

Old Testament Readings:

A Reading from the Book of Exodus (Exodus 17:2)

In their thirst for water,
the people grumbled against Moses,
saying, "Why did you ever make us leave Egypt?
Was it just to have us die here of thirst
with our children and our livestock?"
So Moses cried out to the Lord,
"What shall I do with this people?
A little more and they will stone me!"
The Lord answered Moses,
"Go over there in front of the people,
Along with some of the elders of Israel,
holding in your hand, as you go,
the staff with which you struck the river.
I will be standing there in front of you on the rock in Horeb.
Strike the rock, and the water will flow from it,
for the people to drink."
This Moses did, in the presence of the elders of Israel.
The place was called Massah and Meribah,
because the children of Israel quarreled there
and tested the Lord, saying,
"Is the Lord in our midst or not?"

The word of the Lord

A Reading from the Book of the Prophet Ezekiel (Ezekiel 36:24-28)

Thus says the Lord God:
I will take you away from among these nations,
gather you from all the foreign lands,
and bring you back to your own land.
I will sprinkle clean water upon you
to cleanse you from all your impurities,
and from all your idols I will cleanse you.

I will give you a new heart and place a new spirit within you,
taking from your bodies your stony hearts,
and giving you natural hearts.
I will put my spirit within you and make you live by my statutes,
careful to observe my decrees.
You shall live in the land I gave your fathers;
you shall be my people and I will be your God.

The word of the Lord.

A Reading from the Book of the Prophet Ezekiel (Ezekiel 47:1-9, 12)

The angel brought me, Ezekiel
back to the entrance of the temple of the Lord,
and I saw water flowing out
from beneath the threshold of the temple toward the east,
for the façade of the temple was toward the east;
the water flowed down from the right side of the temple,
south of the altar.
He led me outside by the north gate,
and around to the outer gate facing the east,
where I saw water trickling down from the right side,
He measured off another thousand
and once more had me wade through the water
which was now knee deep.
Again he measured off a thousand and had me wade;
the water was up to my waist.
Once more he measured off a thousand,
but there was now a river through which I could not wade;
for the water had risen so high it had become
a river that could not be crossed except by swimming.
He asked me, "have you seen this, son of man?"
Then he brought me to the bank of the river, where he had me sit.
Along the bank of the river I saw very many trees on both sides.
he said to me,
"This water flows into the eastern district down upon the Arabah,
and empties into the sea, the salt waters, which it makes fresh.
Wherever the river flows,

every sort of creature that can multiply shall live,
and there shall be abundant fish,
for wherever this water comes, the sea shall be
made fresh.
along both banks of the river, fruit trees of every kind
shall grow;
their leaves shall not fade, nor their fruit fail.
Every month they shall bear fresh fruit,
for they shall be watered by the flow from the sanctuary.
Their fruit shall serve for food, and their leaves for medicine.”

The word of the Lord.

New Testament Readings:

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans (Romans 6:5-3)

Brothers and sisters:
Are you aware 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.

The word of the Lord.

A Reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans (Romans 8:28-32)

Brothers and Sisters:
We know that all things work for the good of those who love God,
who are called according to his purpose.
For those he foreknew he also predestined
to be conformed to the image of his Son,

so that he might be the firstborn among many brothers.
And those predestined he also called;
and those he called he also justified;
and those he justified he also glorified.
What then shall we say to this?
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?

The word of the Lord.

A Reading from the First Letter of Saint Paul to the Corinthians (1 Corinthians 12: 12-13)

Brothers and Sisters:
As a body is one though it has many parts,
and all the parts of the body, though many, are one
body, so also Christ.
For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one Body,
whether Jews or Greeks, slaves or free persons,
and we were all given to drink of one Spirit.

The word of the Lord.

A Reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Galatians (Galatians 2: 26-28)

Brothers and Sisters:
Through faith you are all children of God in Christ Jesus.
For all of you who were baptized into Christ
have clothed yourself with Christ.
There is neither Jew nor greek,
there is neither slave nor free person,
there is not male or female;
for you are all one in Christ Jesus.

The word of the Lord.

A Reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to Ephesians (Ephesians 4: 1-6)

Brothers and Sisters:

I, a prisoner for the Lord,
urge you to live in a manner worthy of the call you have received,
with all humanity and gentleness, with patience,
bearing with one another through love,
striving to preserve the unity of the spirit
through the bond of peace:
one Body and one Spirit,
as you were also called to the one hope of your call;
one Lord, one faith, one baptism;
one God and one Father of all,
who is over all and through all and in all.

The word of the Lord.

A Reading of the first Letter of Saint Peter (1 Peter 2:4-5, 9-10)

Beloved:

Come to the Lord, a living stone, rejected by human beings
but chosen and precious in the sight of God,
and, like living stones,
let yourselves be built into a spiritual house
to be a holy priesthood to offer spiritual sacrifices
acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

*You are a chosen race, a royal priesthood,
a holy nation, a people of his own,
so that you may announce the praises of him
who called you out of the darkness into his wonderful light.
Once you were no people
but now you are God's people;
you had not received mercy
but now you have received mercy.*

The word of the Lord.

Responsorial Psalms

Psalm 23;1-3a, 3b-4, 5,6

R.(1) The Lord is my Shepherd;
there is nothing I shall want.

The Lord is my Shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.

In verdant pastures he gives me repose;

Beside restful waters he leads me;

he refreshes my soul.

R. The Lord is my Shepherd;
there is nothing I shall want.

He guides me in right paths

for his name's sake.

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.

R. The Lord is my Shepherd;
there is nothing I shall want.

You spread the table before me

insight of my foes;

you anoint my head with oil;

my cup overflows.

R. 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.

R. The Lord is my Shepherd;
there is nothing I shall want.

Psalm 27:1bcde, 4, 8b-9abc, 13-14

R. The Lord is the light and my salvation.

or:

R. (Ephesians 5:14) Wake Up and rise from death: Christ will shine upon you!

The Lord is my light and my salvation:

whom should I fear?

The Lord is my refuge:

of whom should I be afraid?

R. The Lord is the light and my salvation.

or:

R. (Ephesians 5:14) Wake Up and rise from death: Christ will shine upon you!

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.

R. The Lord is the light and my salvation.

or:

R. (Ephesians 5:14) Wake Up and rise from death: Christ will shine upon you!

Your presence, O Lord, I seek.

Hide not your face from me;

do not in anger repel your servant.

You are my helper: cast me not off.

R. The Lord is the light and my salvation.

or:

R. (Ephesians 5:14) Wake Up and rise from death: Christ will shine upon you!

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.

R. The Lord is the light and my salvation.

or:

R. (Ephesians 5:14) Wake Up and rise from death: Christ will shine upon you!

Psalm 34:2-3, 6-7, 8-9, 14-15, 16-17, 18-19

R. Look to him, that you may be radiant with joy!

or:

R. taste and see the goodness of the Lord.

**I will bless the Lord at all times;
his praise shall ever be in my mouth.
Let my soul glory in the Lord;
the lowly will hear me and be glad.**

R. The Lord is the light and my salvation.

or:

R. (Ephesians 5:14) Wake Up and rise from death: Christ will shine upon you!

**Look to him that you may be radiant with joy,
and your faces may not blush with shame.
When the poor one called out, the Lord heard,
and from all his distress he saved him.**

R. The Lord is the light and my salvation.

or:

R. (Ephesians 5:14) Wake Up and rise from death: Christ will shine upon you!

**The angel of the Lord encamps
around those who fear him and delivers them.
Taste and see how good the Lord is;
happy the man who takes refuge in him.**

R. The Lord is the light and my salvation.

or:

R. (Ephesians 5:14) Wake Up and rise from death: Christ will shine upon you!

**Keep your tongue from evil,
your lips from speaking guile;
Turn from evil, and do good;
seek peace and follow after it.**

R. The Lord is the light and my salvation.

or:

R. (Ephesians 5:14) Wake Up and rise from death: Christ will shine upon you!

**The Lord has eyes for the just
and ears for their cry.
the Lord confronts the evildoers,
to destroy remembrance of them from the earth.**

R. The Lord is the light and my salvation.

or:

R. (Ephesians 5:14) Wake Up and rise from death: Christ will shine upon you!

**When the just cry out, the Lord hears them,
and from all their distress he rescues them.**

**The Lord is close to the brokenhearted,
and those who are crushed in spirit he saves.**

R. The Lord is the light and my salvation.

or:

R. (Ephesians 5:14) Wake Up and rise from death: Christ will shine upon you!

Alleluia Verses:

John 3:16

1. God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son, so that everyone who lives in him might have eternal life.

John 8:12

2. I am the light of the world, says the Lord: whoever follows me will have the light of life.

John 14:6

3. I am the way and the truth and the life, says the Lord;
no one comes to the Father, except through me.

Ephesians 4:5-6a

4. There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and the Father of all.

2 Timothy 1:10

5. Our savior Jesus Christ has destroyed death and brought life to light through the gospel.

1 Peter 2:9

6. You are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation: announce the praises of him who called you out of the darkness and into his wonderful light.

Gospels:

***A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew: (Matthew 22:35-40)**

One of the Pharisees, a scholar of the law, tested Jesus by asking, "Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?" He said to him, "You shall love the Lord, your God, with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind. This is the greatest and the first commandment. The second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. The whole law and the prophets depend on these two commandments."

The Gospel of the Lord.

***A reading of the holy Gospel according to Matthew: (Matthew 28:18-20)**

Jesus said to the eleven disciples: "All power in heaven and on earth has been given to me. Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold I am with you always, until the end of the age."

The Gospel of the Lord.

***A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark: (Mark 1:9-11)**

Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized in the Jordan by John. On coming up out of the water he saw the heavens being torn open and the Spirit, like a dove, descending upon him. And a voice came from the heavens, "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased."

The Gospel of the Lord.

***A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark: (Mark 10:13-16)**

People were bringing children to Jesus that he might touch them, but the disciples rebuked them. When Jesus saw this he came indignant and said to them, "Let the children come to me; do not prevent them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these. Amen, I say to you, whoever does not accept the kingdom of God like a child will not enter it." Then he embraced them and blessed them, placing his hands on them,

The Gospel of the Lord.

***A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark: (Mark 12:28-31)**

One of the scribes came to Jesus and asked him, "Which is the first of all the commandments?" Jesus replied, "The first is this: Hear, O Israel! The Lord our God is Lord alone! You shall love him with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength. The second one is: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. There is no commandment greater than these." The scribe said to him, "Well said, teacher. You are right in saying, 'He is One and there is no other than he.' And 'To love with all your heart, with all your understanding, with all your strength, and to love your neighbor as yourself' is worth more than all burnt offerings and sacrifices." And when Jesus saw that he answered with understanding, he said to him, "You are not far from the kingdom of God." And no one dared to ask him any more questions.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Or: (Mark 12:28-3)

One of the scribes came to Jesus and asked him, "Which is the first of all the commandments?" Jesus replied, "The first is this: Hear, O Israel! The Lord our God is Lord alone! You shall love the

Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength. The second one is: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. There is no commandment greater than these.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

***A Reading from the holy Gospel according to John: (John 3:1-6)**

There was as Pharisee named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews. He came to Jesus at night and said to him, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher that has come from God, for no one can do these signs you’re doing unless God is with him. Jesus answered and said to him, “Amen, amen I say to you unless one is born from above, he cannot see the Kingdom of God.’ Nicodemus said to him, “How can a man once grown old be born again? Surely he cannot remember his mother’s womb and be born again, can he?” Jesus answered, “Amen, amen I say to you, unless one is born of water and spirit, he cannot enter the Kingdom of God. What is born flesh of flesh and what is born spirit of spirit.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

***A reading from the holy Gospel according to John: (John 4:5-14)**

Jesus came to a town of Samaria called Sychar, near the plot of land that Jacob had given his own son Joseph. Jacob’s well was there. Jesus, tired from his journey, sat down there at the well. It was about noon. A woman of Samaria came to draw water. Jesus said to her, “Give me a drink>” His disciples had gone into the town to buy food. The Samaritan woman said to him, “How can you, a Jew, ask me, a Samaritan woman, for a drink?” (for Jews, use nothing in common with Samaritans) Jesus answered and said to her, “If you knew the gift of God and who is saying to you ‘Give me a drink,’ you would have asked him and he would have given you living water.” The woman said to him, “Sir, you do not even have a bucket and the cistern is deep; where then can you get this living water? Are you greater than our father Jacob, who gave us this cistern and drank from it himself with his children and his flocks?” Jesus answered and said to her, “Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again; but whoever drinks the water I shall give will never thirst; the water I shall give will become in him a spring of water welling up into eternal life.

The Gospel of the Lord.

***A reading from the holy Gospel according to John (John 6:44-47)**

Jesus said to the crowds: “No one can come to me unless the father who sent me to draw him, and I shall raise him on the last day. It is written in the prophets: They shall all be taught by God. Everyone who listens to my father and learns from him comes to me. Not that anyone has seen the Father except the one who is from God; he has seen the Father. Amen, amen I say to you, whoever believes has eternal life.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

***A reading from the holy Gospel according to John (John 7:37b-39a)**

Jesus stood up and exclaimed, "Let anyone who thirsts come to me and drink. Whoever believes in me, as Scripture says: Rivers of living water will flow from within him" He said this in reference to the Spirit that those who came to believe in him were to receive.

The Gospel of the Lord.

***A Reading from the holy Gospel according to John (John 9:1-7)**

As Jesus passed by he saw a man blind from birth. His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" Jesus answered, "Neither he nor his parents sinned; it is so that the works of God might become visible through him. We have to do the works of one who sent me while it is day. Night is coming when no one can work. While I am in the world, I am the light of the world." When he said this, he spat on the ground and made clay with the saliva, and smeared the clay on his eyes, and said to him, "Go wash in the Pool of Siloam" So he went and washed, and came back able to see.

The Gospel of the Lord.

***A Reading from the holy Gospel according to John (John 15:1-11)**

Jesus said to his disciples: "I am the true vine, and my father is the vine grower. He takes away every branch in me that does not bear fruit, and everyone that does he prunes so that it bears more fruit. You are already pruned because of the word that I spoke to you. Remain in me, as I remain in you. Just as a branch can't bear fruit on its own unless it remains on the vine, so neither can you unless you remain in me. I am the vine and you are the branches. Whoever remains in me and I in him will bear much fruit, because without me you can do nothing. Anyone who does not remain in me will be thrown out like a branch and wither; people will gather them and throw them into a fire and they will be burned. If you remain in me and my words remain in you, ask for whatever you want and it will be done for you. By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples. As the Father loves me, so I also love you. Remain in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and remain in his love." I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and your joy may be complete.

The Gospel of the Lord.

***A Reading from the holy Gospel according to John (John 19:31-35)**

Since it was preparation day, in order that the bodies might not remain on the cross on the Sabbath, for the Sabbath day of that week was a solemn one, the Jew asked Pilate that their legs be broken and they be taken down. So the soldiers came and broke the legs of the first and

then of the other one who was crucified with Jesus. But when they came to Jesus and saw that he was already dead, they did not break his legs, but one soldier thrust his lance into his side, and immediately Blood and water flowed out. An eyewitness has testified, and his testimony is true; he knows that he is speaking the truth, so that you may also come to believe.

The Gospel of the Lord.