a stranger and you welcomed me,
naked and you clothed me,
ill and you cared for me,
in prison, and you visited me.’**

**Then the righteous will answer him and say,
‘Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you,
or thirsty and give you drink?
When did we see you a stranger and welcome you,
or naked and clothe you?
When did we see you ill or in prison, and visit you?’**

**And the king will say to them in reply, ‘Amen, I say to you,
whatever you did
for one of these least brothers and sisters of mine,
you did for me.’**

**“Then he will say to those on his left,
‘Depart from me, you accursed, into the eternal fire
prepared for the devil and his angels.
For I was hungry and you gave me no food,
I was thirsty and you gave me no drink,
a stranger and you gave me no welcome,
naked and you gave me no clothing,
ill and in prison, and you did not care for me.’**

**Then they will answer and say,
‘Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty
or a stranger or naked or ill or in prison,
and not minister to your needs?’**

**He will answer them,
‘Amen, I say to you, what you did not do
for one of these least ones, you did not do for me.’
And these will go off to eternal punishment,
but the righteous to eternal life.”**

The Gospel of the Lord.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Saint Luke.

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

**Now one of the criminals hanging there reviled Jesus, saying,
“Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us.”**

**The other, however, rebuking him, said in reply,
“Have you no fear of God,
for you are subject to the same condemnation?
And indeed, we have been condemned justly,
for the sentence we received
corresponds to our crimes,
but this man has done nothing criminal.”**

**Then he said,
“Jesus, remember me
when you come into your kingdom.”**

**He replied to him,
“Amen, I say to you,
today you will be with me in Paradise.”**

The Gospel of the Lord.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Saint John.

Jesus said to the crowd:

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

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

**For this is the will of my Father,
that all who see the Son and believe in him
may have eternal life,
and I shall raise them on the last day.”**

The Gospel of the Lord.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Saint John.

Jesus said to the crowd:

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

**The Jews quarreled among themselves, saying,
“How can this man give us 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.
Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood
have eternal life,
and I will raise them on the last day.
For my flesh is true food, and my blood is true drink.
Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood
remain in me and I in them.
Just as the living Father sent me
and I have life because of the Father,
so also the one who feeds on me
will have life because of me.
This is the bread that came down from heaven.
Unlike your ancestors who ate and still died,
whoever eats this bread will live forever.”**

The Gospel of the Lord.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Saint John.

**When Jesus arrived in Bethany
he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb
for four days.**

**Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, only about two miles away.
And many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary
to comfort them about their brother.**

**When Martha heard that Jesus was coming,
she went to meet him; but Mary sat at home.**

**Martha said to Jesus,
“Lord, if you had been here,
my brother would not have died.
But even now I know that whatever you ask of God,
God will give you.”**

Jesus said to her, “Your brother will rise.”

**Martha said to him,
“I know he will rise, in the resurrection on the last day.”**

**Jesus told her,
“I am the resurrection and the life;
whoever believes in me, even though they die, will live,
and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die.
Do you believe this?”**

**She said to him,
“Yes, Lord.
I have come to believe that you are the Messiah,
the Son of God, the one who is coming into the world.”**

The Gospel of the Lord.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Saint John.

When Mary came to where Jesus was and saw him,

she fell at his feet and said to him,

**“Lord, if you had been here,
my brother would not have died.”**

When Jesus saw her weeping

and the Jews who had come with her weeping,

he became perturbed and deeply troubled, and said,

“Where have you laid him?”

They said to him, “Sir, come and see.”

And Jesus wept.

So the Jews said, “See how he loved him.”

But some of them said,

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

So Jesus, perturbed again, came to the tomb.

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

Jesus said, “Take away the stone.”

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

**“Lord, by now there will be a stench;
he has been dead for four days.”**

**Jesus said to her, “Did I not tell you that if you believe
you will see the glory of God?”**

So they took away the stone.

And Jesus raised his eyes and said,

**“Father, I thank you for hearing me.
I know that you always hear me;
but because of the crowd here I have said this,
that they may believe that you sent me.”**

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

“Lazarus, come out!”

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

So Jesus said to them, “Untie him and let him go.”

Now many of the Jews who had come to Mary

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

The Gospel of the Lord.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Saint John.

Jesus told his disciples:

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

Amen, I say to you,

unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies,

it remains just a grain of wheat;

but if it dies, it produces much fruit.

Whoever loves his life loses it,

and whoever hates his life in this world

will preserve it for eternal life.

Whoever serves me must follow me,

and where I am, there also will my servant be.

The Father will honor whoever serves me.

“I am troubled now. Yet what should I say?

‘Father, save me from this hour’?

But it was for this purpose that I came to this hour.

Father, glorify your name.”

Then, a voice came from heaven,

“I have glorified it and will glorify it again.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Saint John.

Jesus said to his disciples:

**“Do not let your hearts be troubled.
You have faith in God; have faith also in me.
In my Father’s house there are many dwelling places.
If there were not, would I have told you
that I am going to prepare a place for you?
And if I go and prepare a place for you,
I will come back again and take you to myself,
so that where I am you also may be.
Where I am going you know the way.”**

Thomas said to him,

**“Master, we do not know where you are going;
how can we know the way?”**

Jesus said to him,

**“I am the way and the truth and the life.
No one comes to the Father except through me.”**

The Gospel of the Lord.