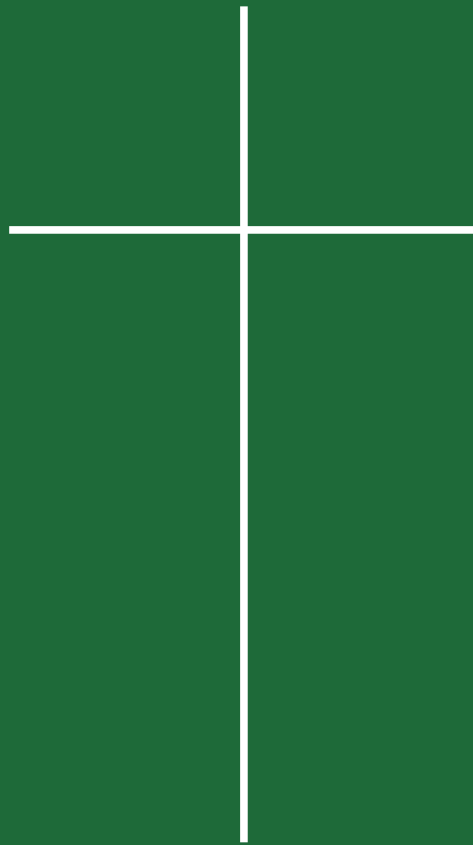


‘Signs of God’



LECTIONARY

Year B

'Signs of God' Lectionary Feasts & Solemnities

For clergy, pastoral workers, volunteers, Deaf people and those interested in the world of the signing Catholic community.

'Signs of God' Lectionary

For use with the Signing Deaf community
Lectionary 3rd edition
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Advent 2020

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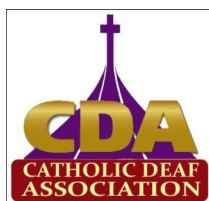
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Introduction

This complete and revised four volume edition of 'Signs of God' lectionaries includes all the readings for Ordinary Sundays, Proper of Seasons and Feasts/Solemnities (Year A, B, C and Feasts & Solemnities). It has been produced for the Deaf community. The original Lectionary already exists but it is not designed for Deaf signers who have to translate the vernacular (ie English) before they are able to proclaim the Word of God in sign language. The Deaf communities are a linguistic minority and within Great Britain use British Sign Language to communicate in daily living as well as in Christian witness.

British Sign Language is used in Northern Ireland and Irish Sign Language in Eire; however, many Irish Deaf are familiar with both. There is a long history of some Irish signs incorporated into British Sign Language in places such as Glasgow and London creating a mistaken notion of 'Catholic signs' versus 'Protestant signs'. It is similar to people with accents and the way they speak. These lectionaries are written with syntax which enables the signer to sign using their localized sign language to proclaim the Word of God in their own language.

In order to maintain the integrity and content of the Word of God in the Scriptures and to ensure that it is proclaimed appropriately in sign language, it is important not only to bear in mind the theology of the scriptures but also to take into account the cultural and historical background of the Deaf community. This we have tried to do in this revised edition of 'Signs of God' lectionaries.

For signers to present the Word of God in sign language, they need to go through a process of translation which involves a high level of skill, knowledge and competence, both linguistically and theologically. Conveying and proclaiming God's message from the printed word in the Lectionary into sign language needs to be clear, unambiguous, and immediately comprehensible to Deaf people in the congregation so that they do not have to mentally re-interpret what they see.

Inevitably, there will be sentences in which the English will sound a little strange to the ears; this is because of the need to facilitate the 'signability' whilst at the same time remaining faithful to the original meaning as in the Lectionary. Ideally the Lectionary is best captured in a visual form which enables signers to explore and enhance the different ways of

Introduction

proclaiming the Word of God (see <https://www.catholicdeaf.org.uk>).

Natural sign language means entering into the Deaf culture. Furthermore, it is almost impossible to understand the signer if s/he does not use the indigenous idiomatic expression which impounds the richness of aspectual information that comes from the visual-spatial characteristics of sign language. Therefore, it is crucially important that the signers understand the contents of the texts that they are to translate and proclaim.

As regards the visual aspect of presenting the Word of God, good liturgy is possible when a 'signer' and a 'voice-over' have practised together. Too often, many people live in a world of 'words'; we have five senses and so we try to encourage 'signers' and 'voice-overs' to be conscious of how they present not only the Word of God but also themselves. The Lectern needs to be at the right height – usually waist height – many lecterns in Church are too high, they reach up almost to the neck, thus obliterating the congregation's view of the Signer apart from the face. The right height maximises the signer's signing space for signing and allows Deaf people in the congregation to see the signs proclaimed better.

There is also the background and environs to consider; it helps to have a simple plain, not crowded or cluttered, backdrop with minimal distractions. It should help the congregation to focus on the person reading, signing, and proclaiming the Word of God. Even the clothes they (Signer and Voice-over) wear are important, as well as being smart, they need to be plain and not distracting (ie texture, colour, pattern), and without such things as dangly ear-rings and dazzling jewellery.

The positioning of the lectern is also important; in some churches the lectern seems to be almost tucked away in the corner which is a pity since the crucial liturgical actions that take place are at the Lectern (Word of God) and at the altar (consecration of the bread and wine). Furthermore, if the lectern is so far off the centre, it means Deaf people, who use their eyes as the main channel for communication, have to strain their neck turned at a certain angle which can be uncomfortable. There must be nothing that blocks the line of sight between the signer and the congregation (ie candles, flowers, wreaths etc).

Finally, perhaps the single overriding aspect is the use of lighting in the Church, especially the light on the

Introduction

signer and voice-over. Poor or insufficient lighting is akin to poor use of the PA system for hearing people. Some churches dim or subdue the lights on the sanctuary/nave for dramatic effect especially during the Christmas Eve Midnight Mass, the Easter Vigil, or an evening service for Remembrance Sunday not to mention evening Reconciliation Services. Such minimal lighting can be detrimental to the Deaf or Hard of Hearing persons in the congregation excluding their abilities to follow proceedings thereby denying their full and proper participation. A full and proper spotlight on the lectern and the reader or cantor makes all the difference to aid inclusivity.

From experience, maintaining eye-contact with the congregation enables them to feel involved in the reception of the sacred Word. Hearing people do not realise that they subconsciously 'lip-read' the readers. Hence, advance prayerful preparation of the proclamation of the Word of God is crucial if the proper message is to be conveyed to the congregation. Likewise, there are certain signs, movements, facial expressions and gestures that they can pick up on. We pray not only with our ears but with our whole body – it is a temple in which the spirit of God lives. If the

lectern is structurally fixed in one place, it is surprising how careful forward planning, consultation with the Deaf congregation and flexibility can enhance the visual aspect of the liturgy and help to bring alive the Word of God.

To make better use of this 'Signs of God', Training Days are recommended. The local Deaf community will need to find ways of using appropriate signs as well as liturgical signs, since signs vary from one place to another. People who use other national sign languages such as Irish Sign Language, will need to be flexible and check with the original English Lectionary in conjunction with these 'Signs of God' lectionaries to find an appropriate way of signing the relevant sentence, phrase or words.

As well as the celebration of the Eucharist (Mass), these 'Signs of God' will be useful for personal prayer, Prayer groups, Retreats, Training Days, and other spiritual liturgical services.

Peter McDonough

Explanation

➤ **A READING FROM THE SCROLL ⇔ OF GENESIS**

In a heading such as ‘A reading from the book of Genesis’, we can’t use the sign ‘book’, because the Bible was not printed as a book until the fifteenth century. It is more appropriate, biblically correct and liturgically enriching, to sign ‘scroll’ as in the picture on the right.



Figure 1: Torah scroll

The symbol ⇔ shows the movement of the hands for the action of unrolling a scroll. This is used for all readings from the Old Testament. Hebrew language was used and the writing was from right to left, and new pages were added onto the left of the first one.

➤ **A READING FROM ST PAUL’S LETTER ⇕ TO THE ROMAN**

Neither can we sign the word ‘Epistle’ or ‘letter’. (the word ‘letter’ is printed because for a reader to voice-over ‘scroll’ does not sound right.) The word ‘letter’ is not appropriate to sign because in sign language a signer would use a sign depicting someone licking a stamp and sticking it on an envelope! The symbol ⇕ shows the movement of the hands for the action of unrolling a scroll. This is used for all readings from the New Testament. Greek language was used, and the writing was from top to bottom, left to right, and pages were added onto the bottom of the first page.



Figure 2: vertically rolled scroll

Explanation

➤ *Isaiah 2:1-5*

Any word or heading in italic is not to be signed or spoken at all. They, especially scripture references, are for the reader's information only.

➤ **THANKS TO BE GOD**

Any words printed in coloured bold font means that the congregation joins/copies the reader/signer in signing the words.

➤ Now, Israel, obey the laws and customs (culture) that I teach you today.

In the text of the readings, words in parentheses are for the signer to use, since, as yet, we do not have an appropriate liturgical sign developed for the preceding word. For example, 'customs (culture)', the Signer will sign 'culture' whereas the reader doing the Voice-Over will say 'customs'.

Prayer

God Our Father, You speak to us through your Son, Our Lord Jesus Christ. Give us your Holy Spirit to help us understand your message. Open our minds and hearts so that we will receive your Holy Words. Help us to understand the teachings of your Son Jesus. Let us read Your Book, God's book, that we will worthily proclaim your message so that all will receive the Good News of Jesus Christ and receive Life. Amen.

We ask Mary, the Mother of the Church, to show us how to 'treasure' the Words of Jesus her Son. Amen.

1st Sunday of Advent

A READING FROM THE SCROLL ⇄ OF ISAIAH

Isaiah 63:16–17; 64:1, 3–8

Lord, you are our Father. 'Redeemer' is your name from long ago. Lord, why did you allow us to lose our way? Why did you allow our hearts to become hard against you? Come back to us Lord; we are your servants. Come back to us because we belong to you. Rip open the sky and come down to earth, and the mountains will tremble (shake) at your presence. People never listened to you. People have never seen a God like you. You work for those that trust you. Sincere (honest) people that do good, you guide them. Those good people remember your ways. But we sinned and you were angry. We rebelled (turned) against you. We became a people corrupted; our goodness gone. We were like people with dirty clothes. We became like leaves, dead and blown away. Because of our sins, the wind blew us away. No one turned to you in prayer. No one asked for your help. You hid your

face from us, you left us in our sins. But, you Lord, you are our Father. We are like clay in your hands, and you are the potter; Your hands created us.

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

Psalm 79

RESPONSE: **LORD, SHOW US YOUR FACE AND SAVE US.**

LORD, SHOW US YOUR FACE AND SAVE US.

Lord, shepherd of Israel, look at us.

Show your strength, come and help us.

Turn to us, O God!

Look down from heaven and protect your vine.

LORD, SHOW US YOUR FACE AND SAVE US.

You have chosen your son.

Give him strength.

We will never leave you again.

Give us life and we will praise your name.

LORD, SHOW US YOUR FACE AND SAVE US.

1st Sunday of Advent

A READING FROM ST PAUL'S FIRST SCROLL ↕ TO THE CORINTHIANS

1 Corinthians 1:3–9

Let God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ give you peace and grace.

I never stop thanking God for all the graces that he gave you through Jesus Christ. I thank God that he gave you many good things through your teachers and preachers. You have become strong witnesses to Christ. God will give you the gifts of the Spirit. While you are still waiting for the last day, the coming of the Lord Jesus Christ, the Spirit will make you strong and without fault. God chose you and he wants you to share life with his Son, Jesus Christ. God will remember because God is faithful.

THE WORD OF THE LORD THANKS BE TO GOD

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!

Lord, let us see your mercy and give us your help.

ALLELUIA!

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF MARK

Mark 13:33–37

Jesus said to his disciples: 'Stay awake, always be ready, because you never know when the time will come. It is like a man that goes abroad. He leaves his house, giving responsibility to the servants to look after the house, and telling the person guarding the door to stay awake. So stay awake, because you do not know when the master of the house is coming, evening, midnight, early in the morning, or as the sun rises. If he comes suddenly, you must not be caught asleep. What I (Jesus) tell to you, and I tell everyone: Stay awake!'

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS CHRIST

2nd Sunday of Advent

A READING FROM THE SCROLL ⇄ OF ISAIAH

Isaiah 40:1–5, 9–11

God says, 'Comfort my people, comfort them! Speak to the people of Jerusalem. Tell them they suffered long enough. I gave them double punishment for all the bad things they did, and now their sins are forgiven.'

In the desert a voice shouts: 'Prepare a way for the Lord. Make the road straight for God. Fill every valley. Make all mountains and hills flat. The rough land will be made smooth. Then the glory of the Lord will be revealed (shown), all people will see God's glory. The Lord himself promised this.'

Happy messenger to Zion, you bring good news. Go to a high mountain and proclaim the good news! Do not be afraid, tell all the people in the towns of Judah: 'Here is your God.'

See, the Lord God comes with power. God uses his power to rule all people. The Lord wins all his prizes; our prize (reward) is to

be with him. The Lord will lead his people, like a shepherd feeding his sheep, gathering lambs in his arms, and leading the mother ewes (sheep) to a place of rest.

THE WORD OF THE LORD THANKS BE TO GOD

Psalm 84

RESPONSE: **LORD, LET US SEE YOUR MERCY, GIVE US YOUR HELP.**

LORD, LET US SEE YOUR MERCY, GIVE US YOUR HELP.

I will listen to what the Lord says. He speaks about peace; peace for all people. He helps people that respect him.

God gives mercy, justice and peace to the world.

LORD, LET US SEE YOUR MERCY, GIVE US YOUR HELP.

The Lord will give us many good things.

On earth, good things will grow. The Lord's way is just (fair). His way brings peace.

LORD, LET US SEE YOUR MERCY, GIVE US YOUR HELP.

2nd Sunday of Advent

A READING FROM THE SECOND SCROLL ↕ OF ST PETER

2 Peter 3:8–14

My friends, one thing you must never forget: to the Lord, one day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years is like one day. To the Lord there is no difference. The Lord is not like other people, he is not slow to keep his promises. God is very patient with you all. He wants no one to be lost. He wants everybody to change their ways. The Day of the Lord will come suddenly like a thief. The sky will disappear with a loud noise. Everything will be destroyed by fire. Everything on earth will be burnt.

Because everything on earth will suddenly be destroyed, you should be holy and try to live like saints as you wait for the Day God will come. When this happens, everything will be destroyed and melted in the fire. We are waiting for all God promised: new heavens and new earth, and there we will find goodness. So, my friends, while

you are waiting, do your best to live without sin, without fault, so that you will be at peace with God.

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!

Prepare the way for the Lord. Make his paths straight. And all people will see the salvation of God.

ALLELUIA!

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF MARK

Mark 1:1–8

This is the Good News about Jesus Christ, the Son of God. It is written in the scroll of Isaiah. He, the prophet Isaiah, wrote:

God said, 'Look, I will send my messenger (John) before you (Jesus). He will prepare the way for you. Some one in the desert will shout and say: "Prepare the

2nd Sunday of Advent

way for the Lord. Make his paths straight.”

So, John the Baptist appeared in the desert. He preached and told the people to be baptised and to repent for the forgiveness of their sins. All the people from Judaea and Jerusalem went to listen to John. They confessed their sins and John baptised them in the river Jordan. John wore clothes made from camel’s skin, and his food was locusts and wild honey. John preached to the people and said, ‘One person is coming, that person is more powerful than I. I am not good enough to kneel and take off his sandals. I baptize you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.’

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

**PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS
CHRIST**

3rd Sunday of Advent

Luke 1:46–53

A READING FROM THE SCROLL ⇌ OF ISAIAH

Isaiah 61:1–2, 10–11

The spirit of the Lord has been given to me because the Lord anointed me. The Lord chose me to go and tell the good news to poor people; to heal broken hearts; to tell those suffering from oppression that they are now free; to those imprisoned freedom; and to proclaim the Lord's year of favour.

I rejoice in the Lord; my soul rejoices in my God. Because God gave me salvation and goodness. I rejoice like a bridegroom wearing a garland (flowers around neck), like a bride with beautiful jewels.

Because the earth lets fresh things grow, and a garden lets seeds grow; so in the same way, the Lord will make sure all peoples will have wholeness and goodness, and they will praise God.

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

RESPONSE: MY SOUL REJOICES IN MY GOD.

MY SOUL REJOICES IN MY GOD.

My soul praises the Lord.
My heart is glad because of God my Saviour.

God remembers me, I am his humble servant.

All people will say I am blessed.

MY SOUL REJOICES IN MY GOD.

The Almighty has done great things for me.

His name is holy!

From the beginning till now, and forever, God shows his mercy to all people that honour him.

MY SOUL REJOICES IN MY GOD.

God gives good things to the hungry.

The rich, God sends away with nothing.

God remembers his mercy,
And He protects Israel, his servant.

MY SOUL REJOICES IN MY GOD.

3rd Sunday of Advent

A READING FROM ST PAUL'S FIRST SCROLL ↕ TO THE THESSALONIANS

1 Thessalonians 5:16–24

Always be happy. Never stop praying. Give thanks to God for everything, because God expects you to do this in Jesus Christ.

Never try to suppress (stop) the work of the Spirit. Prophecy is a gift – do not treat it with contempt (mockery/criticism). Before you do anything, think first; keep all the things that are good, and stay away from all evil things.

Let the God of peace make you perfect and holy. Let God keep you all safe in spirit, mind and body, and free you from sin for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. God has chosen you and he will not fail you or let you down.

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!

The Lord gave his spirit to me. He sent me to bring good news to poor people.

ALLELUIA!

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF JOHN

John 1:6–8, 19–28

God sent a man named John.

John came as a witness, to tell people about the light (Jesus), so that all will believe in him.

John himself was not the light, only a witness to speak about the light (Jesus).

This is how John appeared as a witness. The Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask, 'Who are you?' John said openly, 'I am not the Christ.' They asked, 'Are you Elijah?' John said, 'No, I am not Elijah.' They asked, 'Are you the Prophet?' John said, 'No.' So they said to him, 'Who are you? Tell us, because we have to go back and tell our leaders (bosses) who you are. What do

3rd Sunday of Advent

you say about yourself?’ So John said, ‘As (same) Isaiah said:

I am the voice of a person in the desert, shouting: "Make a straight path for the Lord."

These Jews were sent by the Pharisees and they asked more questions, ‘If you are not the Christ, not Elijah, and not the prophet, then why are you baptising people?’ John replied, ‘I baptise with water; but there is a person here, one that you don’t know, He will come after me. I am not good enough to take off his sandals.’ This happened in Bethany on the other side of the river Jordan, the place that John was baptising.

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

**PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS
CHRIST**

4th Sunday of Advent

A READING FROM THE SECOND SCROLL ⇄ OF SAMUEL

2 Samuel 7:1–5, 8–12, 14, 16

King David went into his house and the Lord gave him peace and rest from all his enemies around him. David said to the prophet Nathan, 'Look, I live in a house built of expensive cedar, but the ark of God is still kept in a tent.' Nathan said to King David, 'You go and do what you think is right. God is with you.'

But that night, God said to Nathan: 'Go and tell my servant David,

"The Lord says: You are not the person to build a house for me. When you were in the field looking after the sheep, I chose you. I made you leader of my people, Israel. Any place that you went, I went with you. I conquered your enemies for you. I will make you famous, the same as other famous leaders in the world. I will give a place for my people Israel; I will bring my people there and they will live in

that place, and no wicked people will oppress them as in the old days when I sent judges to lead Israel. I will give you peace and keep you safe from all your enemies. I, the Lord, will make you great. I will make you a House (family group). And when you are old, dead and buried with your dead family, I will protect your children. I will make sure that one of your sons will be king. I will make your family and kingdom safe, and your throne will be established for ever."

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

Psalm 88

**RESPONSE: LORD, I WILL SING
ABOUT YOUR LOVE FOR EVER.**

**LORD, I WILL SING ABOUT
YOUR LOVE FOR EVER.**

Lord, I will sing forever about your love.

I will always proclaim your truth.

Lord, I know your love will never fail,

your truth is eternal.

4th Sunday of Advent

LORD, I WILL SING ABOUT YOUR LOVE FOR EVER.

I made a covenant (promise) with my people.

I anointed David, my servant.

I made David king, his family to rule forever.

David will say to me: 'You are my father and my God; you save me.'

LORD, I WILL SING ABOUT YOUR LOVE FOR EVER.

Give glory to God through Jesus Christ for ever and ever. Amen.

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!

I am the servant of the Lord. Let what you have said happen to me.

ALLELUIA!

A READING FROM ST PAUL'S SCROLL ↕ TO THE ROMANS

Romans 16:25–27

Glory to God. God gives you the strength to live and follow the Good News that I preach. I proclaim Jesus Christ. This mystery kept secret for many years is now shown to us. This mystery was in the scriptures (Bible). I must proclaim the Good News to pagans (non-believers) everywhere and so help them have faith and obey God. The scriptures (Bible) said God's way would happen. Only God is wise.

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF LUKE

Luke 1:26–38

God sent the angel Gabriel to a virgin living in Nazareth, a town in Galilee. The young woman was engaged to marry Joseph, a man from the family of David; and her name was Mary. The angel came to Mary and said, 'Rejoice, you are truly blessed (favoured)! The Lord is with you.' Mary was afraid and wondered what the angel's message meant. He (angel) said to her, 'Mary, do not be afraid. God is very pleased with you.'

4th Sunday of Advent

Listen! You will become pregnant and you will give birth to a son. You will name him Jesus. He will be great and people will call him Son of the Most High God. The Lord God will appoint him King, the same as his ancestor (in the past) David. Jesus will rule over the people of Jacob for ever. His kingdom will never end.' Mary said to the angel, 'But how can I become pregnant? I am a virgin.' The angel said, 'The Holy Spirit will come to you, and the power of the Most High God will stay with you. The child will be holy and will be called Son of God. Also, remember your relative, Elizabeth. She is old and everybody thought she could never have a baby, but now she is six months pregnant. God can do anything, because nothing's impossible to God!' Mary said, 'I am the servant of the Lord. Let what you have said happen to me.' And the angel went away.

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

**PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS
CHRIST**

Christmas Vigil Mass

Psalm 88

A READING FROM THE SCROLL ⇌ OF ISAIAH

Isaiah 62:1–5

The Lord God said: 'I will encourage Jerusalem. I will not be silent, I will help Jerusalem until she is saved. I will wait until Jerusalem's goodness shines like light. Then all the world will see your goodness, and all the kings will see your glory. You will be like a beautiful crown for the Lord. The Lord will give you a new name. No more will your name be "Rejected" nor the land "Abandoned." Your new name will be "My Delight", and your land will be called "Married"; because the Lord is happy with you. The Lord will be like a young man marrying you as his bride. As God created you, He will be with you. Like the man happy with his bride, the Lord God will rejoice in you.'

THE WORD OF THE LORD THANKS BE TO GOD

**RESPONSE: LORD, I WILL SING
ABOUT YOUR LOVE FOR EVER.**

**LORD, I WILL SING ABOUT
YOUR LOVE FOR EVER.**

I made a covenant (God's promise) with my chosen one.

I promised David, my servant:

I said I will establish a kingdom that will continue for ever.

**LORD, I WILL SING ABOUT
YOUR LOVE FOR EVER.**

The people will be happy with their king.

The king follows God's way.

God said: 'I will love him, I will make him victorious.'

The king will say to God: 'You are my father, the God, that saves me.'

**LORD, I WILL SING ABOUT
YOUR LOVE FOR EVER.**

A READING FROM THE ACTS ⇕ OF THE APOSTLES

Acts 13:16–17, 22–25

Paul arrived at Antioch in Pisidia, he stood up in the synagogue. Paul wanted people to listen, to

Christmas Vigil Mass

look at him and be silent so he raised his hand and began to speak:

‘People of Israel, you that worship God, listen to me. The God of Israel chose our people of long ago. When our people were suffering and living in a foreign land, the land of Egypt, God helped his people to escape. God made them become a great nation (people).

Then God made David the king of our ancestors (people of the past). God said, "I have chosen David, the son of Jesse. He is the man that will do all the things I want him to do." God promised that one of David’s descendants (future children) would be Jesus. Jesus will be the Saviour for the people of Israel. Before Jesus came, John the Baptist preached and told the people of Israel that they must be baptised to show their repentance. Before John the Baptist finished his work he said to the people, "You think I am the Christ - I am not. Christ will come

later and I am not worthy to untie his sandal."

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!

Tomorrow the sin of the world will stop. The saviour of the world will be our king.

ALLELUIA!

[Short form read between *.....*]

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF MATTHEW

Matthew 1:1–25

A genealogy (family tree) of Jesus Christ, son of David, son of Abraham:

Abraham was the father of Isaac, Isaac the father of Jacob,

Jacob the father of Judah and his brothers,

Judah was the father of Perez and Zerah, Tamar being their mother,

Perez was the father of Hezron,

Hezron the father of Ram,

Christmas Vigil Mass

Ram was the father of
Amminadab,
Amminadab the father of
Nahshon,
Nahshon the father of Salmon,
Salmon was the father of Boaz,
Rahab being his mother,
Boaz was the father of Obed,
Ruth being his mother,
Obed was the father of Jesse;
and Jesse was the father of King
David.

David was the father of Solomon,
whose mother had been Uriah's
wife,
Solomon was the father of
Rehoboam,
Rehoboam the father of Abijah,
Abijah the father of Asa,
Asa was the father of
Jehoshaphat,
Jehoshaphat the father of Joram,
Joram the father of Azariah,
Azariah was the father of Jotham,
Jotham the father of Ahaz,
Ahaz the father of Hezekiah,

Hezekiah was the father of
Manasseh,
Manasseh the father of Amon,
Amon the father of Josiah;
and Josiah was the father of
Jechoniah and his brothers.
Then the deportation (exile) to
Babylon happened.

After the deportation to Babylon:
Jechoniah was the father of
Shealtiel,
Shealtiel the father of Zerubbabel,
Zerubbabel was the father of
Abiud,
Abiud the father of Eliakim,
Eliakim the father of Azor,
Azor was the father of Zadok,
Zadok the father of Achim,
Achim the father of Eliud,
Eliud was the father of Eleazar,
Eleazar the father of Matthan,
Matthan the father of Jacob;
and Jacob was the father of
Joseph the husband of Mary; of

Christmas Vigil Mass

her was born Jesus called the Christ.

Altogether, there were fourteen generations from Abraham to David; fourteen generations from David to the Babylonian deportation (exile); and fourteen generations from the Babylonian deportation to Christ.

* This is how the birth of Jesus happened. The mother of Jesus Christ was Mary. Mary was engaged to marry Joseph. But before they married, Mary found that she was pregnant. She had a baby in her womb through the power of the Holy Spirit. Mary's husband, Joseph, was a good man. He did not want to embarrass Mary or give her a bad name, so he made plans for a divorce quietly. But the angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream. The angel said, 'Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to accept Mary as your wife. She has the baby in her womb by the power of the Holy Spirit. She will

give birth to a son, and you must name him Jesus, because he will save people from their sins.' All this happened because God had made this promise through the prophet:

'A virgin will conceive and give birth to a son. He will be called Emmanuel, a name meaning "God-is-with-us."'

When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord told him to do: he took his wife Mary into his home. Joseph had no sexual intercourse with Mary; she gave birth to a son, and Joseph named him Jesus. *

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS CHRIST

Christmas Midnight Mass

A READING FROM THE SCROLL ⇄ OF ISAIAH

Isaiah 9:1–7

The people that walked in darkness saw a great light. They lived in shadows, but now light shines on them. You, Lord, have made them happy. They are like people rejoicing when their harvest finished. They are like people happy to receive good things. God has taken away the yoke (heavy rod) from their back. The army boots used for war and all the uniforms of war, full of blood, will be burnt and destroyed.

Because a child is born. A Son is given to us. He will be our ruler. His name will be: 'Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Eternal Father, Prince of Peace.'

His kingdom will spread peace everywhere forever. He will rule with royal power; he will rule with fairness from the throne of David. He will establish justice for all people. From now and forever because God has promised this.

THE WORD OF THE LORD THANKS BE TO GOD

Psalm 95

RESPONSE: **TODAY A SAVIOUR
IS BORN.**

HE IS CHRIST THE LORD.

TODAY A SAVIOUR IS BORN.

HE IS CHRIST THE LORD.

Sing to the Lord!

Praise his name.

He works wonders for all his people.

Proclaim (tell) to all people about his help.

TODAY A SAVIOUR IS BORN.

HE IS CHRIST THE LORD.

Let the sea make sounds and praise the Lord.

Let all the trees shout with joy.

Because the Lord will come to rule the earth.

He will come with justice and truth.

TODAY A SAVIOUR IS BORN.

HE IS CHRIST THE LORD.

Christmas Midnight Mass

A READING FROM ST PAUL'S SCROLL ↕ TO TITUS

Titus 2:11–14

God showed his grace to us and his grace saved everybody. His grace taught us not to live against God but to give up all the bad things of the world. We must control ourselves and have good and holy lives here in this world, while we wait with hope for the coming of God our Saviour. Jesus will come in glory. Jesus gave his life for us to free us from all wickedness. Jesus gave his life to purify (cleanse) our lives, so that we will belong to him, and do good in the world.

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!

I bring you news of great joy:
today Christ the Lord is born.

ALLELUIA!

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF LUKE

Luke 2:1–14

Caesar Augustus sent an order to all people living in the Roman Empire. This first census (registration) happened when Quirinius was governor of Syria. Everyone had to go to their home towns to be registered. Joseph left Nazareth, a town in Galilee. He went to Bethlehem, a town in Judaea, the birth place of King David. Joseph himself was a descendant of the family of David, and he went to register with Mary, because she was engaged to marry Joseph. Mary was pregnant, and when they arrived in Bethlehem, the time was right for Mary to have her baby. She gave birth to a son, Jesus. There was no room for them in the hotels, so Mary wrapped the baby with warm clothes and laid the baby in a manger (box) used for feeding cows. Not far away, some shepherds lived in the fields, watching their sheep that night. The angel of the Lord appeared

Christmas Midnight Mass

to them, the glory of God shone around them. The shepherds were terrified, but the angel said, 'Do not be afraid. I come to tell you good news. The good news will give joy to all people. Today, in this town, Christ the Lord is born! Go, and you will find a baby wrapped in warm clothes and lying in a manger (box).' Suddenly other angels appeared from heaven, and they all praised God and sang:

'Glory to God in the highest heaven and peace on earth to all people.'

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS CHRIST

Christmas Day Mass

A READING FROM THE SCROLL ⇄ OF ISAIAH

Isaiah 52:7–10

It is wonderful to see a person walk on the mountains bringing Good News of peace and happiness! Announcing salvation, saying, ‘Your God is King!’

The city guards shout together with joy because they can see the Lord coming.

You people of Jerusalem and your destroyed buildings, shout with joy. Why? Because the Lord comes to give comfort and support to his people. He will save Jerusalem.

The Lord will show his holy strength to all nations.

All people will see the salvation of our God.

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

Psalms 97

RESPONSE: **ALL PEOPLE HAVE SEEN THE SALVATION OF GOD.**

ALL PEOPLE HAVE SEEN THE SALVATION OF GOD.

Sing to the Lord.

He has done wonderful things!
By his power God saved all people.

He remembered his promise to the people of Israel.

ALL PEOPLE HAVE SEEN THE SALVATION OF GOD.

God remembered his love for us.
All people have seen the salvation of our God.

Sing with joy to the Lord.
Praise the Lord!

ALL PEOPLE HAVE SEEN THE SALVATION OF GOD.

A READING FROM THE SCROLL ⇅ TO THE HEBREWS

Hebrews 1:1–6

In the past, God spoke to our people many times and in many different ways through the prophets. But now God speaks to us through his Son. God made the world through his Son. God chose his Son to receive everything. The Son shows us the glory of God. The Son is the perfect copy of God, His Father.

Christmas Day Mass

The Son gives life to the world by his powerful word. Now, the Son has destroyed sin, and has gone to heaven and is at the right hand of God the Father.

God gave him a name greater than anyone and the Son of God is greater than the angels of heaven.

God never said to any angel, 'You are my Son, today I have become your Father.' No, when God brought his Son into the world, he said, 'Let all the angels worship Him (Jesus).'

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!

Glory to God in the highest heaven and peace to all people.

ALLELUIA!

[Short form read between *.....*]

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF JOHN

John 1:1–18

* In the beginning, the Word was there. The Word was with God. He (Jesus) was with God in the beginning. Through him God made all things. Nothing was created without him. Through him all things lived. His life brought light to the people. A light shines in the dark, and the dark could not overpower the light. *

God sent a man named John. He came as a witness, to tell the people about the light, so that all can believe in him. John himself was not the light, only a witness to tell the people about the light.

* The Word was the true light. The Word came into the world and gave light to all people. The Word was in the world. The world was made through him, but the world did not know him. He came to his own country, but his

Christmas Day Mass

people did not accept him. Some did accept him, so He gave them power to become God's children, because they believed in the name of the one born of God himself. The Word became flesh, he lived with us. We saw his glory, the glory he received because he was the Son of God the Father, full of grace and truth. *

John came as a witness. He told people: 'This is the one I told you about. He comes after me, but he is more important than me, because he lived before I was born.'

All of us received grace and blessings from him. God gave the Law through Moses, but grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has seen God, only the Son - he is nearest to the Father's heart. He (Jesus) has told us about his Father.

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

**PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS
CHRIST**

Holy Family

A READING FROM THE SCROLL ⇌ OF GENESIS

Genesis 15:1–6; 21:1–3

Abram had a vision and the Lord told him, ‘Do not be afraid, Abram. I will protect you. I will give you a great reward.’

Abram replied, ‘My Lord, what do you plan to give me? I have no children. One of my servants will receive everything after I die.’ Then the Lord spoke to Abram, ‘Your servant will not inherit (receive your things) from you but your son, your own flesh and blood will receive everything.’ The Lord took Abram outside and said, ‘Look at the sky and try to count the stars. Your future children and their children will be as many as the stars.’ Abram trusted the Lord, and the Lord was pleased with Abram.

As the Lord promised, the Lord blessed Sarah and she became pregnant. Sarah gave birth to Abraham’s son, and Abraham was now an old man. The boy’s birth happened at the time God

promised. Abraham named him Isaac.

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

Psalm 104

RESPONSE: **THE LORD IS OUR GOD. GOD ALWAYS REMEMBERS HIS COVENANT (PROMISE).**

THE LORD IS OUR GOD. GOD ALWAYS REMEMBERS HIS COVENANT (PROMISE).

Give thanks to the Lord.
Tell all people God’s name.
Praise God, tell everybody about God’s wonderful works!

THE LORD IS OUR GOD. GOD ALWAYS REMEMBERS HIS COVENANT (PROMISE).

Let us be proud of God’s name.
Always remember God’s wonderful works.

God remembers his Covenant (promise) with Abraham and Isaac.

THE LORD IS OUR GOD. GOD ALWAYS REMEMBERS HIS COVENANT (PROMISE).

Holy Family

A READING FROM THE SCROLL ↕ TO THE HEBREWS

Hebrews 11:8, 11–12, 17–19

Through faith Abraham obeyed God and went to a far country that God promised to give him. Abraham went but he did not know where he was going.

It was also through faith that Sarah, the wife of Abraham, an old woman, became pregnant. She conceived because she believed in the promise of God. Because of Sarah's pregnancy, Abraham, an old man, trusted God, and through this one man (Abraham), there were many descendants (future people), as many as the stars of heaven, or as the sand on the seashore.

God tested Abraham; it was because of faith that Abraham obeyed God and offered his only son Isaac as a sacrifice. God said: 'It is through your son Isaac that your name will continue to be passed on' and Abraham trusted God. He was confident that God had the power to raise dead

people and that He would give his son Isaac back to him.

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!

In the past, God spoke to our people many times and in many different ways through the prophets. But now, God speaks to us through his Son.

ALLELUIA!

[Short form read between *....*]

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF LUKE

Luke 2:22–40

* The time was right for the parents of Jesus to be purified (cleansed), to follow the Law of Moses. So Mary and Joseph took their baby and went to Jerusalem.

*

The Law of the Lord says: 'Each first-born boy must be consecrated to the Lord. Two

Holy Family

doves or two young pigeons must be sacrificed.’ Mary and Joseph presented (offered) the baby Jesus to the Lord. In Jerusalem, there lived a man named Simeon. He was a very good and holy man. He was waiting for God to save Israel. The Holy Spirit was with him. The Holy Spirit had told him that he would not die before he saw Christ the Lord. Now the Holy Spirit led Simeon into the Temple, and there the parents brought Jesus, to obey the Law of Moses; they presented Jesus to Simeon. Simeon took the child in his arms and blessed (praised) God. Simeon said:

‘Now, Master, you can let me, your servant, die in peace. You kept your promise. With my own eyes, I have seen your salvation - a salvation you prepared for all people. Here is the light to show your way to all, not only to Jewish people, and to give glory to your people Israel.’

Jesus’ parents stood there wondering about the things

Simeon said about Jesus. Simeon blessed them both. He said to Mary, ‘You see this child: many people will fall because of him. Many people in Israel will also be saved because of him. He will be a sign that people will refuse to accept. Sorrow, like a sharp sword, will pierce your heart. And the secret thoughts of many people will be made obvious (clear, open) to all.’

There was a very old woman, a prophetess, named Anna, daughter of Phanuel, from the family of Asher. She was married seven years before becoming a widow. She was now eighty-four years old and she was always in the Temple, fasting and praying to God every day and every night. She came into the Temple and then she began to praise God. She told everybody that was waiting for God to free Jerusalem all about Jesus.

* After Mary and Joseph had done (finished) all that the Law of the Lord said they must do, they

Holy Family

went back to their own town of Nazareth in Galilee. The boy Jesus grew and became wise. God's favour was with him. *

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

**PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS
CHRIST**

Mary, Mother of God

A READING FROM THE SCROLL ⇌ OF NUMBERS

Numbers 6:22–27

The Lord spoke to Moses and said, 'Tell Aaron and his sons: "This is how you will bless the sons of Israel. You will say to them:

Let the Lord bless you and keep you. Let the Lord's face shine on you and be gracious (good) to you. Let the Lord show you his face and bring you peace."

This is how they will say my name praying for the sons of Israel, and I will bless them.'

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

Psalms 66

RESPONSE: **O GOD, BE KIND
AND BLESS US.**

O GOD, BE KIND AND BLESS US.

O God, look kindly on us.
Show light on us, so we will know
your way.
All nations (peoples) will know
you saved us.

O GOD, BE KIND AND BLESS US.

Let all nations (peoples) be glad
and rejoice because you rule the
world with justice.

You guide all people on earth.
Let all peoples praise you, O God.
Let God bless us forever.

O GOD, BE KIND AND BLESS US.

A READING FROM ST PAUL'S SCROLL ⇕ TO THE GALATIANS

Galatians 4:4–7

At the right time, God sent his
Son, born from a woman. The Son
lived obedient to the Law. He
came to save us because we too
were under the Law, so we could
become God's children. The proof
that you are children of God is
that God has already sent His
Spirit into your hearts. This Spirit
in us helps us pray to God, 'Abba,
Father.' This same Spirit makes us
children of God. We are not
slaves (we are free). God will give

Mary, Mother of God

us everything because we are his children.

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!

In the past God spoke to us in many different ways. But today, God speaks to us through his Son, Jesus Christ.

ALLELUIA!

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF LUKE

Luke 2:16–21

The shepherds went quickly to Bethlehem. They found Mary and Joseph and the baby lying in a manger (box). When the shepherds saw the baby, they told Mary and Joseph about the angels, and what the angels said about the baby. Everybody was surprised about the things the shepherds said. Mary thought about these things, she remembered and kept them in

her heart. The shepherds went back to the fields. They praised God for everything they had heard and seen. It was the same as the angels told them.

On the eighth day, Mary and Joseph presented (offered) their baby to the Jewish priest in the Synagogue. Mary and Joseph named him 'Jesus', because that was the name the angel gave before his conception.

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS CHRIST

2nd Sunday after Christmas

Psalm 147

A READING FROM THE SCROLL ⇌ OF ECCLESIASTICUS

Ecclesiasticus 24:1–2, 8–12

Wisdom sings her own praises. Among all people, wisdom shines with glory. Wisdom opens her mouth in front of the Most High God. In front of Almighty God, wisdom shows her glory.

‘Then God, the Creator, gave me a place for my tent, said:

"Put your tent here in Jacob, and Israel will be your inheritance."

In the beginning, he created me and I will remain (stay) for ever. In the holy tent I served him and so I became established in Zion. In the beloved city he gave me rest, and Jerusalem will be under my authority. My roots are in the special people of Israel, his inheritance.’

THE WORD OF THE LORD THANKS BE TO GOD

RESPONSE: **THE WORD (JESUS) BECAME FLESH AND HE LIVED WITH US.**

THE WORD (JESUS) BECAME FLESH AND HE LIVED WITH US.

Jerusalem, praise the Lord!

God made the gates of Jerusalem strong.

He blessed the children in your city.

God established peace in your country.

He feeds you with good wheat.

THE WORD (JESUS) BECAME FLESH AND HE LIVED WITH US.

God sends his word (Jesus) to the earth.

The world quickly obeys.

God gave his laws and rules to Israel.

He has not given his laws to other nations (peoples).

THE WORD (JESUS) BECAME FLESH AND HE LIVED WITH US.

2nd Sunday after Christmas

A READING FROM ST PAUL'S SCROLL ↕ TO THE EPHESIANS

Ephesians 1:3–6, 15–18

Blessed be God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. He gave us all the spiritual blessings of heaven in Christ. Before the world was made, he chose us. God chose us to be holy and without fault, and to live with love in his presence. Through Christ, God wants us to become his children. Let us praise God for his grace, for the free gift he gave us through his Son.

That is why I always remember you in my prayers and I thank God for you, because I know about your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all God's people. I ask God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, to give you a spirit of wisdom, and to show you His Will, so that you will know Him better. I pray God will open your mind, so that you can see the hope he gives you, and the wonderful glories that he promised the saints will receive.

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ!
You came into the world and the world believed in you.

ALLELUIA!

[Short form read between *....*]

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF JOHN

John 1:1–18

* In the beginning, the Word was there. The Word was with God. The Word was God. He (Jesus) was with God in the beginning. Through him God made all things. Nothing was created without him. Through him all things lived. His life brought light to the people. A light shines in the dark, and the dark could not overpower the light. *

God sent a man named John. He came as a witness, to tell the people about the light, so that all can believe in him. John himself was not the light, only a witness to tell the people about the light.

2nd Sunday after Christmas

* The Word was the true light. The Word came into the world and gave light to all people. The Word was in the world. The world was made through him, but the world did not know him. He came to his own country, but his people did not accept him. Some did accept him, so He gave them power to become God's children, because they believed in the name of the one born of God himself. The Word became flesh, he lived with us. We saw his glory, the glory he received because he was the Son of God the Father, full of grace and truth. *

John came as a witness. He told people: 'This is the one I told you about. He comes after me, but he is more important than me, because he lived before I was born.'

All of us received grace and blessings from him. God gave the Law through Moses, but grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has seen God, only the Son - he is nearest to the

Father's heart. He (Jesus) has told us about his Father.

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

**PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS
CHRIST**

Epiphany of the Lord

Psalm 71

A READING FROM THE SCROLL ⇄ OF ISAIAH

Isaiah 60 1–6

Jerusalem, arise. Your light has come. The Lord's glory is shining on you. Look, the world and all its people are still in the dark but the light of the Lord will shine on you. The brightness of his presence will shine on you. Other people and kings will come to your light.

Look around and see what is happening, all peoples are coming towards you; from far away your sons will come, your daughters will be carried to you.

You will see this and your heart will be filled with joy. Overseas, the wealth of other countries will be brought to you. Many camels will come to you, the young camels from Midian and Ephah. From Sheba everybody will come, they will bring gold and incense and they will praise the Lord.

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

RESPONSE: **ALL PEOPLE WILL BOW IN FRONT OF YOU, O LORD.**

ALL PEOPLE WILL BOW IN FRONT OF YOU, O LORD.

God, teach the king to judge rightly.

Let the king judge poor people fairly.

God's justice and peace will spread.

God will rule from sea to sea.

ALL PEOPLE WILL BOW IN FRONT OF YOU, O LORD.

God has pity on weak people.

He will save the lives of the poor.

ALL PEOPLE WILL BOW IN FRONT OF YOU, O LORD.

A READING FROM ST PAUL'S SCROLL ⇅ TO THE EPHESIANS

Ephesians 3:2–3, 5–12

I'm sure you have heard about me - that God, through his grace, showed his mystery to me so I can help you. In the past, people didn't know the mystery, but now God, through His Spirit, revealed

Epiphany of the Lord

(show) it to his holy apostles and prophets. This means that the pagans (non-believers) now share God's blessings with the Jews. The pagans (non-believers) are members of the same body (the Church). They share the same promise of God, in Jesus Christ, through the Gospel.

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!

We saw his star and we followed.
We come to worship the Lord.

ALLELUIA!

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF MATTHEW

Matthew 2:1-12

Jesus was born in Bethlehem during the time when King Herod ruled. The wise men saw a star and came from the East. They asked, 'Where is the baby born to be king of the Jews? We saw his star when it came up in the East

and we have come to worship him.' When King Herod heard this he was very worried. All the people in Jerusalem were worried too. King Herod had a meeting with all the Jewish priests and scribes (writers). He asked, 'Where will the baby be born?' They replied, 'In Bethlehem because in the scriptures (Bible), the prophet wrote:

"A leader will come from Bethlehem and he will shepherd my people Israel."

Then King Herod asked to see the wise men privately. He wanted to know the exact date when they first saw the star. Then he sent the wise men to Bethlehem, telling them, 'Go, look carefully for the baby, and when you have found him, let me know so I can come to worship him.' The wise men went on their journey and again they saw the star. They were filled with joy. They followed it and the star stopped over the place where the baby was. They went into the place and they saw the baby with his Mother Mary,

Epiphany of the Lord

then they knelt down and worshipped him. They gave him gifts of gold, frankincense and myrrh. But in a dream, they received a warning not to go back to king Herod; they went home a different way.

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

**PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS
CHRIST**

Baptism of the Lord

A READING FROM THE SCROLL ⇌ OF ISAIAH

Isaiah 55:1-11

The Lord says: 'All you thirsty people come, drink water! If you have no money, come! Buy corn without money, and eat. Come, drink wine and milk - it will cost you nothing! Why spend money on something that is not food? Why waste money on something that will not satisfy you? Listen to me, and you will have good things. You will enjoy eating good food. Listen carefully to me! Come to me and your soul will live.

I made a covenant (promise) with David; now, I make a covenant (promise) forever with you. I will make you a witness to the peoples; I will make you a leader and ruler of peoples. You will summon (order) a foreign people, and they will come to you. This will happen because I am the Lord your God. I am the Holy One of Israel, and I will give you glory.'

Search (look) for the Lord before it is too late. Pray to him while he

is still near. Let the wicked people give up their ways, and change their evil thoughts. Let them turn back to the Lord, and the Lord will have pity on them; our God is full of mercy.

The Lord says, 'My thoughts and my ways are not the same as your thoughts and your ways. The heavens are so high above the earth. In the same way, my thoughts are so high above your thoughts, my ways are so high above your ways.'

The Lord says, 'The rain and the snow come down from the sky and the water covers the earth; the water lets crops grow to produce (make) seeds that are used for both sowing and for making bread to eat. Yes, it is the same with my "word"; I send my "word" to do what I want and my "word" will not fail. My "word" will succeed and do all the things I planned to do.'

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

Baptism of the Lord

Isaiah 12:2–6

RESPONSE: **YOU WILL RECEIVE SALVATION FROM THE LORD.**

YOU WILL RECEIVE SALVATION FROM THE LORD.

Truly, God is my salvation.
I trust God, I will not be afraid.
The Lord gives me strength.
God saves me.

YOU WILL RECEIVE SALVATION FROM THE LORD.

Give thanks to the Lord, praise his name!

Tell all people about his wonderful works.

Tell all people about his name.

Sing and praise the Lord, the Holy One of Israel.

YOU WILL RECEIVE SALVATION FROM THE LORD.

A READING FROM ST JOHN'S FIRST SCROLL ⇅

1 John 5:1–9

The people that believe Jesus is the Christ are God's children. Any person that loves the Father also loves the Father's children.

How do we know that we love God's children? We know because we love God and obey his commandments. Loving God means that we follow his commandments; and his commandments are not too difficult for us.

Why? Because we are God's children; this means we have already conquered the world. We have the victory over the world because of our faith.

Who can conquer the world? Only the person that believes Jesus is the Son of God, and believes that Jesus Christ came with water and with blood; not just (only) water but both water and blood.

The Spirit is the witness and the Spirit always tells the truth. So we have three witnesses: the Spirit, the water, and the blood; all three tell us the same thing. We accept people's testimony (witness) but God's testimony (witness) is stronger (more strong). God gives us this testimony (witness) about his Son.

Baptism of the Lord

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!

John the Baptist saw Jesus coming and said: 'This is the Lamb of God; He takes away the sin of the world.'

ALLELUIA!

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF MARK

Mark 1:7-11

John the Baptist was preaching. He said, 'Someone (one person) is coming, this person is more powerful than I. I am not good enough to kneel down and take off his sandals. I baptised you with water, but he will baptise you with the Holy Spirit.'

Then, Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee. John baptised Jesus in the river Jordan. After Jesus came out of the water, he saw the heavens open and the Spirit, like a dove (bird), coming down onto

him. A voice from heaven said, 'You are my Son, the Beloved. I am pleased with you.'

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS CHRIST

Ash Wednesday

A READING FROM THE SCROLL ⇄ OF JOEL

Joel 2:12–18

‘Now,’ says the Lord, ‘Repent (be sorry) and come back to me, with fasting and weeping and mourning. Let your broken heart show your sorrow. Tearing your clothes is no good.’

Turn to the Lord again. He is kind and full of mercy. He is patient and keeps his promise. He is always ready to forgive and not punish. Who knows, maybe the Lord your God will change his mind and bless you with plenty of crops. Then you can offer him corn and wine.

Blow the trumpet. Proclaim a fast, and tell all people to come. Bring them together. Prepare them for a holy meeting. Bring old people. Bring the children and babies too. Recently married couples must leave their bedroom and come. The priests, serving the Lord in the Temple, weep (cry).

Let them all say:

“Have mercy on your people, Lord. Do not let the people in

other nations (countries) despise (shame) us. Do not let them mock us, “Where is your God?”

The Lord will show concern (care) and have mercy on his people.

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

Psalm 50

RESPONSE: **HAVE MERCY ON US, LORD, BECAUSE WE HAVE SINNED.**

HAVE MERCY ON US, LORD, BECAUSE WE HAVE SINNED.

Have mercy on me, God.

Wipe away my sins!

Because of your great compassion,

cleanse me and help me never sin again.

HAVE MERCY ON US, LORD, BECAUSE WE HAVE SINNED.

My sins I know

I can never forget.

I sinned against you Lord

Wicked, evil things I have done.

HAVE MERCY ON US, LORD, BECAUSE WE HAVE SINNED.

Ash Wednesday

Create (make) a pure heart within me, O God,
Put a strong spirit within me.
Give me your Holy Spirit
And I will proclaim your goodness.

**HAVE MERCY ON US, LORD,
BECAUSE WE HAVE SINNED.**

A READING FROM ST PAUL'S SECOND SCROLL ↕ TO THE CORINTHIANS

2 Corinthians 5:20 – 6:2

We are servants for Christ. We are here to speak for Christ, almost like God speaking to you through us. We urge (encourage) you to be reconciled (friends) with God. Christ had no sin but God made him share our suffering so that through Christ we could become good with God. We are working for God and we urge you not to ignore the grace God gave you.

God says: 'At the right time I listened to your prayers. I helped you on the day of salvation.'

Well, now is the right time; today is the day of salvation.

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

ACCLAMATION

Create (make) a pure heart within me, O God, and give me again the joy of your help.

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF MATTHEW

Matthew 6:1–6, 16–18

Jesus said to his disciples, 'Be careful not to show off your good works so that people see what you do. If you show off everything that you do, you will lose your reward from your Father in Heaven. When you give something to a needy person do not make a big show of it, like the hypocrites (two-faced) do in the synagogues and in the streets. They do it so people will see and praise them. I tell you the truth, they have already received their reward.'

Ash Wednesday

But when you help a needy person, do it in a way that your left hand does not know what your right hand is doing (in a way that your best friend does not know what you do). Your giving and helping must be secret, and your Father sees all that you do in secret will reward you.

And when you pray, do not copy the hypocrites! They love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, so that everyone can see them. I tell you the truth, they have already received their reward. But when you pray, go to your room, close the door, and pray to your Father - He is in that secret place - and your Father that sees everything you do in secret will reward you.

When you fast, do not show a miserable or sad face like the hypocrites do. They show long faces to let people know that they are fasting. I tell you the truth, they have already received their reward. But when you fast, wash your face, comb your hair, so that other people do not know that

you are fasting. Only your Father in Heaven will know. And your Father that sees everything that you do in secret will reward you.'

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS CHRIST

1st Sunday of Lent

A READING FROM THE SCROLL ⇌ OF GENESIS

Genesis 9:8–15

God spoke to Noah and his sons, 'Now I give my Covenant (promise) with you and your sons and your descendants (future children). My Covenant (promise) is also with all the birds and animals, all living animals in the boat with you. I promise I will never again flood the earth to destroy all living things. Never again will flood destroy the earth.' God said, 'I will give you something to prove that I made this promise with you and all living things. I will put my rainbow in the sky. This rainbow is proof of the Covenant (promise) between me and the earth. When I bring the clouds over the earth, the rainbow will appear, and when I see this rainbow I will remember the Covenant (promise) I made with you and all the living things on earth. The flood will never again destroy life on earth.'

THE WORD OF THE LORD THANKS BE TO GOD

Psalm 24

RESPONSE: THE PEOPLE THAT FOLLOW YOU BELIEVE YOUR WAYS ARE TRUTH AND LOVE.

THE PEOPLE THAT FOLLOW YOU BELIEVE YOUR WAYS ARE TRUTH AND LOVE.

Lord, teach me your ways.

Help me to live with the truth.

Teach me because you God are my Saviour.

Do not remember my sins, but give me your mercy and love.

THE PEOPLE THAT FOLLOW YOU BELIEVE YOUR WAYS ARE TRUTH AND LOVE.

The Lord is truly good.

He shows the way to sinners.

He leads humble people the right way.

He teaches his way to the poor.

THE PEOPLE THAT FOLLOW YOU BELIEVE YOUR WAYS ARE TRUTH AND LOVE.

1st Sunday of Lent

A READING FROM ST PETER'S FIRST SCROLL ↕

1 Peter 3:18–22

Christ died for us because of sins. Christ, a good man, died once and he died for all people. Christ died for all, so he could lead us to God. Christ suffered a terrible death; spiritually he continued living; he went and preached to the spirits in prison. Long ago, these people refused to obey God. God waited patiently for Noah to finish building the ark (boat). The ark (boat) saved only eight people 'by water.' That water is like a baptism that saves you now, not by washing away bodily dirt, but as a promise made to God from a good conscience. Through the resurrection of Jesus Christ you are saved by baptism, because he has gone to heaven and is at God's right side, ruling over all angels, authorities and powers.

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

ACCLAMATION

People cannot live only on bread, but can live on the word of God.

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF MARK

Mark 1:12–15

The Spirit sent Jesus into the desert and he remained there for forty (40) days. There the devil tempted Jesus. Wild animals were there also, but the angels looked after him.

After John the Baptist was put in prison, Jesus went into Galilee. Jesus preached the Good News from God and said, 'Now is the time, the kingdom of God is near. Change your lives, repent, and believe the Good News.'

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS CHRIST

2nd Sunday of Lent

A READING FROM THE SCROLL ⇌ OF GENESIS

Genesis 22:1–2, 9–13, 15–18

God tested Abraham; He told him to come. Abraham said, 'I am here.' God said, 'Abraham, take your son, Isaac, the one you love, and go to the land of Moriah. On a mountain there, I want you to give me Isaac as a sacrifice.'

They arrived at the place that God chose. Abraham prepared the wood for the sacrifice. Then Abraham picked up the knife to kill his son.

But the angel of the Lord shouted from heaven, 'Abraham, Abraham!' Abraham answered, 'I am here.' The angel said, 'Do not hurt the boy! Because now I know that you respect God. You did not refuse to offer your son to God.' Abraham looked round and saw a ram caught in a bush. Abraham took the ram and offered it as a burnt sacrifice.

The angel of the Lord spoke from heaven to Abraham a second (2nd) time, 'I promise that you will receive blessings from me

because you obeyed me. I will make your descendants (future children) as many as the stars of heaven. Your descendants will be as many as the sands on the seashore. Your people will conquer their enemies. Because you obeyed me, all peoples will be blessed.'

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

Psalm 115

RESPONSE: I WILL WALK IN THE PRESENCE OF THE LORD.

I WILL WALK IN THE PRESENCE OF THE LORD.

I trusted the Lord.

I trusted Him even as I suffered.

Lord, the death of good people is important to you.

I WILL WALK IN THE PRESENCE OF THE LORD.

Lord, I am your servant.

You freed me. I thank you.

I will keep the promise I made with the Lord in front of all the people.

I WILL WALK IN THE PRESENCE OF THE LORD.

2nd Sunday of Lent

A READING FROM ST PAUL'S SCROLL ↕ TO THE ROMANS

Romans 8:31–34

If God is with us, who can be against us? God let his Son suffer for us; God gave us his Son. So we can be sure that God will do anything for us. Who can accuse God's chosen people? If God says they are not guilty, then nobody can say they are guilty. Can Christ Jesus condemn them? No! Christ Jesus died for them; He rose from the dead, and is now at God's right side and praying for us.

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

ACCLAMATION

From the cloud, the Father said: 'This is my Son, the Beloved. Listen to him.'

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF MARK

Mark 9:2–10

Jesus took Peter, James and John and walked up a high mountain. They were alone with no other people. At the top of the

mountain, in front of the disciples, Jesus was transfigured (changed). His clothes became shining white. Elijah and Moses appeared and they were talking with Jesus. Peter said to Jesus: 'Rabbi, it is wonderful for us to be here, so let us make three tents, one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.' Peter did not know what he was talking about; the three disciples were frightened. Then a cloud came and covered the disciples. A voice from the cloud said, 'This is my Son, the Beloved. Listen to him.' Suddenly, the disciples looked around, they saw no one but only Jesus.

They came down the mountain. Jesus warned them not to tell anyone about the things they had seen, until after the Son of Man had risen from the dead. The disciples obeyed Jesus' order, but the three disciples discussed between themselves what 'rising from the dead' could mean.

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS CHRIST

3rd Sunday of Lent

[Short form read between *.....*]

A READING FROM THE SCROLL ⇔ OF EXODUS

Exodus 20:1-17

* God said, 'I am the Lord your God. I brought you out of Egypt. You were slaves there and I brought you out safely.

You will have no false gods but only me. *

You must not make idols - statues or carved images - or try to make anything on earth that looks like me. You should not bow and worship idols. Why? Because I am the Lord your God. I am the only God, there is no other god, and I will not accept you worshipping false gods. Those that worship false gods and hate me, I will punish them, the fathers, their children and grandchildren. But I will be kind to those that love me and follow my commandments.

* Do not use the name of the Lord your God the wrong way. If a person uses the name of God the wrong way, this person will be punished. *

You must remember the Sabbath day and keep it holy. You have six (6) days to do your work. But the seventh (7th) day is for me. On that day, no person should work - not you, nor your children, nor your slaves, nor your animals, nor the strangers that live with you in your place. Why? Because, for six (6) days, I the Lord, created the heavens and everything in the world, and on the seventh (7th) day, I rested. I, the Lord, blessed the sabbath day and made it holy.

* You must honour your father and your mother so that you will have a long life in the land your God gives you.

You must not kill.

You must not commit (do) adultery.

You must not steal.

You must not tell lies about other people.

You must not desire (want) another person's house. You must not desire (want) his wife, or his

3rd Sunday of Lent

servant man or woman, or his animals or anything that belongs to him.' *

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

Psalm 18

RESPONSE: **LORD, YOU HAVE THE MESSAGE OF ETERNAL LIFE.**

LORD, YOU HAVE THE MESSAGE OF ETERNAL LIFE.

The law of the Lord is perfect.

The law gives new strength.

God's law gives wisdom to the people.

God's law makes people happy.

LORD, YOU HAVE THE MESSAGE OF ETERNAL LIFE.

God's laws are good.

God's laws show people the right way to live.

All his laws are true and just and fair.

Lord, let my thoughts and my words (signs) and actions make you happy.

LORD, YOU HAVE THE MESSAGE OF ETERNAL LIFE.

A READING FROM ST PAUL'S FIRST SCROLL ↕ TO THE CORINTHIANS

1 Corinthians 1:22-25

The Jews want miracles, the Greeks look for wisdom, but we preach a crucified Christ. The Jews find this message difficult to accept. Those that don't believe in God think the message we preach is mad. But to all those people God has chosen - Jews and Greeks equally (the same) - the message is a crucified Christ, the power of God and the wisdom of God. God's foolishness is more wise than people's wisdom. God's weakness is stronger (more strong) than people's strength.

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

3rd Sunday of Lent

ACCLAMATION

Jesus said, 'I am the resurrection and the life. Any person that believes in me will never die.'

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF JOHN

John 2:13-25

Just before the Jewish Passover, Jesus went to Jerusalem. There in the Temple Jesus saw people selling cattle, sheep and pigeons, and people sitting at tables changing money. Jesus found a rope, made a whip and forced all these people out of the Temple, cattle and sheep as well. Jesus pushed the tables over and threw the money onto the floor. Then Jesus said to the people selling pigeons, 'Take these out of here! Stop making my Father's house into a market place!' Then the disciples remembered the words of scripture (Bible): 'My devotion to your house burns in me like a fire.' The Jewish leaders said to Jesus, 'What sign or miracle can you give us to prove that you

have the right to do this?' Jesus answered, 'Destroy this Temple and in three days I will build it up again.' The Jewish leaders replied, 'The people worked for forty-six (46) years to build this Temple. Can you really build it in three days?' But Jesus really meant his body as the Temple, and when Jesus rose from the dead, his disciples remembered Jesus had said this. The disciples believed the scripture (Bible) and the words of Jesus.

Jesus stayed in Jerusalem for the Passover. While he was there many people saw the signs that Jesus gave and they believed in him. But Jesus knew them all and he did not trust them. He himself knew what was in their hearts.

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS CHRIST

4th Sunday of Lent

A READING FROM THE SECOND SCROLL ⇄ OF CHRONICLES

Chronicles 36:14–16, 19–23

The Lord made the Temple holy but the leaders of Judah, the priests and the people, followed the sinful examples of other peoples, worshipping idols, and they defiled (spoil) the House of the Lord. The Lord God sent prophets again and again to warn them. The Lord wanted to save them but they mocked the prophets that God sent; they did not like the prophets' messages, they laughed at them. In the end, God was very angry with his people, and they would not escape from God's punishment.

King Nebuchadnezzar and his army burnt down the Temple of God. They destroyed the walls of Jerusalem. They burnt the palaces, and destroyed all valuable things. Then the king's army took the Jewish people to Babylon. This happened exactly as the Lord said through the prophet Jeremiah: 'Because for seventy (70) years the Jews did

not bother to keep or follow the sabbath, they would be in exile (foreign land) for seventy (70) years.'

In the first (1st) year that Cyrus was King of Persia, the Lord inspired Cyrus to make a special announcement. Again, this happened exactly as the Lord said earlier through Jeremiah. Cyrus ordered his messengers to announce in all places in Persia: 'The Lord, the God of heaven, gave me control of all countries on earth; he gave me the responsibility of building a Temple in Jerusalem, in Judah. All you people of God, you are free to go. Go with your God.'

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

4th Sunday of Lent

Psalm 136

RESPONSE: **LORD, DO NOT LET US FORGET YOU.**

**LORD,
DO NOT LET US FORGET YOU.**

We sat near the rivers of Babylon
and we cried,

Because we remembered
Jerusalem.

We were prisoners in another
country

And we could not sing.

**LORD,
DO NOT LET US FORGET YOU.**

How could we sing in a foreign
country?

If I forget Jerusalem,
then I will never be able to play
the harp again.

Lord, do not let us forget you.

**LORD,
DO NOT LET US FORGET YOU.**

**A READING FROM ST PAUL'S
SCROLL ↕ TO THE EPHESIANS**

Ephesians 2:4–10

God loved us very much, his
mercy was great. Because of our
sins, we were spiritually dead, but

God gave us new life with Christ.
You have been saved through
grace. God raised us up with
Christ Jesus and gave us a place
with his Son in heaven.

This shows that God is so good to
us. God is always full of grace.
Because of your faith God gave
you grace and saved you. You did
not save yourselves. No one can
say they saved themselves, but
only through the gift of God. God
created us in Jesus Christ so that
we could live the way that God
wanted from the beginning of the
world.

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

ACCLAMATION

God loved the world so much
that He gave us His only Son. Any
person that believes in Him has
eternal life.

4th Sunday of Lent

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF JOHN

John 3:14–21

Jesus said to Nicodemus:

‘Moses lifted up the snake in the desert. In the same way, the Son of Man must be lifted up [on the cross] so that each person that believes in him (Jesus) will have eternal life. God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son. God gave his Son so that any person that believes in his Son would not be lost, but live forever. God sent his Son into the world, not to condemn the world, but to save the world through his Son. Any person that believes in him (Jesus) will not be condemned. But any person that refuses to believe is condemned already. Why? Because that person refused to believe in the name of God’s only Son; and they will be judged. The light (Jesus) has come into the world, but people did not want the light (Jesus). They preferred the darkness (sin) because their life was evil. Any person that does evil things hates the light and

avoids the light. Why? Because the light will show all the evil things that person has done. But the person that lives with truth, will live in the light. The light will show that this person obeys God and lives in God.’

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS CHRIST

5th Sunday of Lent

Psalm 50

A READING FROM THE SCROLL ⇌ OF JEREMIAH

Jeremiah 31:31–34

The Lord said, ‘Soon I will make a new covenant (promise) with the House of Israel and the House of Judah. But the covenant (promise) will not be the same as I made with their people long ago when I took them out of Egypt. They did not keep or follow the covenant (promise) so I had to show them I was the master (boss). Through the new covenant (promise) that I will make with the people of Israel, I will write my law in their hearts. I will be their God, and they will be my people. People will not have to teach other people to know the Lord because they will all know me. All, from the least to the greatest, will know me. I, the Lord, say this: I will not remember the evil things they have done, I will forgive their sins.’

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

RESPONSE: O GOD, GIVE ME A PURE HEART.

O GOD, GIVE ME A PURE HEART.

Have mercy on me, God.

Wipe away my sins!

Because of your great
compassion,

cleanse me and help me never sin
again.

O GOD, GIVE ME A PURE HEART.

Create (make) a pure heart within
me, O God,

Put a strong spirit within me.

Give me the joy of your Holy
Spirit

And I will proclaim your
goodness.

O GOD, GIVE ME A PURE HEART.

A READING FROM THE SCROLL ⇕ TO THE HEBREWS

Hebrews 5:7–9

During Jesus’ life on earth, Jesus
prayed to God and asked for
help. God had the power to save

5th Sunday of Lent

Jesus from death. Jesus prayed aloud, also with silent tears. And because Jesus was so humble, God heard his prayers. Jesus was God's Son but he learnt to obey through suffering; because Jesus was made perfect, all those that obey him receive eternal salvation.

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

ACCLAMATION

Jesus said, 'If a person wants to serve me, this person must follow me. Wherever I am, my servant will be there too.'

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF JOHN

John 12:20–30

During the Passover in Jerusalem many people went to worship, and some Greeks were there as well. The Greeks approached Philip. Philip himself was from Bethsaida in Galilee. They asked

him, 'We would like to see Jesus.' Philip went to tell Andrew, and both Andrew and Philip went to tell Jesus.

Jesus replied: 'Now the time has come for the Son of Man to receive glory. I tell you the truth. If a grain of wheat does not fall to the ground and die, it will never grow and make more seeds. But if it falls and dies, it will grow and make many seeds.'

Any person that loves their life will lose it (life). Any person that hates their life in this world will keep that life and that person will live forever. Any person that wants to serve me must follow me, so that wherever I am, my servant will be there with me also. My Father will honour any person that serves me.

Now, my heart is in distress. What can I say: "Father, save me from this time of suffering?" No, I came into this world, so that through suffering I will be able to give glory to my Father's name!'

5th Sunday of Lent

A voice from heaven said, 'I have brought glory to that name and I will do it again.'

The people standing there heard the voice. They said it was thunder. Other people said, 'An angel spoke to him!' But Jesus said to the people, 'The voice that you heard was for you, not for me. Now is the time for this world to be judged. Now the devil will be thrown out. And when I am lifted up from the earth, I will invite all people to come to me.'

Jesus said this to show the way he would die.

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS CHRIST

Passion Sunday (Palm Sunday)

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF MARK

Mark 11:1–10

Jesus and his disciples were approaching Jerusalem. They were near the village of Bethphage and Bethany, near the Mount of Olives. Jesus said to two of his disciples, 'Go into the village. When you enter, you will see a young donkey there. The young donkey will be tied and no person has ridden this donkey. Bring the donkey to me. If any person asks you why you are taking the donkey, say, "The Master needs this donkey and will bring it back soon.'" They went and found a young donkey tied near a door in the open street. The disciples took the donkey but some men standing there said, 'What are you doing? Why are you taking the donkey?' The disciples told them what Jesus had said to them and the men let them go. The disciples brought the young donkey to Jesus. They put their coats on the donkey and Jesus sat on it. Many people spread their coats on the road for

Jesus. Other people cut palms (green leaves) in the fields and spread them on the road. The people went in front of Jesus, and other people followed behind Jesus. All the people shouted, 'Hosanna! Blessings on him! He comes in the name of the Lord! The kingdom of our father, David, is coming! Hosanna in the highest heavens!'

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS CHRIST

Alternative Gospel Year B

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF JOHN

John 12:12–16

In Jerusalem, the crowds waiting for the Passover festival heard that Jesus was coming. They cut branches of palm trees and went to meet Jesus; they shouted 'Hosanna! Blessings on the King of Israel, He comes in the name of the Lord.' Jesus found a young donkey and rode on it. This happened the same as Scripture

Passion Sunday (Palm Sunday)

says: 'Do not be afraid, daughter of Zion; see, your king is coming, riding on a young donkey.' At that time the disciples did not understand what was happening. But after Jesus was raised to glory, they remembered and understood all that the Scriptures said about Jesus and that this was the way things happened to Jesus.

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD **PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS** **CHRIST**

A READING FROM **THE SCROLL ⇔ OF ISAIAH**

Isaiah 50:4-7

The Lord has given me language. So I will know what to say to those that are tired and worn-out. Every morning the Lord wakes me and teaches me how to listen. The Lord opened my mind. I did not object nor turn away. I let people whip my back. I let people pull my beard. They swore and insulted me, but I did not turn away from them nor cover my

face. They spat in my face. The Lord helps me: people's insults (swearing/criticism) cannot hurt me. I will be strong, firm. I know I will not be ashamed of myself.

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

Psalm 21

RESPONSE: MY GOD, MY GOD,
WHY DID YOU ABANDON
(LEAVE) ME?

MY GOD, MY GOD, WHY DID
YOU ABANDON (LEAVE) ME?

All people that see me, mock me. They shake their head and say, 'You trusted in the Lord.

Why does God not save you?'

MY GOD, MY GOD, WHY DID
YOU ABANDON (LEAVE) ME?

People, like dogs, are all around me.

Evil people are ready to attack me like a lion.

They bite and make holes in my hands and feet.

I can see my bones!

MY GOD, MY GOD, WHY DID
YOU ABANDON (LEAVE) ME?

Passion Sunday (Palm Sunday)

They gamble for my clothes.
O Lord, don't leave me, come
quickly to help me.
I will tell people about you.
I will praise you.

**MY GOD, MY GOD, WHY DID
YOU ABANDON (LEAVE) ME?**

A READING FROM ST PAUL'S SCROLL ↕ TO THE PHILIPPIANS

Philippians 2:6–11

Jesus Christ was holy. Jesus was God but he gave up his power as God to become the most humble of all people. He became a slave. He became human the same as all people, and he lived as a man. He became so humble that he accepted death, death on a cross. But God raised him to the highest heaven. God gave him the name that is more important than all other names. So everybody, in heaven, on earth, and under the earth, will kneel down and honour the name of Jesus. All will praise God the Father and say that Jesus Christ is Lord.

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

ACCLAMATION

Christ was humble and he accepted death on a cross. But God raised him high and gave him the name that is above all other names.

[Short form read between *.....*]

N Narrative

+ Jesus Christ

P People

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF MARK

Mark 14:1 – 15:47

N Two days before the Passover and the feast of Unleavened Bread (thin flat bread with no yeast), the chief priests and the scribes (writers) were trying to find a way to catch Jesus and kill him. They said,

Passion Sunday (Palm Sunday)

P 'We cannot arrest Jesus during the feast, or the people will make trouble.'

N Jesus was in Bethany, in the house of Simon the leper. Jesus was eating. A woman came into the house with a jar full of expensive oil mixed with perfume. She opened the jar and poured the special oil on Jesus' head. Some people there were annoyed and they said to each other,

P 'Why waste expensive oil? This special oil could be sold for over three hundred denarii, and the money given to the poor.'

N They were angry with the woman, but Jesus said,

† 'Leave her alone! Why do you upset her? You will always have poor people with you, and you can be kind to them any time you want. But you will not always have me. This woman did what she could. She poured the perfumed oil on me to prepare my body

for burial. I tell you the truth, when the Good News (Gospel) is preached all over the world, people will remember what this woman did for me.'

N Judas Iscariot, one of the twelve (12) apostles, went to see the chief priests. Judas had a plan to catch Jesus for the chief priests. They were pleased and they promised to give money to Judas. So Judas waited and prepared his plans.

On the first day of the feast of Unleavened Bread (thin flat bread), the Jews killed lambs to celebrate the Passover. The disciples said to Jesus,

P 'Where do you want us to go and make the preparations for you to eat the Passover?'

N Jesus sent two of his disciples and said to them,

† 'Go into the city and you will meet a man carrying a jug of water. Follow him, and when

Passion Sunday (Palm Sunday)

he enters a house you must say to the owner of that house, "The Master says: Where is the room so that I can eat the Passover with my disciples?" He will show you a large upper room with tables and seats. You make the preparations there for us.'

N The two (2) disciples went into the city and everything happened as Jesus said. They prepared the Passover.

In the evening, Jesus arrived with the twelve (12) apostles. While they were eating at the table, Jesus said,

+ 'I tell you the truth, one of you eating with me, will betray me.'

N They were upset and each apostle asked Jesus,

P 'Surely not me!'

N Jesus said to them,

+ 'One of the twelve (12) apostles here, the one that puts his bread into the same

bowl with me. The Son of Man will die as the scriptures (Bible) say he will. But it will be worse for the person that betrayed the Son of Man. Better for that person if he had never been born!'

N While they were eating, Jesus took some bread. Jesus said a prayer of thanks, broke the bread, and gave it to them. He said,

+ 'Take the bread. This is my body.'

N Then Jesus took a cup and after a prayer of thanks, he gave the cup to his apostles. All drank from the cup and Jesus said to them,

+ 'This is my blood, the blood of the covenant (God's promise) that will be poured out for many. I tell you the truth, I will not drink any more wine until the day I drink the new wine in the kingdom of God.'

Passion Sunday (Palm Sunday)

- N After singing psalms, they all went to the Mount of Olives. Jesus said to them,
- † ‘All of you will lose faith. It is written in the scripture (Bible): "The shepherd will be killed and the sheep will run away." But after my resurrection I will go to Galilee and wait there for you.’
- N Peter said,
- P ‘If all lose faith, I will not abandon (leave) you.’
- N Jesus said to him,
- † ‘I tell you the truth. Tonight, before the cock crows (bird sings) twice, you will three times say that you don’t know me.’
- N But Peter strongly replied,
- P ‘If I have to die with you, I will never say I don’t know you.’
- N All the apostles said the same. They came to a small garden called Gethsemane. Jesus said to his disciples,
- † ‘Stay here while I pray.’
- N Jesus took Peter, James and John with him. Suddenly Jesus became distressed (very upset) and frightened. He said to them,
- † ‘I’m very sad, it is breaking my heart. Wait here and stay awake.’
- N Jesus walked a bit further from the three apostles. Jesus threw himself to the ground and prayed that he would not have to suffer. He said,
- † ‘Abba Father! You can do anything. Take away this cup of suffering from me. But I will do what you want, not what I want.’
- N Jesus went back and found the apostles sleeping. Jesus said to Peter,
- † ‘Simon Peter, why are you sleeping? Why can’t you stay awake with me for one hour? Pray that you will not be tempted. The spirit is eager but the body is weak.’

Passion Sunday (Palm Sunday)

N Again Jesus went away and he prayed saying the same words. Once more Jesus came back and found the apostles sleeping, their eyes were so heavy. The apostles did not know what to say to Jesus. After Jesus prayed a third time, he came back and he said to the three (3) apostles,

+ 'You can sleep and rest now. It is too late! The time has come. Now someone will soon betray the Son of Man to evil people. Get up! Let us go!'

N While Jesus was speaking, Judas, one of the twelve (12) apostles, came with a group of Jewish men with swords and clubs, sent by the Jewish chief priests, the scribes (writers), and their leaders.

Judas had already arranged with the Jewish men how he would betray Jesus:

P 'The man I kiss is the person you want. Arrest him and guard him carefully.'

N So when Judas arrived, he went straight to Jesus and said,

P 'Rabbi!' (Teacher)

N And Judas kissed Jesus. The men arrested Jesus. One person standing there took out his sword and hit the servant of the high priest cutting off his ear.

Then Jesus said,

+ 'Why did you come to arrest me with swords and clubs? Did you think I am a rebel (trouble-maker)? Everyday I was with you teaching in the Temple and you did not arrest me. But this must happen; it is as the scriptures (Bible) says.'

N All the apostles left Jesus and ran away.

A young man wearing only a thin linen cloth followed Jesus. The men tried to arrest him, but the young man ran away naked leaving the cloth in their hands.

Passion Sunday (Palm Sunday)

The men brought Jesus to the high priest's palace. All the Jewish chief priests, and the leaders and scribes (writers) were there. Peter followed behind Jesus. Peter went into the yard of the high priest's palace. There Peter sat with the guards, keeping himself warm near the fire.

The chief priests and all the Jewish council tried to find something against Jesus so that they could condemn him to death. But they could find nothing. Many witnesses told lies against Jesus, but their stories were false. Some people stood and told this lie against Jesus,

P 'We heard Jesus say: "I will destroy this Temple made by human hands, and build another in three days not made by human hands."'

N All their stories were different. The high priest stood in front of all the Jewish council and he asked Jesus this question,

P 'What do you say about that? The things they say, are they true?'

N But Jesus did not answer, he said nothing. The high priest asked Jesus another question,

P 'Are you the Christ, the Son of the Blessed God?'

N Jesus said,

+ 'Yes I am, and you will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of Almighty God and coming with the clouds of heaven.'

N The high priest tore his robes (clothes) and said,

P 'We don't need any more witnesses! You heard his blasphemy (terrible swearing against God). What is your decision?'

N They all agreed and said Jesus was guilty and should be condemned to death.

Some people there began spitting at Jesus. They

Passion Sunday (Palm Sunday)

blindfolded him and hit him; they shouted,

P 'Who hit you? Play the prophet!'

N The guards also hit Jesus.

Peter was still in the yard. One of the servant-girls of the high priest came. She saw Peter trying to warm himself near the fire. She stared (looked straight) at him and said,

P 'You were with Jesus, the man from Nazareth.'

N But Peter denied this (said no) and said,

P 'I do not know, I don't understand what you are talking about.'

N Then Peter went into the outer yard. The servant-girl saw Peter and started telling other people,

P 'This man (Peter) is one of Jesus' friends.'

N But again Peter denied this (said no). Not long after, other people standing near Peter, said to him,

P 'You are one of the apostles. We know because your accent (voice) tells us you come from Galilee.'

N But Peter became angry and swore,

P 'I don't know the man you are talking about.'

N Immediately, the cock crew (bird sang) for the second time. Peter remembered Jesus had told him,

† 'Before the cock crows (sings) twice, you will say three times that you don't know me.'

N Peter was very upset and he cried.

* Very early in the morning, the Jewish chief priests, the leaders, the scribes (writers), and all the Jewish council had their plan ready. They tied

Passion Sunday (Palm Sunday)

Jesus and brought him to Pilate.

Pilate questioned Jesus,

P 'Are you the king of the Jews?'

N Jesus answered,

† 'You say so.'

N The chief priests accused Jesus of many things. So Pilate questioned Jesus again,

P 'These people accuse you of many things! What do you say?'

N Pilate was amazed because Jesus said nothing.

Every year, during the feast of the Passover, Pilate usually freed one prisoner chosen by the people. Now there was a man called Barabbas; he was in prison with other men because they rebelled (made trouble) and murdered people. So when the crowd gathered (came together), they asked Pilate to free one prisoner because of the

Passover feast. Pilate asked the people,

P 'Do you want me to free the king of the Jews?'

N Pilate knew that the chief priests were jealous of Jesus, that was why they brought Jesus to Pilate. But the chief priests had persuaded the people in the crowd, telling them it was better to free Barabbas, not Jesus. Pilate spoke to the people again,

P 'What do you want me to do with Jesus, the king of the Jews?'

N The people shouted,

P 'Crucify him!'

N Pilate asked them,

P 'Why? What wrong has Jesus done?'

N But everybody shouted louder,

P 'Crucify him!'

N Pilate wanted to please the people and keep the peace,

Passion Sunday (Palm Sunday)

so he freed Barabbas. He ordered Jesus to be whipped and then crucified.

The Roman soldiers led Jesus inside the palace, to a place called the Praetorium. All the soldiers were there. They put a purple robe on Jesus. They made a crown from thorns and pushed it on Jesus' head. Then they began to mock Jesus,

P 'Hail, king of the Jews!'

N The soldiers hit Jesus with a stick. They spat on him, and they knelt in front of Jesus, bowed and mocked him. When the soldiers had finished, they took off the purple robe and gave Jesus his clothes.

The soldiers brought Jesus outside to crucify him. On the way, they saw a man named Simon of Cyrene, the father of Alexander and Rufus, coming into the city from his country. The soldiers forced Simon to help carry the cross for Jesus.

They arrived at a place called Golgotha, meaning 'The Place of the Skull.'

The soldiers offered Jesus wine mixed with myrrh but he refused to drink. The soldiers crucified Jesus. They divided his clothes and gambled with dice to see who would win Jesus' clothes. It was nine o'clock in the morning when the soldiers crucified Jesus. There was a notice that said: 'THE KING OF THE JEWS.' The soldiers also crucified two thieves with Jesus, one on the right and one on the left.

People walking near the cross shook their heads. They mocked him and said,

P 'You said you could destroy the temple and build it again in three days! So come down from the cross and save yourself!'

N The chief priests and the scribes (writers) also mocked Jesus. They said,

Passion Sunday (Palm Sunday)

P 'He saved other people but he cannot save himself! Let the Christ, the king of Israel, come down from the cross now, and we will believe him!'

N The thieves crucified with Jesus also mocked him.

At noon (12 o'clock), it became dark all over the land for three hours until three o'clock. At three o'clock, Jesus shouted with a loud voice,

† 'Eloi, Eloi, lama sabachthani?'

N This means,

† 'My God, my God, why have you abandoned (leave) me?'

N Some people standing near the cross heard Jesus, and they said,

P 'Look! Jesus is calling for (asking for) Elijah!'

N One person ran and soaked a sponge in vinegar, put the sponge on a stick, and gave it to Jesus to taste. That person said,

P 'Wait and see if Elijah will come to save Jesus.'

N Jesus gave a loud shout and stopped breathing.

SILENCE

Wait/kneel for one minute

The curtain in the Temple was torn in two from top to bottom. The centurion (Roman officer) standing in front of the cross, saw Jesus had died and said,

P 'Truly, this man was the son of God.'

N Some women were watching a little further from the cross - Mary of Magdala, Mary the mother of the younger James and Joset, and Salome. They used to follow Jesus and looked after him when he was in Galilee. Many other women were also there, they had come to Jerusalem with Jesus.

Passion Sunday (Palm Sunday)

It was now evening, and because it was Preparation Day (the day before the Sabbath), a man named Joseph came from Arimathaea. He was an important member of the Jewish council, and was hoping to see the kingdom of God. He bravely went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Pilate was surprised to hear that Jesus was already dead. Pilate ordered the Roman officer to come and asked him if Jesus was already dead. The Roman officer told Pilate that Jesus was dead, so Pilate told Joseph that he could have the body. Joseph bought a shroud (special white cloth). He took the body down from the cross and wrapped the body in the shroud and buried the body in the tomb. The tomb was a hole made in a rock. Then Joseph covered the tomb with a large stone. Mary of Magdala and Mary the mother of Jesus were

watching. They saw where the body was buried. *

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS CHRIST

Chrism Mass

A READING FROM THE SCROLL ⇔ OF ISAIAH

Isaiah 61:1–3, 6, 8–9

The spirit of the Lord has been given to me because the Lord anointed me. The Lord chose me to go and tell the Good News to poor people; to heal broken hearts; to tell those suffering from oppression that they are now free; to those imprisoned freedom; to proclaim the Lord's year of favour; to comfort those that mourn; to take away ashes and give them a garland (flowers around neck); to take away their sadness and give them the oil of happiness; to take away their despair (depression) so that they can praise the Lord.

You will be named 'priests of the Lord'; people will say you are 'servants of our God'.

The Lord says, 'I will give them reward and make an eternal covenant (promise) with them.'

These people and their future people will be famous all over the world. All people that see them

will say they are a people chosen and blessed by God.

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

Psalm 88

RESPONSE: **LORD, I WILL SING ABOUT YOUR LOVE FOREVER.**

LORD, I WILL SING ABOUT YOUR LOVE FOREVER.

God said: I chose David my servant,
and I anointed him with my holy oil.

I will always be with him to protect him.

LORD, I WILL SING ABOUT YOUR LOVE FOREVER.

My truth and my love will be with David.

He (David) will say to me: 'You are my father,
my God, the rock that saves me.'

LORD, I WILL SING ABOUT YOUR LOVE FOREVER.

Chrism Mass

A READING FROM THE SCROLL ↕ OF REVELATION

Revelation 1:5–8

Grace and peace to you from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness. He was the First to rise from death. He is the Ruler of all the kings in the world. He loves us, and through his blood and his death, he took away our sins. He made us kings and priests to serve his God and Father. To Jesus Christ be glory and power for ever and ever! Amen. Look! He (Jesus) is coming on the clouds. Everybody will see him, including those that pierced (put spear through) him. All people on earth will mourn over him. This is the truth. Amen. The Lord God Almighty says, 'I am the Alpha, the First. I am the Omega, the Last.' Yes, He (God) is, He was and He will come again!

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

ACCLAMATION

PRAISE TO YOU, O CHRIST, KING OF ETERNAL GLORY.

The spirit of the Lord has been given to me; the Lord chose me to go and tell the Good News to poor people.

PRAISE TO YOU, O CHRIST, KING OF ETERNAL GLORY.

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF LUKE

Luke 4:16–21

Jesus came to Nazara, the place he was brought up. On the sabbath day, Jesus went into the synagogue as he usually did. He stood up to read and someone gave him the scroll of the prophet Isaiah. Jesus rolled open the scroll and found the quote he wanted to read:

'The spirit of the Lord has been given to me, because the Lord anointed me. The Lord chose me to go and tell the Good News to poor people; to tell those imprisoned that they are free; to tell blind people that they can

Chrism Mass

now see, to tell those in despair that they are free, to proclaim the Lord's year of favour.'

Jesus rolled up the scroll and gave it back to the assistant (servant), and sat down. Everybody in the synagogue looked at him. Then Jesus began to speak to them, 'This writing from the Scripture (Bible) is happening today, the same time as you listen.'

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

**PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS
CHRIST**

The Lord's Supper

A READING FROM THE SCROLL ⇄ OF EXODUS

Exodus 12:1-8, 11-14

When Moses and Aaron were in Egypt, the Lord said to them, 'You must tell all the people:

"This month will be the first month of the year for you. On the tenth day of this month, each man must take an animal, one for each family. If his family is too small to eat an animal, they must share with their neighbour. It must be a sheep or goat, one year old, male (boy) and healthy. You should keep the animal until the 14th day of the month. On that day, all the people of the community of Israel must kill it before night. You must take the same blood and put it on the doorposts and above the doors of your house.

That night, you must roast the meat over the fire and eat all of the meat. It must be eaten with unleavened bread (flat bread made without yeast) and bitter herbs. You must eat it quickly, with sandals on your feet, a staff

in your hand, ready to travel. It is a passover in honour of the Lord.

That night I will go through Egypt and kill each first-born boy and animal. I will punish all the gods of Egypt. I am the Lord. The blood on the doorposts of your house will be a sign. When I see it I will pass over your house and I will not kill. You must remember this day forever and you will celebrate it as a feast to honour the Lord."

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

Psalms 115

RESPONSE: **THE CUP THAT WE BLESS IS THE BLOOD OF CHRIST.**

THE CUP THAT WE BLESS IS THE BLOOD OF CHRIST.

How can I thank the Lord?
God has been good to me.
I will offer him the cup of salvation.

I will pray to the Lord.

THE CUP THAT WE BLESS IS THE BLOOD OF CHRIST.

The Lord's Supper

The death of good faithful people is special to the Lord.

I am your servant, Lord, you freed me.

I will give you a thanksgiving sacrifice.

I will pray to the Lord and I will keep my promises always.

THE CUP THAT WE BLESS IS THE BLOOD OF CHRIST.

A READING FROM ST PAUL'S FIRST SCROLL ↕ TO THE CORINTHIANS

1 Corinthians 11:23–26

I received this teaching from the Lord. Now, I give you this teaching: the night Jesus was betrayed, the Lord Jesus took some bread and thanked God. He broke the bread and said, 'This is my body, for you. Do this to remember me.'

In the same way, after supper, Jesus took the cup and said, 'This cup is the new covenant (promise) in my blood. Every time you drink this cup, remember me.'

So, until the Lord comes again, every time you eat this bread and drink this cup, you are proclaiming the death of the Lord Jesus.

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

ACCLAMATION

Jesus said, 'Love one another the same as I have loved you.'

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF JOHN

John 13:1–15

The day before the feast of the Jewish Passover, Jesus knew that the time had come for him to leave the world and to go to his Father. Jesus had always loved his people in the world. Now Jesus wanted to show that his love was perfect.

Jesus and his disciples were having supper. The devil had already persuaded Judas Iscariot to betray Jesus. Jesus knew that

The Lord's Supper

the Father had given everything to him, and that he himself came from God, and that he will return (go back) to God his Father. Jesus stood up and took off his robe. He took a towel and tied it around his waist. Then he poured water into a basin and began to wash the disciples' feet and dry them with the towel.

Jesus came to Simon Peter, and Peter said, 'Lord, why wash my feet?' Jesus answered, 'At the moment, you don't know what I'm doing, but later you will understand.' Peter said, 'Never! You will never wash my feet.' Jesus replied, 'If you do not let me wash you, then you cannot be my disciple.' Simon Peter said, 'Lord! Wash my feet, and wash my hands, and my head as well!' Jesus said, 'When people have a bath, they have no need to wash again, they are clean. All of you are clean, but one of you is not.' Jesus knew who was going to betray him, that was why he said, 'All of you are clean, but one of you is not clean.'

When Jesus had finished washing their feet, he put on his robe and sat down at the table. He asked his disciples, 'Do you understand what I have done to you? You call me "Lord" and "Teacher". You are right, because I am your Lord and Teacher. But I have washed your feet, like a servant. So, you too should wash each other's feet. I have given you an example, so that you may copy what I have done to you.'

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS CHRIST

Good Friday

A READING FROM THE SCROLL ⇄ OF ISAIAH

Isaiah 52:13 – 53:12

The Lord said, 'Look at my servant. He will be successful. He will be very important and highly honoured.

But many people will be shocked when they see him. He will look terrible, he will be so badly bruised that he will not look human. The crowds will be amazed (surprised), and kings will stand open-mouthed when they see something they've never heard or seen before. People will say, "Who could believe what we have seen and heard, who could believe what the Lord has shown us?"

He grew up like a small plant, spreading roots in dry land. We saw him - no beauty, nothing special. Nothing good to our eyes. He looked terrible, we rejected him. He suffered, he is sad. People will not look at him, they will turn away and ignore him.

But he took away our sufferings, he took away our pain. He accepted the pain for us. We thought God punished him. He was wounded (hurt) because of our faults, crushed because of our sins. His punishment brings peace. Through his sufferings, we are healed (made better). Each of us was like a sheep that is lost, each of us trying to find our way. But the Lord accepted the punishment, the punishment that we should have because of our sins. The Lord is patient and humble. He never opened his mouth. He is like a sheep that is taken to be killed, he never said a word.

The men arrested him by force and by law. No one cared about him. He was taken away from the living people. Because of our faults, he was condemned to death. He was buried with wicked and rich people, but he had done nothing wrong and he never told lies. The Lord let him suffer so that his death would be the sacrifice that brings us forgiveness. But my servant will see his people. He will

Good Friday

have a long life. Through him, what the Lord wants will happen.

When his suffering is over (finished), he will see light and will be happy and peaceful. Through his sufferings, my servant will shoulder (carry on his shoulders) the faults (sins) of many people and free them from their sins.

Because he gave his life for us, because he has taken away our faults, because he prays for us sinners; I (the Lord) will honour him. I will make him a great man among his people.'

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

Psalm 30

RESPONSE: **FATHER,
MY SPIRIT I GIVE TO YOU.**

**FATHER,
MY SPIRIT I GIVE TO YOU.**

Lord, you are my defence.
I will never be ashamed.
In your justice, save me.
I will give you my spirit.

**FATHER,
MY SPIRIT I GIVE TO YOU.**

When my enemies and my friends see me in the street, they turn away from me.

I am like a dead man, people forget me.

But I say: 'You are my God, I trust you.'

My life is in your hands.

**FATHER,
MY SPIRIT I GIVE TO YOU.**

A READING FROM THE SCROLL ↕ TO THE HEBREWS

Hebrews 4:14–16, 5:7–9

Jesus, the Son of God, is our great high priest. He has gone to heaven. We must never give up our faith. This high priest, Jesus, really understands and feels our weaknesses because he had temptations the same as us but he never sinned. So, let us have confidence. We can approach God's throne, and we will receive mercy from God and find grace when we need help.

Good Friday

While Jesus was alive on earth, he prayed to God and asked for help. God had the power to save Jesus from death. Jesus prayed aloud, and also prayed with silent tears. And because Jesus was so humble, God heard his prayers. Jesus was God's Son but he learnt to obey through suffering. And when Jesus was made perfect, all that obey him receive eternal salvation.

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

ACCLAMATION

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

N Narrative
† Jesus Christ
P People

THE PASSION OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST FROM THE GOSPEL OF JOHN

John 18:1 – 19:42

N Jesus went through the valley of Kedron with his disciples and they went into the garden there. Judas knew the place well because Jesus met his disciples in the garden many times. Judas brought a group of soldiers and Temple guards sent by the chief priests and the Pharisees. They all had lamps and swords. Jesus knew that everything would happen to him, so Jesus approached them and said,

† 'Who are you looking for?'

N They answered,

P 'We are looking for Jesus from Nazareth.'

N Jesus said,

Good Friday

† 'I am Jesus from Nazareth.'

N Judas stood with the group of men. When Jesus said, 'I am Jesus from Nazareth', the men were surprised, and moved back and fell to the ground. Jesus asked a second time,

† 'Who are you looking for?'

N They said,

P 'Jesus from Nazareth.'

N Jesus replied,

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

N This happened exactly as Jesus had said when he prayed to his father, 'You gave me disciples and I have not lost one of them.'

Simon Peter had a sword, he took it out and hit the servant of the high priest, cutting off his right ear. The servant's name was Malchus. Jesus said to Peter,

† 'Put it back! Do you want to stop me drinking the cup of suffering that the Father has given me?'

N The soldiers, the captain and the Jewish Temple guards arrested Jesus. They tied him and brought him, first to Annas, because Annas was the father-in-law of Caiaphas. Caiaphas was the high priest that year. Caiaphas had already told the Jews, 'It is better for one man to die for the people.'

Simon Peter and another disciple followed Jesus. This other disciple knew the high priest. This disciple went to the high priest's palace with Peter. But Peter waited outside the door. The other disciple, the one that knew the high priest, went out and spoke to the woman guarding the door and brought Peter into the yard. The woman guarding the door said to Peter,

Good Friday

- P 'Are you a disciple of Jesus'
- N Peter answered,
- P 'I am not.'
- N It was cold, so the servants and the guards made a fire. They were standing around the fire, keeping warm. Peter stood near the fire with the others.
- The high priest questioned Jesus about his disciples and his teaching. Jesus said,
- † 'I talked openly to everybody. I always taught in the Temple where the Jews meet. I have said nothing in secret. So why ask me? Ask the people, they heard me. They know what I said.'
- N When Jesus said that, one of the guards slapped Jesus' face, saying,
- P 'You should not talk to the chief priest like that!'
- N Jesus replied,
- † 'If there is something wrong with what I said, tell me. But if there is nothing wrong with what I said, why slap me?'
- N Then Annas sent Jesus to Caiaphas, the high priest. Jesus was still tied.
- Simon Peter still stood outside, trying to keep warm. Someone said to him,
- P 'Are you a disciple of Jesus?'
- N Peter denied (said no) saying,
- P 'I am not.'
- N One of the servants of the high priest was there. This servant was a relative of the other servant, the same person that Peter had cut the ear off. This servant said to Peter,
- P 'I saw you in the garden with Jesus?'
- N Again Peter denied (said no), and straight away a cock crew (bird sang).

Good Friday

Early in the morning, the Jews brought Jesus from the house of Caiaphas to the Roman governor's palace. The Jews did not go into the Roman governor's palace because of their Jewish laws. They wanted to keep themselves clean to eat the passover. So Pilate went outside to see them and said,

P 'What has this man, Jesus, done wrong?'

N The Jews answered,

P 'Jesus is a bad person, a criminal (thief, trouble-maker), that is why we brought him here for you.'

N Pilate said,

P 'You, Jews, take him yourselves. Judge him with your own law.'

N The Jews answered,

P 'Because of your Roman law, we are not allowed to punish Jesus by death.'

N This happened exactly as Jesus had said about the way he would die.

Pilate went inside the Praetorium (Roman governor's palace) and Pilate asked Jesus,

P 'Are you the king of the Jews?'

N Jesus replied,

† 'Do you ask me this question because you yourself really want to know, or because other people have already told you?'

N Pilate said,

P 'Am I a Jew? No! Your people, the Jews, brought you here. Why? What have you done?'

N Jesus said,

† 'My kingdom is not in this world. If my kingdom was in this world, my disciples would have fought and protected me to stop the Jewish leaders seizing (arresting) me. No, my

Good Friday

kingdom does not belong to this world.'

N Pilate said,

P 'So, are you a king then?'

N Jesus replied,

† 'As you said; yes, I am a king. I was born to be a king. I came into the world to give witness, to tell people about the truth. Any person that believes the truth will think carefully about what I said.'

N Pilate said,

P 'Truth? What is truth?'

N Pilate went outside and said to the Jews,

P 'I find nothing wrong with Jesus. But following your tradition, I will free one prisoner at the time of the Passover. So would you like me to free this man, Jesus, the king of the Jews?'

N Everybody shouted,

P 'No, not Jesus. Free Barabbas!'

N Barabbas was a thief.

Pilate told the soldiers to take Jesus and whip him. The soldiers made a crown from thorns and put it on Jesus' head. Then they put a purple robe on him. They slapped Jesus' face and mocked him,

P 'Hail, king of the Jews!'

N Pilate went outside again and said to the Jews,

P 'Look, I will bring Jesus here for you to see him, because I find nothing wrong with him.'

N The soldiers brought Jesus outside with the crown of thorns and dressed in the purple robe. Pilate said,

P 'Look at Jesus!'

N When the chief priests and the Temple guards saw Jesus, they shouted,

P 'Crucify him! Crucify him!'

N Pilate said,

Good Friday

- P 'You take Jesus and crucify him yourselves. I find nothing wrong with him.'
- N The Jews said,
- P 'We have a Law. Our Jewish law says, that if any person says he is the Son of God, he should die.'
- N When Pilate heard what the Jews said, he became afraid. Pilate went back inside the palace and said to Jesus,
- P 'Where do you come from?'
- N But Jesus said nothing. So Pilate said to him,
- P 'Why are you refusing to speak to me? You know I have the power to free you and I also have the power to crucify you.'
- N Jesus replied,
- † 'You have power over me only because God gave the power. That is why the person that betrayed me is more guilty.'
- N Now Pilate really wanted to free Jesus, but the Jews shouted,
- P 'If any person makes himself a king, he is against Caesar. So if you let Jesus go free, you are not really a friend of Caesar!'
- N When Pilate heard this, he brought Jesus outside. Pilate sat on the chair of Judgement in the place called 'Stone Pavement' (in Jewish language, 'Gabbatha'). Now it was the Passover Preparation Day, almost the 6th hour (12 noon). Pilate said to the Jews,
- P 'Here is your king!'
- N The Jews shouted,
- P 'Take him away! Kill him! Crucify him!'
- N Pilate said,
- P 'Do you want me to crucify your king?'
- N The chief priests answered,

Good Friday

P 'We have no king, only Caesar.'

N So in the end, Pilate gave Jesus to the Jews to be crucified.

The soldiers took Jesus and gave him a cross to carry. Jesus carried the cross all the way out of the city to the place of the skull (in Jewish language, named 'Golgotha'). The soldiers crucified Jesus with two thieves, one on each side with Jesus in the middle. Pilate wrote a notice and put it at the top of the cross. The words said: 'JESUS FROM NAZARETH, KING OF THE JEWS.' Many Jews saw this notice, because the place where Jesus was crucified was near the city. The writing was in three different languages: Jewish, Latin and Greek. The Jewish leaders said to Pilate,

P 'You should not write "King of the Jews", but write "This man said: I am the King of the Jews."'

N Pilate replied,

P 'What I have written, I will not change.'

N When the soldiers finished crucifying Jesus, they took his clothes. They divided his clothes between the four soldiers. But Jesus' tunic (clothes) was specially made in one piece. So the soldiers said to each other,

P 'We should not tear this. We will throw dice to decide who will keep it.'

N This happened exactly as written in the scriptures (Bible):

'They shared my clothes and they threw dice for my clothes.' This is exactly what the soldiers did.

Near the cross, Jesus' mother stood with her sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary of Magdala. Jesus saw his mother and the disciple (John) that he loved. Jesus said to his mother,

Good Friday

† 'Woman, this (John) is your son.'

N Then Jesus said to the disciple (John),

† 'This is your mother.'

N After this, the disciple (John) took Jesus' mother to live in his home.

Now, Jesus knew that everything was finished. The scriptures (Bible) said that Jesus would be thirsty, so Jesus said,

† 'I am thirsty.'

N Near the cross there was a jar of vinegar (sour wine). So the soldiers put a sponge on a stick and gave it to Jesus. Jesus tasted the vinegar, then he said,

† 'It is finished.'

N Jesus bowed his head and died.

SILENCE

Wait/kneel for one minute

That day was Preparation Day. The next day was the Sabbath - a special holy day - and the Jewish laws did not allow bodies to be left on the cross. So the Jews asked Pilate to break the legs of the men on the cross and to bury the dead bodies. The soldiers came and broke the legs of the first man, and then the second man, but when they came to Jesus, they realised he was already dead. The soldiers did not break his legs, but with a spear one soldier pierced Jesus' side. Straight away, blood and water flowed out. The disciple (John) saw this - he witnessed everything and he knows he tells the truth. He writes this so that you can believe also. This happened exactly as written in the scriptures (Bible):

'Not one of his bones will be broken.'

Also, 'People will look at the man with his side pierced.'

Good Friday

Later, a man named Joseph from Arimathaea came to Pilate. Joseph was a secret disciple of Jesus because he was afraid of the Jews. He asked Pilate to let him take the body of Jesus. Pilate gave permission. So Joseph took the body. Nicodemus came as well - the same person that went to see Jesus at night - and he brought a 100 lbs mixture of special oils and myrrh. The two men took Jesus' body and wrapped it with linen cloths and special oils to follow the Jewish way of burial. Near the place where Jesus was crucified, there was a garden, and in the garden there was a new tomb not yet used. Because it was the Jewish Day of Preparation and the tomb was near, they put Jesus' body there.

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS CHRIST

Easter Vigil

Dear friends in Christ, we have begun our Easter celebration. Let us now respectfully receive the Word of God. This story tells the history of God saving his people, and at the right time, God sent his own Son, Jesus Christ, to save us. Through this celebration tonight may God continue to save us and free us from our sins.

[Short form read between * *]

A READING FROM THE SCROLL ⇔ OF GENESIS

Genesis 1:1 – 2:2

* In the beginning God created heaven and earth. * At first, there was nothing. There was darkness over the earth. God's spirit moved over the water.

God said, 'Let there be light,' and light began to shine. God saw the light was good. God divided light from darkness. God named the light 'day', and he named the darkness 'night'. Evening came and morning came: the first day.

God said, 'Let there be something to divide the waters in two.' And

so God made the sky to divide the water under and above. God named the sky 'heaven.' Evening came and morning came: the second day.

God said, 'Let the water under the heaven come together in one place, so that dry land will appear.' And it happened. God named the dry land 'earth', and the water 'sea'. God was pleased with everything he saw.

God said, 'Let the earth grow plants and trees, those that give seed, and those that give fruit.' And it happened. The earth grew many different kinds of trees and plants, with different kinds of seed and fruit. God was pleased with everything he saw. Evening came and morning came: the third day.

God said, 'Let lights appear in the sky to separate day from night. These lights will show the days, the years and the feasts. These lights in the sky will shine on the earth.' And it happened. God made two great lights: the sun to give light during the day, and the

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moon to give light at night. God also made the stars. God put them in the sky to shine on the earth, to rule the day and night, and to separate the day and night. God was pleased with everything he saw. Evening came and morning came: the fourth day.

God said, 'Let the waters (seas) be filled with many living things and the sky filled with birds to fly over the earth.' And it happened. God made great sea fish and many living things that live in the sea. God made all kinds of birds. God was pleased with everything he saw. He blessed them all. God told them to reproduce (make babies, grow and spread) and fill the sea. God told the birds to make more birds to fly over the earth. Evening came and morning came: the fifth day.

God said, 'Let the earth make many kinds of living animals: cattle (cow), reptiles (crocodiles, snakes) and wild beasts.' And it happened. God made all kinds of wild beasts, cattle and reptiles.

God was pleased with everything he saw.

* God said, 'Let us make humans in our own image (same copy), like ourselves. They will have power over the fish in the sea, the birds in the sky, the cattle, all the wild beasts and all the reptiles that crawl on the earth.' God created man in the image (copy) of himself. God created man like himself, he created male (man) and female (woman). God blessed them and said to them, 'Have many children so that there will be more people on the earth. Fill the earth and control it. Be masters (boss) over the fish in the sea, the birds in the sky and over all living animals on the earth.' God said, 'Look, I give you all the trees and plants that give you seeds and fruits as food for you. I give leaves from plants and trees as food for all the wild beasts, birds of the sky and all living reptiles on the earth.' And it happened. God saw that everything he had made was

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good. Evening came and morning came: the sixth day.

Heaven and earth were finished and everything was beautifully made. On the seventh day God finished working. He rested from his work on the seventh day. *

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

Psalm 32

RESPONSE: **THE LORD FILLS THE EARTH WITH HIS LOVE.**

THE LORD FILLS THE EARTH WITH HIS LOVE.

The word of the Lord is always true.

We trust in his work.

The Lord loves justice and right.

The Lord fills the earth with his love.

THE LORD FILLS THE EARTH WITH HIS LOVE.

The heavens were made by God's word.

All the stars were made by his breath.

God gathered the water in the

sea.

He filled the deep sea.

THE LORD FILLS THE EARTH WITH HIS LOVE.

PRAYER (priest)

Let us pray. Almighty and eternal God, you created all things in wonderful beauty. Help us now to see the wonders of your love because you saved us through the sacrifice of your Son, Jesus Christ, the One that lives and reigns for ever and ever. Amen.

[Short form read between * *]

A READING FROM THE SCROLL ⇄ OF GENESIS

Genesis 22:1–18

* God tested Abraham. He said, "Abraham, take your only son, Isaac, the one you love, and go to the land of Moriah. On a mountain there I want you to offer Isaac as a sacrifice to me." *

Early next morning Abraham cut some wood for the sacrifice, put it on his donkey and started the

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journey with Isaac and two servants. On the third day Abraham saw the mountain in the distance. He said to his servants, "Stay here with the donkey. The boy and I will go to that place and worship there and when we have finished we will come back."

Isaac carried the wood and Abraham himself carried the knife and things for the fire. They walked, Isaac said, "Father, we have the wood and the fire things, but where is the lamb for the sacrifice?" Abraham answered, "God himself will provide (give)." The two of them walked together.

* When they arrived, Abraham built an altar and put the wood on it. Then he tied Isaac and put him on the altar on top of the wood. He picked up the knife ready to kill his son. But the angel of the Lord shouted from heaven, "Abraham, Abraham!" Abraham answered, "I am here." The angel of the Lord said, "Do not hurt the boy because now I know that you respect me and did not refuse to

offer your only son to me.' Abraham looked around and saw a ram trapped in a bush. He got the ram and offered it as a burnt sacrifice. *

Abraham named this place, 'The Lord provides (gives).'

* The angel of the Lord spoke to Abraham from heaven a second time, "I promise you will receive many blessings from me because you obeyed me. I will make your descendants (future children) as many as the stars of heaven." *

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

Psalm 15

RESPONSE:

SAVE ME GOD, I TRUST YOU.

SAVE ME GOD, I TRUST YOU.

Lord, you give me everything I need.

Lord, you support me.

My heart rejoices, my soul is glad.

My body will rest in safety.

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SAVE ME GOD, I TRUST YOU.

Lord, you will never leave my soul with the dead.

You will not let my body decay (rot, die).

You will show me the way of life.

Your presence will fill me with joy forever.

SAVE ME GOD, I TRUST YOU.

PRAYER (priest)

Let us pray. God our Father, you promised Abraham that he would become the father of all peoples, and through the death and resurrection of Christ you kept that promise: everywhere all over the world you increase your chosen people. Let us all accept your invitation to receive the new life of grace. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

This reading is compulsory, must be read.

A READING FROM THE SCROLL ↔ OF EXODUS

Exodus 14:15 – 15:1

The Lord said to Moses, 'Why are you still asking me for help? Tell

the people of Israel to continue walking. With the staff (stick) in your hand, stretch it out over the sea. The sea will divide and the people of Israel can walk through on dry ground. I will make the Egyptian soldiers so stubborn so that they will follow you. I will show that I am more powerful than Pharaoh and I will win honour and glory. Then Pharaoh, the Egyptian soldiers, and the chariots (horsemen), will know that I am the Lord.'

The angel of the Lord that went in front of the people of Israel changed and moved to the back of the people. The pillar of cloud also moved to the back. Now the pillar of cloud was between the Israelite people and the Egyptian soldiers. The cloud made it dark for the Egyptian soldiers and that night they could not come nearer to the people of Israel.

Moses stretched out his hand over the sea. The sea divided, the wind came from the east and blew all night and made the land in the sea dry. The people of

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Israel walked through the sea on dry land, walls of water on the left and on the right. All the Egyptian soldiers and the chariots (horsemen) followed and went into the sea. In the morning, the Lord looked down from the pillar of cloud and saw the Egyptian army. The Lord made the army confused, the chariots' wheels became stuck and they could not move. The Egyptian soldiers said, 'The Lord is helping the Israelites and fighting against us. Let us escape!'

The Lord said to Moses, 'Stretch out your hand over the sea, so that the water will cover the Egyptian soldiers and the chariots (horsemen).' Before dawn (daylight), Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, the walls of sea water closed, and the sea covered the Egyptian army. The army tried to escape from the water, but the Lord threw them into the sea. All the Egyptian soldiers and the chariots (horsemen) drowned in the sea. No one lived. But the people of Israel walked through the sea on

dry land, walls of water on their left and on their right. That day the Lord saved the people of Israel from the Egyptian soldiers and the people saw dead bodies lying dead on the shore. The people of Israel saw the great power of the Lord against the Egyptian soldiers. The people worshipped the Lord and began to trust the Lord and his servant Moses.

Then Moses and the people of Israel sang this song to the Lord:

Exodus 15:1-6, 17-18

RESPONSE: I WILL PRAISE THE LORD'S WONDERFUL VICTORY.

I WILL PRAISE THE LORD'S WONDERFUL VICTORY.

The Lord's victory is wonderful.
He threw horses and armies into the sea!

The Lord is powerful, the Lord is my God.

I will praise him.

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I WILL PRAISE THE LORD'S WONDERFUL VICTORY.

The Lord threw the Pharaoh's
horse-men into the sea.

They sank like a stone and
drowned.

Your right hand is powerful.

Your right hand destroyed the
enemy.

I WILL PRAISE THE LORD'S WONDERFUL VICTORY.

You will lead your people.

You give them a home on your
mountain.

You made a holy place for them.

The Lord will reign for ever and
ever.

I WILL PRAISE THE LORD'S WONDERFUL VICTORY.

PRAYER (Priest)

Let us pray. Tonight we see the
wonders of the miracles you
worked long ago. You saved your
people from slavery and now you
offer that salvation to all through
baptism. Let us all become the
true sons and daughters of
Abraham so that we can worship
you worthily. Amen.

A READING FROM ST PAUL'S SCROLL ↕ TO THE ROMANS

Romans 6:3–11

You were taught that when we
were baptised in Jesus Christ, we
were baptised in his death. This
means that when we were
baptised, we were buried with
Christ and shared his death. And
when Christ was raised from
death by the glorious power of
the Father, we too will have new
life.

If we have been buried together
with Christ, we know that we will
also rise from death with Jesus
Christ in his resurrection. We
must realise that our old lives
died with Christ on the cross.
Jesus destroyed our sinful body.
He freed us from sin. So when a
person dies, this person has
finished with sin.

But we believe that when we die
with Christ, we will come back to
life with him. We know Christ rose
from death and he will never die
again. Death has no more power
over Jesus. When Jesus died - he
died once, he died for everybody
- he has conquered the power of

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sin. Jesus now has new life with God. In the same way, you must think that you are finished with sin, and alive for God through Jesus Christ.

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

Psalm 117

RESPONSE:

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!

Alleluia!

Give thanks to the Lord because he is good.

All the people of Israel say:

‘His love will never end (finish).’

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!

The Lord has won.

I shall not die, I shall live.

The work of the Lord is

wonderful.

Alleluia!

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF MARK

Mark 16:1–7

When the sabbath was finished, Mary of Magdala, Mary the mother of James, and Salome, brought spices and special oils; they went to anoint (rub) the oils on Jesus’ dead body. Very early in the morning on the first day of the week, they went to the tomb, as the sun was beginning to come up.

The women said to each other, ‘Who will move the large stone covering the tomb?’ But when the women looked, they saw that the stone - a very large stone - was already rolled (moved) away from the tomb. The women went into the tomb and they saw a young man in a white robe, sitting on the right. The women were amazed and afraid. But the man said to the women, ‘Do not be afraid. You are looking for Jesus from Nazareth, the one that was crucified. He has risen, He is not here. Look! Here is the place where Jesus’ body was laid. You must go and tell Peter and the

Easter Vigil

other disciples; tell them, "Jesus is going to Galilee. There, you will see Jesus, as he told you before."

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

**PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS
CHRIST**

Easter Sunday

A READING FROM THE ACTS ↕ OF THE APOSTLES

Acts 10:34, 37-43

Peter spoke to the people, 'You must have heard about what happened recently in Judaea, about Jesus of Nazareth and how he began in Galilee, after John had been preaching baptism. God had anointed him with the Holy Spirit and with power. Because God was with Jesus, he went everywhere, doing good and healing all that were under the power of the devil.

We are witnesses. We saw everything that Jesus did. We also saw people kill him on a tree, but three days later, God raised Jesus to life. Jesus appeared, not to everyone, but only to the witnesses that God chose. We are the witnesses - we have eaten and drunk with him after his resurrection from the dead.

Jesus told us to proclaim to all people and tell them that God has appointed (chosen) Jesus to judge everyone, alive or dead. All the prophets spoke about Jesus,

saying any person that believes in Jesus will have their sins forgiven through the power of his name.'

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

Psalm 117

RESPONSE: **TODAY THE LORD IS RISEN. LET US REJOICE.**

**TODAY THE LORD IS RISEN.
LET US REJOICE.**

Alleluia!

Give thanks to the Lord because he is good.

All the people of Israel say, 'His love will never end (finish).'

**TODAY THE LORD IS RISEN.
LET US REJOICE.**

The Lord has won.

I shall not die, I shall live.

The work of the Lord is wonderful.

Alleluia!

**TODAY THE LORD IS RISEN.
LET US REJOICE.**

Easter Sunday

A READING FROM ST PAUL'S SCROLL ↕ TO THE COLOSSIANS

Colossians 3: 1–4

Because you received life again through Jesus Christ, you must look for the things of heaven, where Christ sits at the right hand of God. Think about the things of heaven, don't think about the things on earth. Your old life has died, your new life is now with Christ in God. Christ is your life. And when Christ comes, you will appear with him and share his glory!

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!

Christ is risen, let us rejoice.

ALLELUIA!

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF JOHN

John 20:1–9

Early on Sunday morning, when it was still dark, Mary Magdala went to the tomb. She saw that the stone had been moved away from the tomb. Mary ran to Simon Peter and the other disciple (John), the one Jesus loved. Mary said to them, 'They have taken Jesus' body from the tomb. We don't know where they have put his body.'

So Peter went to the tomb with the other disciple. They ran together but the other disciple, running faster than Peter, arrived at the tomb first. He bent down and saw the cloths lying on the ground, but he did not go in. Simon Peter, running behind the other disciple (John), arrived later. Peter went into the tomb. He saw the cloths lying on the ground.

Easter Sunday

He also saw the cloth that had covered Jesus' head. This cloth was rolled up separate from the other cloths lying on the ground. Then the other disciple (John) that had reached the tomb first, also went in. He saw and he believed. Before that, they had not understood the teaching of the scriptures (Bible), that Jesus must rise from the dead.

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

**PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS
CHRIST**

2nd Sunday of Easter

Psalm 117

A READING FROM THE ACTS ↕ OF THE APOSTLES

Acts 4:32–35

The group of believers came together and they all had the same spirit, together in heart and soul. They did not claim anything as their own. They all shared everything.

With great power, the apostles gave witness and told people about the resurrection of the Lord Jesus. The people respected them.

They all received the things that they needed, no one was short of anything. All those that had land or houses, sold them and gave the money to the apostles. The apostles then gave money to any person that needed help.

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

RESPONSE: **GIVE THANKS TO THE LORD BECAUSE HE IS GOOD.**

GIVE THANKS TO THE LORD BECAUSE HE IS GOOD.

Let all the people of Israel say: 'God's love will never end (finish).'
Let everyone say: 'God's love will never end.'

GIVE THANKS TO THE LORD BECAUSE HE IS GOOD.

The Lord showed his great power.
The Lord punished me but He did not let me die.
I shall live.

GIVE THANKS TO THE LORD BECAUSE HE IS GOOD.

The stone rejected by the builders became the important corner stone.

The work of the Lord is wonderful.

This day is special.

We rejoice and we are glad.

GIVE THANKS TO THE LORD BECAUSE HE IS GOOD.

2nd Sunday of Easter

A READING FROM THE FIRST SCROLL ↕ OF ST JOHN

1 John 5:1–6

The people that believe Jesus is the Christ are God's children. Any person that loves the Father also loves the Father's children.

How do we know that we love God's children? We know because we love God and obey him. Loving God means that we follow his commandments; and his commandments are not too difficult for us.

Why? Because we are God's children; this means we have already defeated (beat) the world. We have the victory over the world because of our faith.

Who can defeat (beat) the world? Only the person that believes Jesus is the Son of God, and believes that Jesus Christ came with water and with blood; not just (only) water but both water and blood. The Spirit is the witness and the Spirit always tells the truth.

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!

Jesus said, 'You believe because you can see me. Those that cannot see me but still believe in me, will be happy.'

ALLELUIA!

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF JOHN

John 20:19–31

In the evening of that same day, the first day of the week, the disciples were together in the room, and the doors were closed and locked, because they were afraid of the Jewish leaders. Jesus came and stood among them. He said to them, 'Peace be with you.' He showed them his hands and his side. The disciples were very happy because they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again,

'Peace be with you. The Father sent me, so I too (also) send you.'

Jesus breathed on them and said, 'Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive people's sins, their sins are forgiven. If you do not forgive them, their sins are not forgiven.'

2nd Sunday of Easter

One of the twelve (12) apostles, Thomas, was not there when Jesus came. Later the disciples told him, 'We saw the Lord.' Thomas answered, 'I refuse to believe until I see the holes in his hands and touch them. I will not believe until I see the hole in his side and touch it.' Eight days later, the disciples were in the house again and Thomas was with them. The doors were locked, but Jesus came in and stood among them. He said, 'Peace be with you.' Then Jesus spoke to Thomas, 'Look! Touch my hands. Put your hand in my side and feel it. Doubt no more, but believe.' Thomas replied, 'My Lord and my God!' Jesus said to him, 'You believe because you can see me. But the people that have not seen me and still believe, they are truly happy.'

Jesus did many other miracles and the disciples saw them. But all these other miracles are not written in this book. All the miracles included in this book are to help you to believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and

that because you believe you will have life through his name.

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

**PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS
CHRIST**

3rd Sunday of Easter

Psalm 4

A READING FROM THE ACTS ↕ OF THE APOSTLES

Acts 3:13–15, 17–19

Peter said to the people, ‘You are Israelites (Jews). The God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, the same God of our people of long ago, gave glory to his servant, Jesus. This same Jesus you took to Pilate, and Pilate wanted to free him, but you wanted Jesus crucified. It was you that accused Jesus, the Holy One. You demanded Pilate to free another man, Barrabas, a murderer, and you wanted Jesus, a good man, a person that gives life, you forced him to be killed. But God raised Jesus from death and we are witnesses to this.

I know that you and your leaders did not know what you were really doing. God said a long time ago, through his prophets, that Christ would suffer. Now you must repent and turn to God, so that your sins will be forgiven.’

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

RESPONSE: **LORD, LET US SEE THE LIGHT OF YOUR FACE.**

LORD, LET US SEE THE LIGHT OF YOUR FACE.

Lord, when I am in anguish and I pray to you,

Have mercy and hear my prayer.

The Lord listens to the prayers of his people;

The Lord loves all that need his help.

LORD, LET US SEE THE LIGHT OF YOUR FACE.

Many people say, ‘What can give us happiness?’

But we know that you, Lord, show us the light of your face;

At night I will sleep in peace;

Because I know the Lord keeps me safe.

LORD, LET US SEE THE LIGHT OF YOUR FACE.

3rd Sunday of Easter

A READING FROM THE FIRST SCROLL ↕ OF ST JOHN

1 John 2:1–5

I'm writing this to you, my children, to stop you sinning. If any person sins, we have Jesus Christ to help us. He is good and just (fair). Jesus Christ forgives our sins; not only our sins, but the sins of all the world. When we obey God and follow his commandments, then we can be sure we know God. Any person that says 'I know God' but does not follow his commandments, is a liar, refusing to accept the truth. But when a person obeys God's word, God's love becomes perfect in that person.

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!

Lord, explain the scriptures (Bible) to us. When you talk to us, you make our hearts burn inside us.

ALLELUIA!

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF LUKE

Luke 24:35–48

The two disciples told their story of what had happened on the road and the way they had recognised Jesus when he broke the bread.

While they were talking, Jesus himself appeared and stood among them. He said, 'Peace be with you!' They were terrified, thinking that they were seeing a ghost. But he said to them, 'Why are you afraid? Why doubt? Look at my hands and feet. Yes, it is me, Jesus. Touch me. You see I have a real body. A ghost has no flesh and bones; but I have.' Jesus showed them his hands and feet. The disciples stood there not knowing what to say; they still could not believe, they were so full of joy. Jesus asked them, 'Have you anything here to eat?' They gave him a piece of grilled fish. Jesus took and ate the fish in front of them.

3rd Sunday of Easter

Then he told them, 'This is what I meant when I was with you before. I explained to you that everything written about me in the Law of Moses, in the Prophets and in the Psalms, must happen.' He opened their minds so that they could understand the scriptures (Bible). He said to them, 'You know that the Scriptures (Bible) say Christ would suffer and on the third day rise from the dead. The Scriptures (Bible) also say that all people should repent and have their sins forgiven in his name. Also the preaching of forgiveness must be spread to peoples all over the world, starting from here in Jerusalem. You are witnesses to this.'

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

**PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS
CHRIST**

4th Sunday of Easter

A READING FROM THE ACTS ↕ OF THE APOSTLES

Acts 4:8–12

Peter was filled with the Holy Spirit and he began to speak to the people, 'Leaders of the people! Are you questioning us today about what we did to the cripple? Are you asking about our act of kindness to him? You want to know how he was healed? I am glad to tell everybody that the cripple was healed through the name of Jesus Christ from Nazareth. Jesus was the one you crucified, but God raised him from death. Through the name of Jesus Christ, the cripple is able to stand up perfectly healthy, here in your presence today. You know that this is the corner stone that, you builders, thought not important; it proved to be important because it is Jesus himself, and you rejected him. People are saved only through the name of Jesus Christ, not through any other name in the world.'

THE WORD OF THE LORD THANKS BE TO GOD

Psalms 117

**RESPONSE: THE STONE
REJECTED BY THE BUILDERS
BECAME THE IMPORTANT
CORNER STONE.**

**THE STONE REJECTED BY THE
BUILDERS BECAME THE
IMPORTANT CORNER STONE.**

Thank the Lord because He is good!

His love is eternal.

To trust the Lord is better than to trust in people.

Lord, I thank you because you heard my prayers and saved me.

**THE STONE REJECTED BY THE
BUILDERS BECAME THE
IMPORTANT CORNER STONE.**

The stone rejected by the builders became the important corner stone.

The work of the Lord is wonderful.

Lord, I thank you because you helped and saved me.

Thank the Lord because his love is eternal.

4th Sunday of Easter

THE STONE REJECTED BY THE BUILDERS BECAME THE IMPORTANT CORNER STONE.

A READING FROM THE FIRST SCROLL ↕ OF ST JOHN

1 John 3:1–2

God the Father loves us so much, he lovingly created us his children. We really are God's children! The world refused to believe God, and so the world does not understand that we are God's children. Dear friends, now we are children of God; but we do not know yet what we shall become in the future. We know that when Christ comes again, we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he really is.

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!

Jesus said, 'I am the good shepherd. I know my sheep and they know me.'

ALLELUIA!

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF JOHN

John 10:11–18

Jesus said: 'I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd gives his life for his sheep. The person that is hired and paid to look after the sheep is not the same as the shepherd. The sheep do not know that person. If that person sees a wolf coming, that person runs away; the wolf attacks the sheep and the sheep try to escape. The person running away is not a real shepherd; that person does not really care about the sheep. I am the good shepherd. I know my sheep, and they know me. In the same way, my Father knows me, and I know my Father. I will die so that I can give my life for the sheep. There are other sheep that are not in

4th Sunday of Easter

this flock. I must lead them too. They will listen to my voice, then there will only be one flock and one shepherd. The Father loves me because I will die to give life. I will give my life so that I can have life again. No one can take away my life. I give my own life freely. I am able to give my life. And I am also able to have my life again. This is the command that my Father gave me.'

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

**PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS
CHRIST**

5th Sunday of Easter

A READING FROM THE ACTS ↕ OF THE APOSTLES

Acts 9:26–31

Saul arrived in Jerusalem, he tried to join the disciples, but they were all afraid of him. They could not believe that Saul had become a disciple of Jesus Christ. Barnabas introduced him to the apostles and explained that the Lord had appeared to Saul and spoken to him during his journey to Damascus. Saul bravely began to preach the name of Jesus Christ to the people in Damascus. Saul stayed with Barnabas and he went all over Jerusalem, preaching the name of the Lord without fear. When Saul talked with the Hellenists (Jews that speak Greek), he argued with them. They planned to kill him but when the brothers (disciples) found out their plan of killing Saul, they took Saul to Caesarea. From there they sent Saul to Tarsus.

The churches all over Judaea, Galilee and Samaria were now at peace. Through the help of the

Holy Spirit they grew strong and respected the Lord.

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

Psalm 21

RESPONSE: WITH ALL THE PEOPLE, I WILL PRAISE YOU LORD.

WITH ALL THE PEOPLE, I WILL PRAISE YOU LORD.

I will keep the promises I made. Poor people will have plenty of food and they will be satisfied. They will search (look) for the Lord and praise him.

All people on earth will remember and turn to the Lord.

WITH ALL THE PEOPLE, I WILL PRAISE YOU LORD.

Peoples from different countries will worship the Lord.

They will bow in front of the Lord. My soul will live; my children will serve him.

They will tell their future children the things God did for us.

WITH ALL THE PEOPLE, I WILL PRAISE YOU LORD.

5th Sunday of Easter

A READING FROM THE FIRST SCROLL ↕ OF ST JOHN

1 John 3:18–24

My children, our love should not be full of words or talk; we must show our true love by the things we do. In this way we know that we are children of the truth and we will have peace of mind in front of God. If our conscience is clear, it does not matter if we feel guilty, because God is greater than our feelings and God knows everything.

My dear people, if our conscience tells us we have done no wrong, then we can stand with confidence in front of God and not be afraid. God will give us the things we need because we follow God's commandments and we live the way God wants us to live.

What are the commandments? The commandments tell us to believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ, and also tell us to love each other. Any person that follows God's commandments lives in God, and God lives in

them. We know God lives in us through the Spirit that God gave us.

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!

Jesus said, 'Make your home in me, the same as I make my home in you.'

ALLELUIA!

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF JOHN

John 15:1–8

Jesus said to his disciples: 'I am the true vine. My Father is the gardener. If he sees a branch in me that does not give fruit (growth), he cuts it and throws it away. If he sees a branch in me that gives fruit (growth), he prunes it to make it grow more fruit (growth). You are already pruned through the word that I gave you. Make your home in me, the same as I make my home in

5th Sunday of Easter

you. No branch can give fruit (growth) by itself; it must remain with the vine. In the same way, you cannot give fruit (growth) by yourself; you must stay in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Any person that remains with me, and I with that person, then that person will give plenty of fruit (growth). Without me, you can do nothing. Any person that does not remain in me is the same as a branch that has been thrown away, and this person will die. The branches that are no good are cut off, collected and thrown into the fire to be burnt. If you remain with me, and my words remain in you, you can ask for anything you want, and you will receive it. If you give much fruit (growth), you will give glory to my Father, and then you will be my disciples.'

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

**PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS
CHRIST**

6th Sunday of Easter

A READING FROM THE ACTS ↕ OF THE APOSTLES

Acts 10:25–26, 34–35, 44–48

Peter arrived at the house, Cornelius met him, knelt down and bowed in front of Peter. But Peter helped him up. He said, 'Stand up! I'm only a man like you.'

Peter spoke to them, 'I now realize it is true that God has no favourites. God accepts any person from any country, if that person worships God and lives a good life.'

While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit came down on all those listening to Peter. The Jewish believers that were with Peter were amazed that the gift of the Holy Spirit was given to non-Jewish people. These Jewish believers heard them speaking different languages and praising God. Then Peter said, 'They have received the Holy Spirit, the same as us! We cannot refuse to baptise them now.' So Peter ordered Cornelius and all the people in his house to be

baptised in the name of Jesus Christ. Later, they asked Peter to stay with them for a few days.

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

Psalm 97

RESPONSE: THE LORD GIVES HIS SALVATION TO ALL PEOPLE.

THE LORD GIVES HIS SALVATION TO ALL PEOPLE.

Sing to the Lord.

He has done wonderful things!
By his power God saved all people.

He remembered his promise to the people of Israel.

THE LORD GIVES HIS SALVATION TO ALL PEOPLE.

God remembered his love for us.

All people have seen the salvation of our God.

Sing with joy to the Lord.

Praise the Lord!

THE LORD GIVES HIS SALVATION TO ALL PEOPLE.

6th Sunday of Easter

A READING FROM THE FIRST SCROLL ↕ OF ST JOHN

1 John 4:7–10

My dear people, let us love each other because God gives us love. Any person that loves is a child of God and knows God. Any person that does not love does not know God, because God is love. God showed his love for us by sending his only Son into the world, so that we could have life through him (Jesus). True love means God's love for us, not our love for God. God showed his love by sending his Son to become the sacrifice that takes away our sins.

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!

Jesus said, 'If any person loves me that person will obey my word. My Father will love that person. My father and I will come to that person.'

ALLELUIA!

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL JOHN

John 15:9–17

Jesus said to his disciples: 'I love you the same way that the Father loves me. Remain (stay) in my love. I have followed my Father's commandments and I remain (stay) in his love. So in the same way, if you follow my commandments you will remain in my love. I tell you these things so that you can have the same joy I have, and your joy will be perfect. I command you: Love each other, the same as I loved you. The greatest love a person can show is to die for their friends. You are my friends if you obey me. I will not call you servants any more, because a servant does not know what the master is doing. Now, I call you friends because I told you everything I learnt from my Father. You did not choose me; no, I chose you. And I gave you this work; to go and preach in my name. Your good works will give fruit (growth). The fruit (growth) that you give will continue

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forever. Then the Father will give you anything you ask him in my name. I command you: love each other.'

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

**PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS
CHRIST**

Ascension of the Lord

A READING FROM THE ACTS ↕ OF THE APOSTLES

Acts 1:1-11

In my first book to you Theophilus, I wrote everything about the life of Jesus, the things Jesus did and taught. Jesus taught his apostles many things. For forty days after his death he (Jesus) appeared to his apostles many times to prove that he was alive and to tell them about the kingdom of God. Every time Jesus sat at table with the apostles, he told them to wait and not to leave Jerusalem. He reminded them of a promise God the Father had made. He (Jesus) said, 'Remember, John baptised people with water, but soon, you will be baptised with the Holy Spirit.'

The apostles asked Jesus, 'Lord, will you establish again the kingdom for the Jews?' Jesus replied, 'It is not important for you to know times or dates. Only God the Father knows. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes. Then you will be my witnesses - you will tell people

about me in Jerusalem, Judaea, Samaria and all over the world.'

Then Jesus was lifted up into the sky. While the apostles watched, Jesus disappeared into a cloud. The apostles continued staring into the sky. Suddenly two men in white appeared as angels and they said to the apostles, 'Why are you still standing here looking up into the sky? You saw Jesus go into heaven. He will come back to you the same way.'

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

Psalm 46

RESPONSE: **THE LORD GOES UP WITH JOY!**

THE LORD GOES UP WITH JOY!

All peoples, clap your hands.

Shout with joy to God!

We respect the Lord, the Most High.

The Lord is king of all the earth.

THE LORD GOES UP WITH JOY!

Ascension of the Lord

God goes up with joy.
God is king of all the earth.
God is king of all the nations
(people).
Sing praise to our king, our God.

THE LORD GOES UP WITH JOY!

[Short form read between * *]

A READING FROM ST PAUL'S SCROLL ↕ TO THE EPHESIANS

Ephesians 4:1–13

* I, Paul, am a prisoner of the Lord because I follow the Lord. I ask you to live the way God wants. Always be kind, humble, gentle and patient. Share your love with each other. Do everything you can to keep together in peace with the help of the Spirit. There is one Body, one Spirit. God wants you all to have hope. There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism, and one God. God is the Father of all people; the Father that rules over all, and the Father that is in all. Christ gives each one of us a special gift. *

The scriptures (Bible) say: 'Christ ascended (rose) to the sky. He took prisoners with him. He gave gifts to his people.'

But what does it mean that Christ went up? It means that first he went down to the lowest place in the world, and he is the same person that ascended (rose) to higher than all the heavens.

* He fills the whole world with his presence. Christ gave gifts to different people. He gave gifts so that some people became apostles; some people became prophets; others to spread and tell the Good News; and others to work and teach. Christ gave them all different gifts, so that all these saints work together and build up the body of Christ. In this way, we must work together with the same faith and know Jesus as the Son of God, until we become mature (responsible, sensible) people and share in Christ's perfection. *

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

Ascension of the Lord

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!

Jesus said, 'Go, make all people disciples. I, Jesus, am with you, for ever.'

ALLELUIA!

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF MARK

Mark 16:15–20

Jesus appeared to the eleven (11) apostles and said to them, 'Go everywhere in the world and proclaim the Good News to all people. Any person that believes and is baptised will be saved. If a person does not believe, that person will be condemned. The believers themselves will do wonderful works. The proof will be: they will use my name to throw out devils; they will have the gift of speaking in strange languages; they will pick up snakes and not be hurt; if they drink something poisonous they will not die; they will put their hands on sick people, and the sick will be healed.'

After Jesus had spoken, he was lifted up to heaven. There, in heaven, Jesus sat at the right side of God. The apostles went everywhere, and they preached the Good News to everybody. The Lord worked with the apostles and helped them, giving them power to work (do) miracles.

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS CHRIST

7th Sunday of Easter

A READING FROM THE ACTS ↕ OF THE APOSTLES

Acts 1:15–17, 20–26

One day Peter stood up to speak - there were about 120 people. Peter said, 'Friends, through David the Holy Spirit said that everything in the Scripture (Bible) must happen. The Scripture (Bible) tells something about Judas - he was one of us and shared the ministry with us - but he helped the men to arrest Jesus.

In the book of Psalms it says: "Another person must take his place."

So we must choose another person to join us as a witness of Jesus' resurrection. That person must have been with Jesus and with us all the time since the beginning, from when John began baptising, until the day Jesus rose to heaven.'

The apostles found two men, Joseph Justus, also known as Barsabbas, and Matthias. The apostles prayed, 'Lord, you know the minds and hearts of all

people. Show us which one of these two you want to do the work of Judas (because Judas gave up this work and killed himself).' Then the apostles used 'lots' (dice) and Matthias was chosen to become one of the twelve (12) apostles.

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

Psalm 102

RESPONSE: THE LORD LIVES IN HEAVEN.

THE LORD LIVES IN HEAVEN.

My soul, give thanks to the Lord.
Bless his holy name.
I will never forget all his blessings.
He always forgives us.

THE LORD LIVES IN HEAVEN.

The Lord loves his people; his love is always strong.
Everywhere, the Lord is powerful.
The Lord rules over everybody.
Let us thank the Lord.

THE LORD LIVES IN HEAVEN.

7th Sunday of Easter

A READING FROM THE FIRST SCROLL ↕ OF ST JOHN

1 John 4:11–16

My dear friends, because God loved us so much, we should love each other also. No person has seen God; but if we love each other, God will live in us and his love will become perfect in us. We know we live in God and God lives in us because He gives us his Spirit. We saw and we tell all people that the Father sent his Son to save the world. If any person believes Jesus is the Son of God, God lives in that person and that person lives in God. We know and we have faith that God shows his love to us. God is love, and any person living in love lives in God, and God lives in them.

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!

The Lord says, 'I will never leave you alone, like children without parents. I will come back to you and your hearts will be full of joy.'

ALLELUIA!

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF JOHN

John 17:11–19

Jesus looked up to heaven and said: 'Holy Father! Keep the people you gave me safe by the power of your name, so that they will be together and become one, the same as you and I are together and are one. When I was with them, I tried to keep them safe by the power of your name. I protected them and no one was lost, except Judas. He chose to be lost. The Scriptures (Bible) said this would happen. Now, I am coming to you Father. But while I am still in the world, I want to say these things to them so that I can share my joy with them. I gave your teaching to the people. The world hated them because they

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do not belong to the world, the same as I do not belong to the world. I am not asking you to take them away from the world, but I ask you to protect them from the Devil. They do not belong to the world, the same as I do not belong to the world. Consecrate (bless) them in the truth; your word is truth. I sent them into the world, the same as you sent me into the world. And I myself became holy so that they could be consecrated (blessed) in the truth.'

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

**PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS
CHRIST**

Pentecost Sunday – Vigil Mass

A READING FROM THE SCROLL ⇌ OF GENESIS

Genesis 11:1-9

All the people in the world spoke the same language, using the same words. People moved to the East, they found a plain in the land of Shinar and they settled (lived) there. The people said, 'Why not make bricks, we can put them in the fire and the bricks will become hard.' So they used bricks, not stones; and they used tar. The people said, 'Let us build a town and a tower. The tower will reach heaven. We will become famous. We will not be scattered (spread) all over the world.'

The Lord came down to see the town and saw people building the tower. The Lord said, 'These people all speak the same language! They are going too far! Nothing is too difficult for them. We will go down and confuse (mix up) their language. Then they will not understand each other.' The Lord scattered (spread) people in different places all over the world. The

people stopped building the town and they named it Babel because that was the name of the place the Lord confused (mix up) the language of the people. So from there, people scattered (spread) all over the world.

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

Psalm 103

RESPONSE: **ALLELUIA!**

ALLELUIA!

Praise the Lord!

Lord God, you are great!

ALLELUIA!

The earth is full of your riches.

If you take away your spirit,
everything dies.

If you give your spirit, everything
grows and the earth becomes
alive.

ALLELUIA!

Lord, you look after your creation.
Your spirit keeps everything alive.

ALLELUIA!

Pentecost Sunday – Vigil Mass

A READING FROM ST PAUL'S SCROLL ↕ TO THE ROMANS

Romans 8:22-27

We know from the beginning till now, everything in creation has been waiting in pain, like a pregnant woman ready to give birth. We have the gifts of the Spirit but we wait. And not only creation waits, we also wait with inner pain for our bodies to be freed and receive redemption (salvation). If we hope for something we can see, it is not really hope. But we hope God will save us - we are not yet saved - it is something we must wait for with patience.

When we are weak, the Spirit comes to help us. When we cannot pray, or don't know how to pray, the Spirit prays to God for us. The Spirit prays without using words, and God knows perfectly what the Spirit means. God knows everything in our hearts. The Spirit prays for all people to obey what God wants.

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!

Come, Holy Spirit, fill our hearts and give us the fire of your love.

ALLELUIA!

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF JOHN

John 7:37-39

On the last day, the greatest day of the festival, Jesus stood and shouted: 'If any person is thirsty, let them come to me! If anyone believes in me, as scripture says: "Living water will flow from his breast (chest)."'

Jesus was talking about the Spirit that people believing in him (Jesus) soon would receive. They had not yet received the Spirit because Jesus had not yet been raised to glory.

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS CHRIST

Pentecost Sunday

A READING FROM THE ACTS ↕ OF THE APOSTLES

Acts 2:1–11

On Pentecost day, all the apostles were sitting together in one room. Suddenly they heard a noise from heaven. It sounded like a strong wind blowing and it filled the whole house. Something appeared like tongues of fire which spread and came over each apostle's head. All the apostles were filled with the Holy Spirit. They began to speak foreign languages because the Spirit gave them the gift of languages.

In Jerusalem there were devout (good religious holy) people; they came from every country in the world. They heard this noise and gathered (came) together, and they were all bewildered (confused, puzzled) because each one heard the apostles speaking their own language. They were amazed (surprised) and said, 'These men are from Galilee, but we come from different places: Asia, Judaea, Egypt, Libya, Cyrene, Cyprus, Crete, as well as visitors from Rome, Jews, converts and

Arabs. We hear them speaking our own language about the marvels (wonders) of God.'

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

Psalm 103

RESPONSE: **O LORD, SEND YOUR SPIRIT AND MAKE NEW THE WHOLE WORLD.**

O LORD, SEND YOUR SPIRIT AND MAKE NEW THE WHOLE WORLD.

Praise the Lord!

Lord God, you are great!

The earth is full of your riches.

If you take away your spirit, everything dies.

But when you send your spirit, everything grows and the earth becomes alive.

O LORD, SEND YOUR SPIRIT AND MAKE NEW THE WHOLE WORLD.

The glory of the Lord continues for ever!

The Lord is happy with his works.

Let my thoughts please Him.

I rejoice with the Lord.

Pentecost Sunday

**O LORD, SEND YOUR SPIRIT
AND MAKE NEW THE WHOLE
WORLD.**

A READING FROM ST PAUL'S SCROLL ↕ TO THE GALATIANS

Galatians 5:16–25

If you let yourself be guided by the Spirit, you will be in no danger of becoming selfish. The human body wants different things from what the Spirit wants for each person. The two - body and Spirit - are so different, they are against each other. You cannot follow both the human body and the Spirit at the same time. That is why you always find it difficult to do good works. But if you allow yourself to be guided by the Spirit, then no law can hurt you. When a human body allows evil to take over, we become involved in sexual sins, worship of false gods, witchcraft; hating each other, making trouble, jealousy, anger and selfishness, fighting and arguing with each other, drunkenness, wild and wasteful

parties, and all other immoral things (no morals). I warn you now, the same as I warned you before: if you live and behave like this, you will not enter (go into) God's kingdom. The Spirit brings love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against these things. If you want to follow Christ Jesus, you have to control the selfish feelings and human desires.

We receive life from the Spirit so we must allow the Spirit to guide us.

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

Pentecost Sunday

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!

Come, Holy Spirit, fill our hearts
and give us the fire of your love.

ALLELUIA!

"Everything the Spirit tells you will
come from me."

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS CHRIST

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF JOHN

John 15:26–27; 16:12–15

Jesus said to his disciples: 'I will send you the Advocate (Helper) from the Father. The Advocate (Helper), the Spirit of truth, will speak about me. And you, too, will speak about me, because you have been with me from the beginning. I still have many things to tell you, but they would be too much for you now. But when the Spirit of truth comes, He will lead you to the full truth; because the Spirit will not be speaking for himself but will say only the things God wants said. And the Spirit will tell you about the things that will happen. The Spirit will give me glory. Everything the Spirit tells you is from me. Everything the Father has is mine. That is why I said:

Mary, Mother of the Church

Monday after Pentecost

A READING FROM THE SCROLL ⇄ OF GENESIS

Genesis 3:9–15, 20

After Adam ate the fruit of the tree, the Lord God called and asked him: ‘Where are you?’ Adam replied: ‘I heard the sound of You in the garden, I was afraid because I was naked, so I hid.’ God said, ‘Who told you that you were naked? Have you been eating from the tree I forbade you to eat?’ The man replied, ‘The woman you gave to be with me; she gave me fruit from the tree, and I ate it.’ Then God said to the woman, ‘What have you done?’ The woman replied, ‘The snake tempted me and I ate.’ Then God said to the snake, ‘Because you did this, accursed (condemned) be you of all cattle and wild animals! You will crawl on your belly and eat dust as long as you live. I shall make you and the woman enemies, her offspring and yours will always be enemies. Her offspring will crush your head and you will bite her offspring’s heel.’ The man named his wife

‘Eve’ because she was the mother of all those who live.

THE WORD OF THE LORD THANKS BE TO GOD

Alternative reading

A READING FROM THE ACTS ⇄ OF THE APOSTLES

Acts 1:12–14

After Jesus ascended into heaven the apostles returned to Jerusalem from the Mount of Olives, a short distance away, no more than a Sabbath walk. When they reached the city they went to the upper room where they were staying; there were Peter and John, James and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James son of Alphaeus and Simon the Zealot, and Jude son of James. All of them joined in continuous prayer with one heart, together with some women, including Mary the mother of Jesus, and his brothers.

THE WORD OF THE LORD THANKS BE TO GOD

Mary, Mother of the Church

Monday after Pentecost

Psalm 86

**RESPONSE: CITY OF GOD,
PEOPLE SAY WONDERFUL
THINGS ABOUT YOU.**

**CITY OF GOD, PEOPLE SAY
WONDERFUL THINGS ABOUT
YOU.**

God loves his temple on the holy
mountain

The Lord prefers the Zion's gates
more than any other place in
Israel.

**CITY OF GOD, PEOPLE SAY
WONDERFUL THINGS ABOUT
YOU.**

The Lord writes the names of all
peoples,
all are his children.

They sing and they dance
saying that all blessings come
from Jerusalem.

**CITY OF GOD, PEOPLE SAY
WONDERFUL THINGS ABOUT
YOU.**

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!

Blessed are you, holy Virgin Mary,
and worthy of all praise, for the
sun of justice, Christ our God was
born of you.

ALLELUIA!

**A READING FROM THE GOSPEL
OF JOHN**

John 19:25–34

Near the cross of Jesus stood his
mother (Mary) and his mother's
sister, Mary the wife of Clopas,
and Mary of Magdala. Seeing his
mother and the disciple he loved
standing near her, Jesus said to
his mother: 'Woman, this is your
son.' Then looking at the disciple,
Jesus said: 'This is your mother.'
And from that hour the disciple
took her into his home.

Now, Jesus knew that everything
was finished. The scriptures
(Bible) said that Jesus would be
thirsty, so Jesus said, 'I am thirsty.'
Near the cross there was a jar of
vinegar (sour wine). So the
soldiers put a sponge on a stick

Mary, Mother of the Church

Monday after Pentecost

and gave it to Jesus. Jesus tasted the vinegar, then he said, 'It is finished.' Jesus bowed his head and died.

That day was Preparation Day. The next day was the Sabbath - a special holy day - and the Jewish laws did not allow bodies to be left on the cross. So the Jews asked Pilate to break the legs of the men on the cross and to bury the dead bodies. The soldiers came and broke the legs of the first man, and then the second man, but when they came to Jesus, they realised he was already dead. The soldiers did not break his legs, but with a spear one soldier pierced Jesus' side. Straight away, blood and water flowed out.

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

**PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS
CHRIST**

Our Lord Jesus Christ, the Eternal High Priest

Thursday after Pentecost

A READING FROM THE SCROLL ⇄ OF JEREMIAH

Jeremiah 31:31–34

The Lord said, ‘Soon I will make a new covenant (promise) with the House of Israel and the House of Judah. But the covenant (promise) will not be the same as I made with their people long ago when I took them out of Egypt. They did not keep or follow the covenant (promise) so I had to show them I was the master (boss). Through the new covenant (promise) that I will make with the people of Israel, I will write my law in their hearts. I will be their God, and they will be my people. People will not have to teach other people to know the Lord because they will all know me. All, from the least to the greatest, will know me. I, the Lord, say this: I will not remember the evil things they have done, I will forgive their sins.’

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

Alternative reading

A READING FROM THE SCROLL ⇅ TO THE HEBREWS

Hebrews 10:11–18

All the priests have to make the same sacrifices many times everyday, but these sacrifices can never take away sins. Christ gave only one sacrifice for sins, and that one sacrifice was enough for ever. After his sacrifice, Christ sat down at the right side (right hand) of God. Christ now waits until God puts his enemies under his power. Through that one sacrifice, Christ made his people perfect for ever; He made them holy, and after all sins are forgiven there will be no more sacrifices.

The Holy Spirit gives us his witness. First he says ‘In the future, I will make a covenant with them.’ The Lord also says: ‘I will put my laws in their hearts. I will write my laws on their minds. I will not remember their sins and evil actions.’ When all sins are forgiven, there will be no more offering to take away sins.

Our Lord Jesus Christ, the Eternal High Priest

Thursday after Pentecost

THE WORD OF THE LORD
THANKS BE TO GOD

YOU ARE A PRIEST FOR EVER,
THE SAME AS MELCHIZEDEK.

Psalm 109

RESPONSE: **YOU ARE A PRIEST**
FOR EVER, THE SAME AS
MELCHIZEDEK.

YOU ARE A PRIEST FOR EVER,
THE SAME AS MELCHIZEDEK.

The Lord said:

‘Sit at my right. I will control your enemies.’

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

No enemy can stop you ruling your kingdom.

YOU ARE A PRIEST FOR EVER,
THE SAME AS MELCHIZEDEK.

From your birth I blessed you:
now as king you will rule with power.

YOU ARE A PRIEST FOR EVER,
THE SAME AS MELCHIZEDEK.

The Lord made a promise.

He will not change his mind.

‘You are a priest for ever,
like Melchizedek of long ago.’

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!

Jesus was God’s Son, he learnt to obey through suffering; because Jesus became perfect, all that obey him will receive salvation.

ALLELUIA!

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL
OF MARK

Mark 14:22–25

While they were eating, Jesus took some bread. Jesus said a prayer of thanks, broke the bread, and gave it to his disciples. He said, ‘Take the bread. This is my body.’ Then Jesus took a cup and said a prayer of thanks, he gave the cup to his disciples. All drank from the cup and Jesus said to them, ‘This is my blood, the blood of the covenant (God’s promise) that will be poured out for many. I tell you the truth. I will not drink

Our Lord Jesus Christ, the Eternal High Priest Thursday after Pentecost

any more wine until the day I
drink the new wine in the
kingdom of God.'

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

**PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS
CHRIST**

Trinity Sunday

A READING FROM THE SCROLL ⇌ OF DEUTERONOMY

Deuteronomy 4:32–34, 39–40

Moses said to the people: ‘Look at the past before you were born. Think back to the past when God created people and the world. Had anything as wonderful as this happened before? Has anyone heard something wonderful like this before? Has anyone heard the voice of God speaking from a fire and lived? Has any other god tried to go and take a people from another country for himself like the Lord your God took you from Egypt? No! You yourselves saw the Lord God’s great power. You and your people of long ago saw the Lord bring plagues and terrible things. You saw the miracles the Lord worked among you in Egypt.

So remember today and never forget: the Lord is God in heaven and on earth. There is no other god. Obey God’s laws and commandments that I give you today, so that you and your future people will do well and live

in the land the Lord your God gives you for ever.’

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

Psalm 32

RESPONSE: **ALL PEOPLE ARE BLESSED BECAUSE GOD CHOSE THEM.**

ALL PEOPLE ARE BLESSED BECAUSE GOD CHOSE THEM.

The word of the Lord is always true.

We trust in his works.

The Lord loves justice and right; his love fills the earth.

ALL PEOPLE ARE BLESSED BECAUSE GOD CHOSE THEM.

God’s word created the heavens. The stars were created by his breath.

God spoke, and everything began to live.

ALL PEOPLE ARE BLESSED BECAUSE GOD CHOSE THEM.

Our soul waits for the Lord.

The Lord is our help and protection.

Lord, we trust you, let your love be with us always.

Trinity Sunday

**ALL PEOPLE ARE BLESSED
BECAUSE GOD CHOSE THEM.**

was in the beginning, God is now,
and God will come again.

ALLELUIA!

**A READING FROM ST PAUL'S
SCROLL ↕ TO THE ROMANS**

Romans 8:14–17

The people guided by the Spirit are children of God. The Spirit you received is not the spirit that makes you slaves (imprisoned) or afraid. The Spirit makes you children of God and helps you pray: 'Abba, Father!' God's Spirit joins our spirit and lets us become children of God. If we are God's children then we receive blessings from God. Together with Christ, we will receive God's blessings; if we suffer with Christ, we will also share his glory.

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit. God

**A READING FROM THE GOSPEL
OF MATTHEW**

Matthew 28:16–20

The eleven apostles went to Galilee. They went to the mountain that Jesus had arranged to meet them. There they saw Jesus, they worshipped him, but some hesitated. Jesus came to them and said, 'All authority in heaven and on earth is given to me. Go, and make all people in the world my disciples. Baptise them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Teach them to follow all the commandments I gave you. Remember, I am with you always; yes, till the end of the world.'

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

**PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS
CHRIST**

Corpus Christi

A READING FROM THE SCROLL ⇔ OF EXODUS

Exodus 24:3–8

Moses went and told the people all the commandments from the Lord. The people together said, 'We will obey all the commandments the Lord has given us.' Moses wrote the Lord's commands on a scroll. Early next morning, near the bottom of the mountain, Moses made an altar with twelve stones, one for each of the twelve tribes (family groups) of Israel. Then he picked some young men of Israel to kill and burn young bulls as sacrifices to the Lord. Moses saved the blood from the bulls; he poured half the blood in bowls, and the other half he poured on the altar. Moses read aloud from the Scroll of the Covenant (God's promise), and people listened to the Lord's commands. The people said, 'We will obey all the commandments the Lord has given us.' Then Moses took the bowls full of blood and sprinkled (splashed) the blood on the people. He said, 'This is the blood of the Covenant

(God's promise). It shows that the Lord has made a promise with you, He has given you his commandments.'

THE WORD OF THE LORD THANKS BE TO GOD

Psalms 115

**RESPONSE: IN THE NAME OF
THE LORD I WILL RAISE THE
CUP OF SALVATION.**

**IN THE NAME OF THE LORD I
WILL RAISE THE CUP OF
SALVATION.**

How I thank the Lord?

God has been good to me.
I will offer him the cup of
salvation.

I will pray to the Lord.

**IN THE NAME OF THE LORD I
WILL RAISE THE CUP OF
SALVATION.**

The death of good faithful people
is special to the Lord.

I am your servant, Lord, you freed
me.

I will give you a thanksgiving
sacrifice.

I will pray to the Lord and

I will keep my promises always.

Corpus Christi

**IN THE NAME OF THE LORD I
WILL RAISE THE CUP OF
SALVATION.**

**A READING FROM THE
SCROLL ↕ TO THE HEBREWS**

Hebrews 9:11–15

Christ came as the high priest of all good things already here. Priests serve in a holy place but Christ serves in a place that is better, more perfect and not made by human hands, and not part of this created world. Christ entered (into) the Holy Place, only once and for all time, not with blood of goats and young bulls but he entered (into) with his own blood and so He saved us. The blood of goats and bulls, and the ashes of a burnt cow were sprinkled on people and made them pure so that they could go into a place of worship. But the blood of Christ is more perfect; Christ offered himself as the perfect sacrifice to God through the eternal Spirit, and cleansed us fully pure from all the evil things

we have done so that we can worship the living God.

Christ brings a new covenant (promise) from God to us people, so that God can give us the eternal blessings that He had promised. This happened because Christ died to take away the sins that broke the old covenant (promise), and so by dying Christ freed people from their sins.

**THE WORD OF THE LORD
THANKS BE TO GOD**

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!

Jesus said, 'I am the living bread come down from heaven. Any person that eats this bread will live for ever.'

ALLELUIA!

**A READING FROM THE GOSPEL
OF MARK**

Mark 14:12–16, 22–26

On the first day of the feast of Unleavened Bread (thin flat bread with no yeast), the Jews killed a

Corpus Christi

lamb to celebrate the Passover. The disciples said to Jesus, 'Where do you want us to go and make the preparations for you to eat the Passover?' Jesus sent two of his disciples and said to them, 'Go into the city and you will meet a man carrying a jar of water. Follow him, and when he enters a house, you must say to the owner of that house, "The Master says: Where is the room so that I can eat the Passover with my disciples?" He will show you a large upper room with a table and seats. You make the preparations there for us.' The two (2) disciples went into the city and everything happened as Jesus said. They prepared the Passover.

While they were eating, Jesus took some bread. Jesus said a prayer of thanks, broke the bread, and gave it to his disciples. He said, 'Take the bread. This is my body.' Then Jesus took a cup and said a prayer of thanks, he gave the cup to his disciples. All drank from the cup and Jesus said to them, 'This is my blood, the blood

of the covenant (God's promise) that will be poured out for many. I tell you the truth. I will not drink any more wine until the day I drink the new wine in the kingdom of God.'

After singing the psalms, they all went to the Mount of Olives.

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS CHRIST

Sacred Heart

A READING FROM THE SCROLL ⇌ OF HOSEA

Hosea 11:1, 3–4, 8–9

Listen to the Lord, he said: ‘When Israel was a child I loved him. I took him as my son out of Egypt. I myself taught Ephraim to walk. I took the Israelites in my arms but they did not realise I was looking after them. I led them with love and kindness. I embraced them; I bent down and fed them. How could I treat you like Admah? How could I treat you like Zeboiim? My heart will not let me do it, my love for you is too strong. I will not let my anger allow me to punish you. I will not destroy Ephraim again, because I am God, not man. I am the Holy One, I am with you and I do not wish to destroy.’

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

Isaiah 12:2–6

RESPONSE: **WITH JOY WE RECEIVE LIVING WATER FROM THE LORD.**

WITH JOY WE RECEIVE LIVING WATER FROM THE LORD.

God saves me.

I trust God, I will not be afraid.

The Lord gives me strength.

The Lord gives me living water; he saves me.

WITH JOY WE RECEIVE LIVING WATER FROM THE LORD.

Thank the Lord and praise him.

His name is great, he has done great things.

Tell everybody about his wonderful work.

Praise the Lord because the Lord is the Holy One of Israel.

WITH JOY WE RECEIVE LIVING WATER FROM THE LORD.

A READING FROM ST PAUL’S SCROLL ⇕ TO THE EPHESIANS

Ephesians 3:8–12, 14–19

I am Paul, and I am not important among God’s people. But God gave me special grace to tell the

Sacred Heart

Good News of Jesus Christ to all people that do not believe in God. I also received grace to explain about God to them. God, the creator of everything, hid the secret for a long time. Why? So that the rulers and powers will realise, through the Church, that God is wise and know this because of the plan God had, through Jesus, from the beginning of time. This is why, because of our faith in Jesus, we are now brave enough to approach God with full confidence.

Now I kneel in front of the Father and I pray to him. Each family in heaven and on earth receives their name from him. I ask God, through his great glory, to give you the power of his Spirit so that your souls will grow strong. I also pray that, through your faith, Christ will live in your hearts. And I pray that your life will be strong with love and built on love. I pray that you will be with all God's people and will understand the greatness of God's love and that you will realise God's love is very

deep and powerful. Christ's love is special so I pray that you will know and receive God's love.

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!

God's love means He sent his Son to become the sacrifice to take away our sins.

ALLELUIA!

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF JOHN

John 19:31-37

It was Preparation Day. The next day was the Sabbath - a special day - and Jewish laws did not allow bodies to stay on the crosses. So the Jews asked Pilate to break the legs of the men on the crosses and to remove (take away) the dead bodies. The soldiers came and broke the legs of the first thief, and then the second thief, but when they came to Jesus, they realised he was

Sacred Heart

already dead. The soldiers did not break his legs; but with a spear, one soldier pierced Jesus' side. Straight away, blood and water flowed out. The disciple (John) saw this - he witnessed everything and he knows he tells the truth. He writes this so that you also can believe. This happened exactly as the Scripture (Bible) said:

'Not one of Jesus' bones will be broken.'

Also,

'People will look at Jesus with his side pierced.'

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

**PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS
CHRIST**

2nd Sunday of the Year

A READING FROM THE FIRST SCROLL ⇌ OF SAMUEL

1 Samuel 3:3–10, 19

Samuel was sleeping in the Temple, near the Ark of the Covenant (God's promise). The Lord called (said), 'Samuel! Samuel!' Samuel got up, and went to Eli and said, 'I am here, you called me.' Eli said, 'I did not call you. Go back to bed.' Samuel went back to bed. Again the Lord called, 'Samuel! Samuel!' Samuel got up, and went to Eli and said, 'I am here, you called me.' Eli replied, 'No, I did not call you. Go back to bed.' So Samuel went back to bed. Samuel did not know that God was calling him. God had not (yet) spoken to him before. For the third time, the Lord called. Samuel got up, went to Eli and said, 'I am here, you called me.' Eli realised God was calling the boy, so he said to Samuel, 'Go back to bed. If you hear someone calling you, say, "Speak to me, Lord. I am your servant. I am listening."' So the boy Samuel went back to bed.

The Lord came and stood near the boy. The Lord called and said, 'Samuel! Samuel!' The boy answered, 'Speak to me, Lord. I am your servant. I am listening.'

Samuel grew up and the Lord was with him. Everything the Lord told Samuel happened.

THE WORD OF THE LORD THANKS BE TO GOD

Psalm 39

RESPONSE: **LORD, I AM HERE! I WILL OBEY AND FOLLOW YOU.**

LORD, I AM HERE! I WILL OBEY AND FOLLOW YOU.

I waited, I waited for the Lord and He came to help me.

He heard my prayer and he saved me.

I rejoice and I praise God.

LORD, I AM HERE! I WILL OBEY AND FOLLOW YOU.

Lord, you do not want sacrifice.

You want me to listen and be open to you.

You do not want burnt offerings.

So I say: Lord, I am here.

2nd Sunday of the Year

**LORD, I AM HERE! I WILL OBEY
AND FOLLOW YOU.**

why you should respect your body for God's glory.

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

**A READING FROM ST PAUL'S
FIRST SCROLL ↕ TO THE
CORINTHIANS**

1 Corinthians 6:13–15, 17–20

We must not use the body for fornication (sexual sin). The body is for the Lord, and the Lord is for the body. By God's power, God raised the Lord Jesus from the dead. And God will use his power to raise us up.

You know that your bodies are part of the body of Christ himself. Any person that joins themselves to the Lord becomes spiritually one with him.

Keep away from sexual sin. All other sins are committed (done) outside the body, but fornication is a sexual sin against your own body. You know your body is a temple for the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit was given to you from God, and the Holy Spirit lives in you. Your body is not your own. God gave you your body. This is

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!

Lord, speak to me. I am your servant. I am listening. You have the message of eternal life.

ALLELUIA!

**A READING FROM THE GOSPEL
OF JOHN**

John 1:35–42

John the Baptist stood with two of his disciples, then he saw Jesus walk past him. John said, 'Look, there is the lamb of God.' The two disciples heard John (the Baptist), so they followed Jesus. Jesus turned and saw the two disciples following. He asked them, 'What do you want?' The two said, 'Rabbi', - meaning 'Teacher' - 'where do you live?' Jesus replied, 'Come and see.' They went with Jesus, saw where he lived, and

2nd Sunday of the Year

stayed with him all day. It was about four o'clock in the afternoon.

One of the two that followed Jesus was named Andrew. Andrew had a brother named Simon Peter. Early next morning, Andrew met his brother and said to him, 'We have found the Messiah' – 'Messiah' means 'Christ'. Andrew brought Simon, his brother, to Jesus. Jesus looked at Simon and said, 'You are Simon, son of John. Now you will be named "Cephas"'. 'Cephas' is the same as 'Peter', meaning 'Rock'.

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

**PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS
CHRIST**

3rd Sunday of the Year

Psalm 24

A READING FROM THE SCROLL ⇄ OF JONAH

Jonah 3:1–5, 10

The Lord spoke to Jonah: ‘Go! Go to the big city, Nineveh, and preach to the people there as I told you.’ Jonah obeyed the Lord and went to Nineveh. Nineveh was a very big city, it took three days to walk through the city. Jonah walked into the city and after a full day’s walk, started to preach to the people. He said, ‘In forty days, Nineveh will be destroyed!’ The people of Nineveh believed this message from God. They decided to fast (not eat), everybody from the oldest to the youngest, and they wore sackcloth to show that they repented.

God saw that the people had given up their evil ways, God changed his mind and did not punish the people.

THE WORD OF THE LORD THANKS BE TO GOD

RESPONSE: LORD, TEACH ME YOUR WAYS.

LORD, TEACH ME YOUR WAYS.

Lord, teach me your ways.

Help me to live with the truth.

Because you God, you are my Saviour.

Do not remember my sins, but give me your love.

LORD, TEACH ME YOUR WAYS.

The Lord is truly good.

He shows the right way to sinners.

He leads humble people the right way.

He teaches his way to the poor.

LORD, TEACH ME YOUR WAYS.

A READING FROM ST PAUL’S FIRST SCROLL ⇄ TO THE CORINTHIANS

1 Corinthians 7:29–31

Brothers and sisters, I want to tell you something because we do not have much time left. Starting from now, married people should live as if they were not married. Sad people should live as if they

3rd Sunday of the Year

were not sad. Happy people enjoying life should live as if they were not happy and have nothing to laugh about. People that love buying things should live as if nothing belongs to them. People busy with the things of the world should live as if these things were not important. You should live this way because the world, as it is now, will soon be gone.

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!

The kingdom of God is near.
Believe the Good News.

ALLELUIA!

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF MARK

Mark 1:14–20

After John the Baptist was put in prison, Jesus went to Galilee and preached the Good News from God. Jesus said, 'Now is the time, the kingdom of God is near!

Change your lives, repent and believe the Good News.'

Jesus was walking near the Sea of Galilee, he saw two fishermen, Simon and his brother Andrew, throwing the net into the sea. Jesus said to them, 'Follow me and I will teach you to catch people.' Straight away they dropped the nets and followed Jesus.

Jesus continued walking and saw two other brothers, James and John, the sons of Zebedee. They were in the boat with their father and the men working with him, mending the nets. Jesus called them and straight away they left the boat and their father, and they followed him.

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS CHRIST

4th Sunday of the Year

A READING FROM THE SCROLL ⇌ OF DEUTERONOMY

Deuteronomy 18:15–20

Moses said to the people: ‘The Lord your God will send you a prophet. This prophet will come from your own people, and this prophet will be like me. You must listen to this prophet. On the day that you were gathered at Horeb, Mount Sinai, you were afraid of God’s voice and the terrible fire. You said, “Do not let us hear the voice of the Lord our God again! Do not let us see that great fire or we will die!” The Lord told me, “The thing they ask for is good. I will send them a prophet like you. This prophet will be one of their own people. I will tell him what to say, and he will tell the people everything I command. This prophet will speak in my name. And anyone that refuses to listen to this prophet, I will punish them. But if any prophet says something that I did not say, that prophet will die. And, if a prophet speaks for other gods, that prophet must also die.”’

THE WORD OF THE LORD THANKS BE TO GOD

Psalm 94

RESPONSE: **TODAY WE WILL LISTEN TO GOD. WE WILL NOT LET OUR HEARTS BECOME HARD.**

TODAY WE WILL LISTEN TO GOD. WE WILL NOT LET OUR HEARTS BECOME HARD.

Come, let us praise and thank the Lord!

Let us sing with joy because God saves us.

Come, let us bow and worship him.

Because he is our God, he created us, and we are his people.

TODAY WE WILL LISTEN TO GOD. WE WILL NOT LET OUR HEARTS BECOME HARD.

Listen to God.

Do not let your hearts become hard or stubborn,

Not like the people of long ago in the desert,

they saw God’s work, but they refused to believe in him.

4th Sunday of the Year

TODAY WE WILL LISTEN TO GOD. WE WILL NOT LET OUR HEARTS BECOME HARD.

A READING FROM ST PAUL'S FIRST SCROLL ↕ TO THE CORINTHIANS

1 Corinthians 7:32–35

I want you to be free from worry. A man that is not married can have time to work for the Lord. He tries to please the Lord. But a married man is busy with the things of the world and he tries to please his wife, so he is pulled two ways. In the same way a woman that is not married, like a young girl, can have time to work for the Lord. She wants to give herself fully – body and soul – to the Lord. But a married woman is busy with the things of the world and she tries to please her husband. I am saying this because I want to help you and not to make things worse for you. I want to make sure you live the right way and that you give yourselves fully to the Lord.

**THE WORD OF THE LORD
THANKS BE TO GOD**

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!

Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth. You show the kingdom of God to your children.

ALLELUIA!

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF MARK

Mark 1:21–28

Jesus and his disciples went to Capernaum. As the Sabbath began, Jesus went into the synagogue and began to teach. The people listening to Jesus were really impressed; Jesus was not like the scribes (writers) because he taught with authority.

While Jesus was in the synagogue, there was a man with an evil spirit inside him. The evil spirit inside the man shouted, 'Jesus of Nazareth. What do you want with us? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are –

4th Sunday of the Year

you are the Holy One of God!’ Jesus said strongly, ‘Be quiet! You evil spirit, come out of the man!’ The evil spirit threw the man to the ground. With a loud scream the evil spirit came out of the man. All the people were shocked. They asked each other what had happened. They said, ‘This man, Jesus, gives us a new teaching. He has authority to give orders to evil spirits and they obey him!’ News about Jesus spread quickly everywhere in Galilee.

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

**PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS
CHRIST**

5th Sunday of the Year

Psalm 146

A READING FROM THE SCROLL ⇔ OF JOB

Job 7:1-4, 6-7

Job began to speak: 'Is human life hard work? Is it the same as compulsory (forced) army work? Is life the same as the boring life of a manual (hand) worker? Is life the same as slaves that wish to cool themselves while working hard on a hot sunny day, while waiting for their wages? I have nothing to live for, as I wait for many months. Every night, I suffer, resting on my bed, I think, "It is a long time to wait for the morning." But in the morning, I think "It is a long time to wait for the evening." During the day I worry, then the day is finished, giving me no hope. Remember, my life is short the same as a breath, and my eyes will never again see joy.'

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

**RESPONSE: PRAISE THE LORD.
HE HEALS THE BROKEN-
HEARTED.**

**PRAISE THE LORD. HE HEALS
THE BROKEN-HEARTED.**

Praise the Lord because he is good.

Sing to God because he is loving.
The Lord builds Jerusalem again.
He brings back the Jewish people
to their homes.

**PRAISE THE LORD. HE HEALS
THE BROKEN-HEARTED.**

The Lord heals the broken-
hearted.

Their wounds, the Lord bandages.
God counts the stars and gives a
name to each star.

The Lord is wise, wonderful and
powerful.

**PRAISE THE LORD. HE HEALS
THE BROKEN-HEARTED.**

5th Sunday of the Year

A READING FROM ST PAUL'S FIRST SCROLL ↕ TO CORINTHIANS

1 Corinthians 9:16–19, 22–23

I do not boast (very proud) of preaching the gospel. Preaching the gospel is my duty – something I must do. If I do not preach the gospel, I should be punished. If it was my choice to preach the gospel, then I could expect to be paid. But I did not choose; God gave me this duty. So I must preach the gospel. What reward will I receive? The reward will be that when I preach the gospel, I will not charge people for it but offer the Good News freely, and that I will not claim my rights in my work for the gospel. I am a free man, I belong to no one. But I make myself a slave for all people so that I can save as many people as possible. With weak people, I made myself weak so I became like them. I did this so that I could save them. I do these things because of the gospel, and I hope to receive blessings from doing this for the gospel.

THE WORD OF THE LORD THANKS BE TO GOD

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!

Jesus said, 'I am the light of the world. Any person that follows me will have the light of life.'

ALLELUIA!

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF MARK

Mark 1:29–39

After leaving the synagogue, Jesus went with James and John straight to the house of Simon and Andrew. Simon's mother-in-law was in bed with fever. They told Jesus straight away about her being ill. Jesus went to her, took her hand and helped her to stand. The fever went (gone) and she was healed. She began to serve them.

That evening, after the sun went down, the people brought many sick people to Jesus. They also brought people that had evil

5th Sunday of the Year

spirits inside them. All the people from the town came crowding around the door. Jesus cured many people that were suffering from different kinds of diseases (sickness). Jesus also threw out many evil devils and he would not allow the devils to speak because they knew who Jesus was.

In the morning, long before the sun came up, Jesus got up and left the house. He went to a quiet place and prayed there. Later, Simon and his friends went to look for Jesus. When they found Jesus, they said, 'Everybody is looking for you.' Jesus replied, 'Let us go to another place. We can go to other towns so that I can preach there also, because this is why I came.' Jesus went everywhere in Galilee. He preached in their synagogues and he threw out devils.

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

**PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS
CHRIST**

6th Sunday of the Year

Psalm 31

A READING FROM THE SCROLL ⇌ OF LEVITICUS

Leviticus 12:1–2, 44–46

The Lord said to Moses and Aaron, 'If a person has a sore on the skin, or a swelling, or a shiny spot, that person might have leprosy. That person must be brought to the priest, either Aaron or one of his sons. If a person has leprosy, that person must wear torn clothes, not comb their hair; they must cover their mouth, and warn other people. That person must shout, "Not clean, not clean." As long as they have the infection, they will not be clean. So they must live outside the camp and away from other people.'

THE WORD OF THE LORD THANKS BE TO GOD

RESPONSE: LORD, YOU PROTECT ME, YOU GIVE ME JOY.

**LORD, YOU PROTECT ME,
YOU GIVE ME JOY.**

If a person receives forgiveness, that person will be happy. God does not blame that person; if that person is not sly, that person will be happy because God forgives them.

**LORD, YOU PROTECT ME,
YOU GIVE ME JOY.**

Now, I have acknowledged (recognised) my sins.

I said: 'I will confess my sins to the Lord.'

And the Lord forgave my sins.

I will rejoice in the Lord because he saved me.

**LORD, YOU PROTECT ME,
YOU GIVE ME JOY.**

A READING FROM ST PAUL'S FIRST SCROLL ⇕ TO THE CORINTHIANS

1 Corinthians 10:31 – 11:1

Remember, if you eat, or if you drink, or if you do anything, do it

6th Sunday of the Year

for the glory of God. Never do anything that will start to make trouble or upset people - Jews, Greeks or the Church of God. I always try to help everybody. I am not worried about things for myself, but I do good things for other people so that they can be saved. Follow my example, the same as I follow Christ.

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!

Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, open our minds to understand the hope you give us.

ALLELUIA!

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF MARK

Mark 1:40-45

A man with leprosy (skin disease) came to Jesus, he knelt and prayed to Jesus for help. The man said, 'If you want to, you can cure me.' Jesus felt sorry for the man

and said, 'Of course I want to cure you!' Jesus put out his hand, touched him and said, 'Be cured!' Immediately, the leprosy disappeared and the man was cured. Jesus strictly told him, 'Do not tell anyone that I cured you, but go and show yourself to the priest. And give a sacrifice to God, as Moses said you must, to prove that you are cured.' The man went away but he started talking about it and telling people about what Jesus did. The news spread everywhere, so that Jesus could not go into any town but had to stay outside in places that nobody lived. But people continued to look for Jesus.

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS CHRIST

7th Sunday of the Year

A READING FROM THE SCROLL ⇄ OF ISAIAH

Isaiah 43:18–18, 21–22, 24–25

The Lord says: ‘Do not think about the past. Do not think about the things that happened a long time ago. Why? Because I will do new things. It is happening already, you can see it now! I am making a road in the desert. The people I created, they will praise me. Jacob, why did you not pray to me? Israel, why did you become lazy and not help me? You did not worship me but instead, you sinned. Your sins gave me a heavy burden. You did wrong things, you did not please me. But I, I am God, and I forgive your sins. I will wipe away all evil, I will not remember your sins.’

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

Psalm 40

RESPONSE: **HEAL MY SOUL
BECAUSE I SINNED AGAINST
YOU.**

**HEAL MY SOUL BECAUSE I
SINNED AGAINST YOU.**

A person that helps the poor and weak people will be blessed.

Because when they themselves are in need, the Lord will help and protect them.

The Lord will give them life and bless them.

The Lord will keep them safe from enemies.

HEAL MY SOUL BECAUSE I SINNED AGAINST YOU.

When anyone is sick and suffers, the Lord will give health.

I said: Lord, heal my soul because I sinned against you.

Lord, I know I will not be in danger because you always protect me.

Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel, for ever and ever! Amen!

HEAL MY SOUL BECAUSE I SINNED AGAINST YOU.

A READING FROM ST PAUL’S SECOND SCROLL ⇄ TO THE CORINTHIANS

2 Corinthians 1:18–22

God knows I tell the truth: the things we say never confuse you

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to think we mean both 'Yes' and 'No'; I always talk straight. Silvanus, Timothy and I myself preached about Christ Jesus, the Son of God, to you. Jesus Christ never said both, 'Yes' and 'No.' Christ Jesus always said 'Yes' to God. God gave lots of promises and Christ Jesus said 'Yes' to all of them. That is why when we praise God we say 'Amen', and we say 'Amen' through Christ Jesus. Remember, God helped you and us to be sure of life with Jesus Christ. God anointed us and gave us a special mark (sign); to show that God kept his promise, He gave us the Holy Spirit and we carry the Spirit in our hearts.

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!

The Word (Jesus) became flesh. He lived with us. To people that accepted him, He (Jesus) gave them power to become God's children.

ALLELUIA!

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF MARK

Mark 2:1-12

Jesus came back to Capernaum and the news spread around that Jesus was back. Many people came so that there was no room left in the house, not even outside the door. Jesus was preaching to the people. More people arrived with four (4) men carrying a paralysed man on a mat. But because of the crowd, they could not get through to Jesus. They went to the roof above the place where Jesus was. They made a hole in the roof and then they lowered (bring down) the paralysed man down, lying on his mat. Jesus saw that the men had faith, so he said to the paralysed man, 'My son, your sins are forgiven.' Some scribes (writers) were sitting near Jesus and saw what he did. They said to each other, 'Why does this man (Jesus) say things like that? That's blaspheming (swearing against God). Only God can forgive sins.' Jesus knew their thoughts, so he said to them, 'What are you

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thinking about? Tell me, which is easier to say to the paralysed man: "Your sins are forgiven," or to say, "Get up, pick up your mat and walk"? Which is easier? Now I will prove to you that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins.' Jesus said to the paralysed man on the mat, 'I order you: get up, pick up your mat and go home.' The paralysed man got up, picked up his mat and walked out of the house in front of everybody. All the people were amazed and they praised God saying, 'We have never seen anything like this.'

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS CHRIST

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A READING FROM THE SCROLL ⇄ OF HOSEA

Hosea 2:16–17, 21–22

The Lord says: 'I will lead her out into the desert. I will speak to her heart with words of love. She will turn to me and accept me as when she was young, the same as when she came out of Egypt. I will make you my bride (wife) forever. I will be true and faithful. I will love you with justice and tenderness (gentleness). With faithfulness I will make you my bride and you will know that I am truly the Lord.'

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

Psalm 102

RESPONSE: **MY LORD IS
COMPASSION AND LOVE.**

MY LORD IS COMPASSION AND LOVE.

My soul give thanks to the Lord.
Bless his holy name.
I will never forget all his blessings.
He always forgives us.

MY LORD IS COMPASSION AND LOVE.

The Lord heals us.
He saves our life from the grave.
He takes away our sins.
He always gives us his love and
compassion.

MY LORD IS COMPASSION AND LOVE.

A READING FROM ST PAUL'S SECOND SCROLL ⇄ TO THE CORINTHIANS

2 Corinthians 3:1–6

Do we need letters of introduction to you or from you, the same as other people? No! You are a letter from Christ that we use for other people, written not with ink but written with the Spirit of the living God. This letter is not written on stone but on your hearts.

We say this because we have confidence in God through Christ. We know we cannot say that we did this work. God ordered us and gave us the skills to be able to work for the new covenant (God's promise), and this covenant (God's promise) is not

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written but is of the Spirit. The written law brings death, but the Spirit gives life.

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!

The Lord says, 'The sheep that belong to me listen to my voice. I know them and they follow me.'

ALLELUIA!

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF MARK

Mark 2:18-22

One day John the Baptist's disciples were fasting and the Pharisees were fasting; some people came to Jesus and said to him, 'John the Baptist's disciples fast and the Pharisees fast, but your disciples do not fast. Why?' Jesus replied, 'When there is a wedding, do you think the bridegroom's friends will fast? No, they do not fast because the bridegroom is with them and

they are happy. But the time will come when the bridegroom will be taken away from them. Then, on that day, his friends will fast. When a person sews a patch over a hole on an old coat, they never use a piece of cloth that is not yet shrunk. If they sew a new piece of cloth, it will shrink and tear off some of the old cloth and the hole will become worse. The same with the wine bags; people never pour new wine into an old wine bag because the bag will burst, and both the wine and the bag will be lost. So, new wine, new wine bag!'

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS CHRIST

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Psalm 80

A READING FROM THE SCROLL ⇄ OF DEUTERONOMY

Deuteronomy 5:12–15

The Lord says this: ‘Keep the sabbath a special day, keep it holy, because the Lord your God commanded (ordered) you. You have six (6) days that you can work, but the seventh (7th) day is a day of rest to honour the Lord your God. On the seventh (7th) day, no person should work, not you, not your children, not the stranger living with you. Your servants must rest. No animals should work, nor cows nor donkeys. Any strangers living with you must rest too. Don’t forget, in the past you were slaves in the land of Egypt. Through God’s power, the Lord helped you escape from Egypt. That is why the Lord your God commands (orders) you to keep the sabbath a special day.’

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

RESPONSE: **SING WITH JOY
BECAUSE OUR GOD IS STRONG.**

**SING WITH JOY BECAUSE OUR
GOD IS STRONG.**

Start the music with the harp.
Blow the trumpet and praise the Lord.

When the moon is new, when the moon is full, we celebrate.

**SING WITH JOY BECAUSE OUR
GOD IS STRONG.**

God’s law is for the people of Israel.

God gave the law to Jacob.

God helped Joseph when he was in Egypt.

**SING WITH JOY BECAUSE OUR
GOD IS STRONG.**

God said, ‘While you were in Egypt and you were suffering, You asked me for help.

I came and saved you.’

**SING WITH JOY BECAUSE OUR
GOD IS STRONG.**

‘Now you must have no false gods.

You must not worship false foreign gods.

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I am the Lord your God.
I brought you out from Egypt.'

**SING WITH JOY BECAUSE OUR
GOD IS STRONG.**

A READING FROM ST PAUL'S SECOND SCROLL ↕ TO THE CORINTHIANS

2 Corinthians 4:6–11

God said, 'The light will shine from the darkness.' God let his light shine in our hearts. God lets us see his glory in the face of Christ by giving us his light.

We are the same as clay jars. Inside the clay jars, we have spiritual treasure from God. This shows the great power that comes from God, not from us. Often we have difficulties, but we are not crushed. We have problems and worries, but we never give up hope. People persecute us, but God never leaves us. We are hurt, but never killed. Always, wherever we go, we have the death of Jesus in us, so that the life of Jesus will also be seen in us. While we live on

earth, we are always in danger but we accept the dangers because we want to do it for Jesus. Because we want people to see the life of Jesus in our mortal (weak) bodies.

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!

Lord, your words are spirit. Your words have life. You have the message of eternal life.

ALLELUIA!

[Short form read between *.....*]

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF MARK

Mark 2:23 – 3:6

* On the sabbath day, Jesus was walking through the cornfields. His disciples picked the corn to eat. The Pharisees saw this and said to Jesus, 'Your disciples are picking and eating the corn on the sabbath. That is against the Jewish law.' Jesus replied, 'Have

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you never read what happened with King David? David himself and his men were hungry, and they went into the house of God and ate the bread that only the priests are allowed to eat. David gave some bread to his men. That happened when Abiathar was high priest.'

Jesus said to the Pharisees, 'The sabbath was made for man. Man was not made for the sabbath. This means that the Son of Man is Lord of the sabbath.' *

Then Jesus went into a synagogue. There was a man that had a crippled hand. The Pharisees watched to see if Jesus would cure the man on the sabbath day. They were hoping to catch Jesus doing something wrong and against the Jewish law on the sabbath. Jesus said to the man with the crippled hand, 'Come, stand in the middle!' Then Jesus said to the Pharisees, 'Is it against the law on the sabbath day to do good, or to do evil? Is it against the law on the sabbath

day to save life, or to kill?' But they said nothing. Jesus looked at them and he was angry because they were stubborn. Jesus said to the man, 'Stretch out your hand.' He stretched it out and his hand was cured (better). The Pharisees went away and immediately they met members of King Herod's group and they began to make plans to kill Jesus.

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS CHRIST

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A READING FROM THE SCROLL ⇌ OF GENESIS

Genesis 3:9–15

The Lord God called to the man Adam, 'Where are you?' The man replied, 'I heard you walking in the garden. I was afraid, so I hid because I was naked.' The Lord God said, 'Who told you that you were naked? Did you eat the fruit that I told you not to eat?' The man replied, 'The woman you gave me for company; she gave me the fruit and I ate it.'

Then the Lord God asked the woman, 'Why did you do this?' The woman replied, 'The serpent (snake) tempted me and I ate.'

Then the Lord God said to the serpent (snake), 'You will be punished for this, you alone of all animals are condemned. You will crawl on your belly and eat dust everyday of your life. I will make you (snake) and the woman enemies. Your offspring (baby snakes) and the woman's children will be enemies. You will strike (hit) her child's heel (foot), but that child will crush your head.'

THE WORD OF THE LORD THANKS BE TO GOD

Psalm 129

RESPONSE: **THE LORD IS
MERCIFUL, HE WILL SAVE US.**

**THE LORD IS MERCIFUL,
HE WILL SAVE US.**

Lord, my prayer rises up to you.
From the depth of my heart I
express my prayer;
Look! Listen to me!

**THE LORD IS MERCIFUL,
HE WILL SAVE US.**

Lord, if you punish us because of
our guilt,

No one would continue to live.

But you, Lord, you forgive us.

Because of this, we respect you.

**THE LORD IS MERCIFUL,
HE WILL SAVE US.**

I wait for the Lord to help me.

I trust him.

I wait as (same) people wait for
the sun to come up.

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THE LORD IS MERCIFUL, HE WILL SAVE US.

The Lord is merciful.

He will save us.

Israel, trust the Lord.

The Lord will forgive us all our sins.

THE LORD IS MERCIFUL, HE WILL SAVE US.

A READING FROM ST PAUL'S SECOND SCROLL ↕ TO THE CORINTHIANS

2 Corinthians 4:13 – 5:1

As Scripture (Bible) says, 'I believed and I spoke.' In the same way, our faith helps us to speak because we believe. We know God raised the Lord Jesus from the dead. And we know God will also raise us with Jesus. We will be together and in God's presence. All this will happen to you. The more grace is given to people, the more people will thank God for his glory.

That is why we try not to become weak. Our body becomes older and weaker, but our spirit inside

us is made new every day. We have difficulties in life for a short time, but those difficulties will bring us an inner strength for the eternal glory, and that eternal glory is much greater than our difficulties. We think about the things we cannot see. We do not think about the things we can see, because we see them for a short time, but the things we cannot see will continue for ever.

Our body is like a tent that we live in here on earth. But this body will be destroyed. God has built a home in heaven for us to live in, not made by people. Our home in heaven with God will continue forever.

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!

Jesus said, 'If any person loves me that person will keep my word. My father will love that person. My father and I will come to that person.'

ALLELUIA!

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A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF MARK

Mark 3:20–35

Jesus went home with his disciples and a large crowd followed, but because of the crowd Jesus and his disciples had no time to eat. When Jesus' family heard about this, they went to bring Jesus home because they believed Jesus was mad.

The scribes (writers) came from Jerusalem and said, 'Beelzebul, the Devil, is inside Jesus. This Devil gives Jesus the power to throw out other devils.' So Jesus spoke to them and told them a parable: 'How can the Devil throw out the Devil? If a country fights itself, that country will collapse. If a family fights itself, that family cannot live. So if a Devil fights itself and he is divided, he cannot live. He is finished. If people want to enter a strong man's house and steal his things, first they must tie up the strong man. Then they can steal his things.

I tell you the truth: all the swearing and all the sins that

people do, they will be forgiven. But if a person swears against the Holy Spirit, that person will never be forgiven. That person has an eternal sin.' Jesus said this because people were saying, 'He (Jesus) has an evil spirit inside him.'

Jesus' mother and brothers arrived. They stood outside and they asked someone to let Jesus know they had arrived. A crowd was sitting around Jesus then someone said to Jesus, 'Your mother and brothers and sisters are outside waiting for you.' Jesus asked, 'Who is my mother? Who are my brothers?' He looked at the people sitting round him and he said, 'Here are my mother and my brothers. Any person that obeys God, that person is my brother and sister and mother.'

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS CHRIST

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A READING FROM THE SCROLL ⇄ OF EZEKIEL

Ezekiel 17:22–24

The Lord says this: 'I will take a new growth from a branch at the top of a tall cedar tree. I myself will plant it on a very high mountain in Israel. It will grow and become a beautiful cedar tree, its branches will make fruit. Many birds will live there and rest in the shade (shadow). All other trees will know that I am the Lord, because I cut down tall trees, and make small trees grow and become tall. I make green trees become dry, and I make dry trees become green. I am the Lord, and I said I will do it.'

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

Psalm 91

RESPONSE: **WE THANK YOU LORD.**

WE THANK YOU LORD.

It is good to thank you, Lord.
It is good to praise your name.
It is good to tell of your love
every morning,

and to sing about your
faithfulness every evening.

WE THANK YOU LORD.

Good people are like palm trees
growing strong.
Growing in the house of the Lord.
Giving fruit even when they are
old.
They will say that the Lord is
good.

WE THANK YOU LORD.

A READING FROM ST PAUL'S SECOND SCROLL ⇄ TO THE CORINTHIANS

2 Corinthians 5:6–10

We are always full of confidence.
We know that if we are at home
in the body, we are not in the
Lord's home. We do not live by
what we can see, we live by faith.
We are full of confidence and I,
Paul, really want to leave the
home in my body and live in the
Lord's home. But it does not
matter if we live in our body, or
live in the Lord's home, because
we always want to please the
Lord. When we stand in front of

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Christ for the Judgement, each person will receive reward or punishment for the things they did, good or bad.

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!

Jesus said, 'You are my friends because I taught you everything I learnt from my Father.'

ALLELUIA!

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF MARK

Mark 4:26–34

Jesus said to the people, 'The kingdom of God is the same as a man that scatters (throws) seed in the field. During the night when the man is asleep, and during the day when he is awake, the seed grows. How it grows the man does not know. The soil itself lets the seed grow. First the stalk grows, then the ear (top), and then all the grain (seed) in the ear

(top). When the crop is ready, the man starts working straight away. He begins to reap (cut) because the harvest is ready.'

Jesus also said, 'What can I say about the kingdom of God? What parable (story) shall I use? The kingdom of God is the same as a mustard seed. The mustard seed is the smallest of all seeds in the world. But if you plant a mustard seed in the soil, it grows and becomes the biggest bush of all. The branches are so big, the birds of the air come to rest in the bush and are protected from the hot sun.'

Jesus used many parables (stories) to teach people so that they could try to understand. Jesus would not speak to people without using parables. But when Jesus was alone with his disciples, he explained everything to them.

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS CHRIST

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A READING FROM THE SCROLL ⇄ OF JOB

Job 38:1, 8-11

From the storm the Lord spoke to Job: 'Who closed the gates to stop the sea flowing from the middle of the earth? I sent the clouds to cover the sea and keep it dark with mist. I decided where the sea will spread. I said to the sea, 'You can come this far, but no further. Here is where your powerful waves will stop.'"

THE WORD OF THE LORD THANKS BE TO GOD

Psalm 106

RESPONSE: LET US THANK THE LORD BECAUSE HIS LOVE CONTINUES FOR EVER.

LET US THANK THE LORD BECAUSE HIS LOVE CONTINUES FOR EVER.

Some people sailed their ships on the sea.

They saw many wonderful things that the Lord did for them.

God gave the command; a strong wind began to blow and the waves became rough and high.

LET US THANK THE LORD BECAUSE HIS LOVE CONTINUES FOR EVER.

They prayed to the Lord and He saved them from danger.

God made the storm calm; God brought them home safely.

They thanked the Lord, for all his wonderful things.

LET US THANK THE LORD BECAUSE HIS LOVE CONTINUES FOR EVER.

A READING FROM ST PAUL'S SECOND SCROLL ⇅ TO THE CORINTHIANS

2 Corinthians 5:14-17

If we think about the love of Christ - one man - He died for all of us, then we realise that all of us share in His death. The love of Christ controls us. Why did He die

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for us? He died for us so that we do not live only for ourselves, but we live for Him. He died and was raised to life for us.

From now, and in the future, we do not judge any person in the old way that we used to judge people. In the past, we judged people the same way as the world judged Christ, but now we don't do that any more. Any person that believes in Christ and lives in Him will be a new creation, a new person. The old creation, the old way has gone (finished).

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!

Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, open our minds to understand the hope you give us.

ALLELUIA!

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF MARK

Mark 4:35-41

In the evening, Jesus said to his disciples, 'Let us sail over the Sea

of Galilee and go to the other side.' They left the crowd of people. The disciples went into the boat, Jesus was already sitting there in the boat. Other boats were there too. A very strong wind began, the waves became rough and began to spill over into the boat, the boat was almost full of water. Jesus was in the back of the boat, sleeping, his head on a cushion. The disciples woke him and said, 'Lord, don't you care? We will sink!' Jesus woke up and commanded (ordered) the wind and the sea, 'Stop! Be quiet!' The wind stopped and the sea was calm again. Then Jesus said to his disciples, 'Why are you so frightened? Why have you no faith?' The disciples were full of awe (fear with respect) and they said to each other, 'Who is this man? The wind and the sea obey him!'

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS CHRIST

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A READING FROM THE SCROLL ⇄ OF WISDOM

Wisdom 1:13–15; 2:23–24

Death was not God's plan; when created things die, it does not make God happy. God created everything so that all continue to live. Everything God created is healthy and good. There is no dangerous poison in God's creation. Hades (Hell), place of death, has no power over God's creation, because God's goodness will always continue. When God created us, God knew we would die but he made us like (same) himself in his own image. It was the Devil's jealousy that brought death into the world, so all those that follow the Devil will experience death.

THE WORD OF THE LORD THANKS BE TO GOD

Psalm 29

**RESPONSE: I PRAISE YOU, LORD,
BECAUSE YOU SAVED ME.**

**I PRAISE YOU, LORD,
BECAUSE YOU SAVED ME.**

Lord, I praise you because you did not let my enemies win over me.

You gave me new life.

All you people praise the Lord.

Thank his holy name.

His anger is for a short time, his goodness is for ever.

**I PRAISE YOU, LORD,
BECAUSE YOU SAVED ME.**

The Lord listened and he came to help me.

He took away my tears and let me dance with joy.

Lord God, I will thank you for ever.

**I PRAISE YOU, LORD,
BECAUSE YOU SAVED ME.**

A READING FROM ST PAUL'S SECOND SCROLL ⇄ TO CORINTHIANS

2 Corinthians 8:7, 9, 13–15

You always have plenty of everything – faith, understanding, ability (skill) to explain things well, eagerness to help others, and love. So we expect you to do your best in this work of mercy.

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Remember, the Lord was very generous. He was rich but he became poor for you, so that he could make you rich. This does not mean that if you want to help other people, you should make life more difficult for yourselves. No! You must try to find a balance – so if you have plenty of good things, and other people have nothing, you should share with them. Because, one day, you will have nothing, and other people will give you the things that you will need. That way, everybody will have a balance in their lives. Scripture (Bible) says: a person that has a lot of things, really does not have too much. And a person that has little, is not short of anything.

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!

Lord, your words are spirit. Your words have life. You have the message of eternal life.

ALLELUIA!

[Short form read between *.....*]

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF MARK

Mark 5:21–43

* Jesus went to the other side of the lake by boat. When he arrived, a large crowd was waiting for him, so Jesus stayed near the lake. An official of the synagogue came, his name was Jairus. When Jairus saw Jesus, he knelt down in front of him and said, ‘My little daughter is seriously ill. Please come, lay (put) your hands on her, make her better and save her life.’ Jesus went with Jairus, and a large crowd followed Jesus. They were pushing all round Jesus. *

There was a woman, she had been suffering from a haemorrhage (internal bleeding) for twelve (12) years. Many doctors tried to help her. The woman spent a lot of money trying to get better but she became worse. She had heard about Jesus, so in the crowd, the woman came behind Jesus. She thought, ‘If I can touch Jesus’ clothes, I will be better.’ The

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woman touched Jesus' cloak, and immediately her bleeding stopped. She felt better! Jesus felt power go out of him, so he turned round and said, 'Who touched my clothes?' His disciples said, 'Many people are pushing round you. Why ask who touched you?' But Jesus continued to look round to find out who touched him. The woman realised that she was better, so she came to Jesus, frightened and trembling, and she knelt down in front of Jesus. She told Jesus everything. Jesus said to the woman, 'My daughter, your faith has made you better. Go in peace, you will have no more bleeding.'

* As Jesus was still speaking, some people arrived from Jairus' house. They said to Jairus, the synagogue official, 'Your daughter is dead. You do not need to bother Jesus.' But Jesus heard this and he said to Jairus, 'Do not be afraid. Have faith!' Jesus allowed only Peter, and the two brothers, James and John, to go with him,

no one else could go. They arrived at Jairus' house. Jesus saw the fuss, the upset, and many people crying. Jesus went in the house and said to them, 'Why all the noise and crying? The child is not dead. She is asleep.' But the people laughed at (mocked) Jesus. Jesus told all the people to leave the house. With the girl's father and mother, and the three disciples, Jesus went to see the girl. Jesus took the girl's hand, and said to her, 'Talitha, kum!' that means, 'Little girl, I tell you to get up.' Straight away, the little girl got up and she began to walk around, because she was only twelve (12) years old. The parents and the disciples were amazed. Jesus told them strictly not to tell anyone about what had happened. He told the parents to give the girl something to eat. *

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

**PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS
CHRIST**

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A READING FROM THE SCROLL ⇌ OF EZEKIEL

Ezekiel 2:2–5

The spirit came into me and made me stand. I heard the Lord speaking to me. He said, ‘Son of man, now I send you to the people of Israel. These trouble-makers are against me, the same as their ancestors (people of the past). They sinned against me, they are stubborn and will not listen. I send you to them to tell them my message. They might listen to you, they might not listen, but these trouble-makers will know that there is a prophet among them.’

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

Psalms 122

RESPONSE: **OUR EYES LOOK TO THE LORD, HE SHOWS US HIS MERCY.**

**OUR EYES LOOK TO THE LORD,
HE SHOWS US HIS MERCY.**

Lord, I look to you, you live in heaven.

Like the servants that look at their master,

We look to you, Lord our God.
And You give us your mercy.

**OUR EYES LOOK TO THE LORD,
HE SHOWS US HIS MERCY.**

Have mercy on us, Lord, have mercy.

We are ashamed of ourselves.

Proud people insult us.

They mock us, thinking they are better than us.

**OUR EYES LOOK TO THE LORD,
HE SHOWS US HIS MERCY.**

A READING FROM ST PAUL'S SECOND SCROLL ⇕ TO THE CORINTHIANS

2 Corinthians 12:7–10

To stop me becoming too proud because of the wonderful things that have happened to me, I received a painful problem. That painful problem is the same as a thorn in my flesh. But the painful problem is really an angel of the Devil and this devil beats me to stop me becoming too proud. Three times I prayed to the Lord

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about this; I asked the Lord to take away this suffering. But the Lord said, 'My grace is enough for you. When you are really weak, then my power is great.' I am very happy to be proud of my weaknesses so that Christ's power will protect me. I am happy to accept my weaknesses, to accept the hard times and the suffering. I am happy to accept when people insult me and persecute me. I am happy to accept all these difficulties for Christ, because when I am weak, then I am truly strong.

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!

The Word (Jesus) became flesh. He lived with us. To people that accepted him, He (Jesus) gave them power to become God's children.

ALLELUIA!

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF MARK

Mark 6:1-6

Jesus went to his home town and his disciples went with him. On the sabbath day Jesus began to teach in the synagogue. Many people heard him and they were astonished (very surprised). They said, 'How did this man learn to teach? Where did he get this wisdom from? How did he get the power to work these miracles? He is a carpenter. He is the son of Mary. He has brothers: James, Joset, Jude and Simon. His sisters are here with us.' And the people would not accept Jesus. Jesus said to them, 'A prophet is never accepted in his own country, and not accepted by his relatives and his family.' Jesus could not work miracles in his home town, but he cured a few sick people by laying his hands on them. Jesus was disappointed that his people did not have faith.

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS CHRIST

15th Sunday of the Year

A READING FROM THE SCROLL ⇄ OF AMOS

Amos 7:12–15

Amaziah, the priest of Bezel, said to Amos, 'You prophet, go away! Go back to Judah and do your prophesying (peaching) there. Earn money there. Don't prophesy (preach) here in Bethel. This is the king's place; this is Israel's temple!' Amos replied to Amaziah, 'I am not a professional prophet. I do not prophesy (preach) to earn money. I was a shepherd and I looked after sycamore trees. But the Lord took me from my work as a shepherd, and He told me, "Go and prophesy (preach) to my people Israel."'

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

Psalm 84

RESPONSE: **LORD, LET US SEE YOUR MERCY, GIVE US YOUR HELP.**

LORD, LET US SEE YOUR MERCY, GIVE US YOUR HELP.

I will listen to what the Lord says. He speaks about peace; peace for all people.

He helps people that respect him. God gives mercy, justice and peace to the world.

LORD, LET US SEE YOUR MERCY, GIVE US YOUR HELP.

The Lord will give us many good things.

On earth, good things will grow.

The Lord's way is just (fair).

His way brings peace.

LORD, LET US SEE YOUR MERCY, GIVE US YOUR HELP.

[Short form read between *....*]

A READING FROM ST PAUL'S SCROLL ⇅ TO THE EPHESIANS

Ephesians 1:3–14

* Blessed be God the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. He has given us all the spiritual blessings of heaven through Christ. Before the world was created, God chose us. Through Christ, God chose us to be holy and without fault, and to live with love in his presence. Through Jesus Christ, God wanted

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us to become his children. Let us praise God for his grace, for the free gift he gave us through his Son, the Beloved. Because, through the blood of God's Son, we are saved, freed from our sins and forgiven. God, with wisdom and understanding, has given us his grace. God was pleased to reveal (show) his mystery to us through Christ. God wanted all things to happen, at the right time, through Christ; to bring everything together, things in heaven and things on earth. *

From the beginning, everything happened the way God wanted. God chose us to be his children through Christ. Let us praise God because He allowed us to be the first people to have hope in Jesus Christ. Now you received the true message and you became God's people. And as you received the Good News, you believed in Christ. God put his special mark on you by giving you the Holy Spirit. That Holy Spirit is proof that God will give us the salvation

He promised us. Let us praise his glory!

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!

Lord, your words are spirit. Your words have life. You have the message of eternal life.

ALLELUIA!

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF MARK

Mark 6:7-13

Jesus told the twelve (12) apostles to come together. Then Jesus sent them out in twos (2). He gave them power over the evil spirits. Jesus told them to take nothing for the journey, no bread, no bag, no money. They could take a staff and sandals, but he said, 'Do not take a spare coat. When you enter a house, stay in the same house until you leave that place. If people do not welcome you or will not listen to

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you, leave and wipe off the dust from your feet as a warning to them!’ So the apostles went and they preached to people telling them to repent. The apostles threw out many evil spirits, and anointed many sick people with oil and cured them.

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

**PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS
CHRIST**

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A READING FROM THE SCROLL ⇄ OF JEREMIAH

Jeremiah 23:1–6

The Lord says: 'It will be terrible for you, the shepherds, the leaders of Israel, because your people are lost.' The Lord, the God of Israel, says again: 'You, leaders, were supposed to take care of your people, but you let them stray (become lost). I, the Lord, will punish you because of the bad things you did. I will bring back the lost sheep from all other countries. I will bring them back to their green fields. They will have many lambs, and their number will increase. I will appoint new shepherds to take care of my sheep. And the sheep, my people, will no more be afraid. No one will be lost. I, the Lord, say this.'

The Lord says: 'Soon, the time is coming, when I will choose a good king. The king will be from the family of David. The king will rule wisely. The king will be good and fair. While he is king, the people of Judah will be safe, And the people of Israel will live with

confidence. His name will be: The Lord is true and just (fair).'

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

Psalm 22

RESPONSE: **THE LORD IS MY SHEPHERD. HE GIVES ME EVERYTHING I NEED.**

THE LORD IS MY SHEPHERD. HE GIVES ME EVERYTHING I NEED.

The Lord is my shepherd.
He gives me everything I need.
He lets me rest in green fields.
He leads me to calm pools of fresh water to give me strength.

THE LORD IS MY SHEPHERD. HE GIVES ME EVERYTHING I NEED.

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He guides me along the right way.

He is faithful.

If I walk in the dark, I should not be afraid.

Because the Lord, with his shepherd's crook (stick), will protect me.

**THE LORD IS MY SHEPHERD.
HE GIVES ME EVERYTHING I
NEED.**

The Lord prepared a banquet (feast) for me.

Lord, you anointed my head with oil; my cup is full.

Goodness and kindness will be with me always.

I will live in the Lord's house for ever and ever.

**THE LORD IS MY SHEPHERD.
HE GIVES ME EVERYTHING I
NEED.**

A READING FROM ST PAUL'S SCROLL ↕ TO THE EPHESIANS

Ephesians 2:13–18

Before, you were far away from us. We were separated because we were Jews and you were not

Jews. But now, through Jesus' blood, we are near to each other. Because of Christ, we now have peace; Christ has changed us, Jews and non-Jews, into one people. Christ broke down the wall that separated us. The old Jewish Law that separated Jews and non-Jews, and made us enemies of each other, was destroyed through the body of Jesus Christ. By his death on the Cross, Christ has brought the two groups, Jews and non-Jews, together and made us one New Person, one Body. He forgave us and brought us back to God. Through his body Christ destroyed hate. Christ came and He preached peace to both Jews and non-Jews. Through him, all of us can come to the Father through the same Spirit.

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

16th Sunday of the Year

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!

The Lord says: 'The sheep that belong to me listen to my voice. I know them and they follow me.'

ALLELUIA!

sheep without a shepherd. Jesus began to teach them.

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS CHRIST

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF MARK

Mark 6:30–34

The apostles came back and met Jesus. They told him all the things they did and taught. There were so many people coming and going that the apostles had no time to sit, rest and eat. Jesus said to them, 'You must go away to a quiet place with no people, and have some rest.' So they went in a boat to find a quiet place. But people saw them going, and many could guess where they were going; they all walked quickly from different towns and arrived at the place and waited there for Jesus and his apostles. When the boat arrived, Jesus saw a large crowd, he felt sorry for them because they were like lost

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Psalm 144

A READING FROM THE SECOND SCROLL ⇔ OF KINGS

2 Kings 4:42–44

A man came from Baal-shalishah. He brought bread made from the first harvest to Elisha, the man of God. He also brought Elisha twenty (20) barley loaves and some fresh grains of corn. Elisha told his servant, 'Feed the people.' But Elisha's servant replied, 'What? How can I give this bread to a hundred (100) men?' Elisha repeated (said again), 'Give it to the people to eat because the Lord said, "They will eat and will have plenty left over."' Elisha's servant gave the food to the people. All the people ate and had plenty left over, as the Lord had said.

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

RESPONSE: LORD, YOU ARE GENEROUS. YOU GIVE US EVERYTHING WE NEED.

**LORD, YOU ARE GENEROUS.
YOU GIVE US EVERYTHING WE
NEED.**

All your people will thank you,
Lord.

They will remember your glory.
All people and all animals look to
you.

And you give them their food.

**LORD, YOU ARE GENEROUS.
YOU GIVE US EVERYTHING WE
NEED.**

The Lord is generous,
The Lord gives to those that have
needs.

The Lord is just (fair) and loving.
The Lord is very near to those
that ask for his help.

**LORD, YOU ARE GENEROUS.
YOU GIVE US EVERYTHING WE
NEED.**

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A READING FROM ST PAUL'S SCROLL ↕ TO THE EPHESIANS

Ephesians 4:1–6

I, Paul, am a prisoner of the Lord because I follow the Lord. I ask you to live the way God wants. Always be kind, humble, gentle and patient. Share your love with each other. Do everything you can to keep together in peace with the help of the Spirit. There is one Body, one Spirit. God wants you all to have hope. There is one Lord, one faith, one baptism, and one God. God is the Father of all people; the Father that rules over all, and the Father that is in all.

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!

Lord, your words are spirit. Your words have life. You have the message of eternal life.

ALLELUIA!

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF JOHN

John 6:1–15

Jesus went to the other side of the Sea of Galilee. Many people followed him. They followed because they were impressed with the miracles Jesus did by curing the sick. Jesus went up the hill and sat down with his disciples. It was just before the Jewish feast of the Passover.

Jesus looked round and saw many people coming to him. He asked Philip, 'Where can we buy enough bread for these people to eat?' Jesus only asked to test Philip; he himself (Jesus) knew what he would do. Philip answered, 'We would need two hundred (200) denarii to buy enough to give them each a small piece of bread!' Another disciple, Andrew (Simon Peter's brother), said, 'Here is a boy with five loaves (bread) and two fish. But that is not enough for so many people!' Jesus said, 'Tell the people to sit down.' There was plenty of grass there and five thousand men sat down. Jesus

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took the loaves (bread), he thanked God and gave the loaves to the people. He did the same with the fish. Jesus gave the people as much as they wanted. When they were all full, Jesus said to his disciples, 'Collect the pieces left over. Let us waste nothing.' So they collected all the pieces left over from the five loaves (bread) and filled twelve baskets. The people saw the miracle and they said, 'This man (Jesus) is really the prophet that we were waiting for.' Jesus knew that they wanted to force him to become king, so he escaped to the hills by himself.

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS CHRIST

18th Sunday of the Year

A READING FROM THE SCROLL ⇌ OF EXODUS

Exodus 16:2–4, 12–15

All the people of Israel in the desert began to complain. They said to Moses and Aaron, ‘Why did you bring us here? It would have been better if the Lord had killed us in Egypt. There in Egypt we could sit down and eat plenty of meat and bread, but here in the desert we are starving and we will die!’

The Lord told Moses, ‘I will send bread from heaven. Each day the people must go out and collect enough for one day. I want to see if the people will obey my law.’

The Lord said to Moses, ‘I have heard the people of Israel complaining. You must tell them that before the sun goes down they will have meat to eat, and in the morning, they will have plenty of bread to eat. They will realise that I am their God.’ So it happened, that same evening many quails (birds) came. The people caught these small birds to eat. And in the morning, dew

was all over the ground. As the sun went up, the dew evaporated (melted) and changed into white powder flakes. It looked like frost. When the Jews saw the white powder flakes, they asked, ‘What’s that?’ Moses told them, ‘That is the bread God sent you to eat.’

THE WORD OF THE LORD THANKS BE TO GOD

Psalm 77

**RESPONSE: THE LORD GAVE
THEM BREAD FROM HEAVEN.**

**THE LORD GAVE THEM BREAD
FROM HEAVEN.**

The things we heard and understood,
the things our fathers told us,
we will tell our future children.
We will tell them the wonderful things God did for us.

**THE LORD GAVE THEM BREAD
FROM HEAVEN.**

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God sent manna (bread) from heaven.

The people ate the bread of angels.

God sent plenty of food.

God brought the people to his holy land.

THE LORD GAVE THEM BREAD FROM HEAVEN.

A READING FROM ST PAUL'S SCROLL ↕ TO THE EPHESIANS

Ephesians 4:17, 20–24

In the Lord's name, I warn you: do not continue to live like those people that do not believe. That was not what you learnt from Christ! You heard about Christ and you know that the truth is in Jesus. You must give up your old way of life. Your old life, spoilt and corrupted (destroyed) by sin, must be changed. Your mind must become new again in spirit. Your life, created in God's way, must become good, holy, and full of truth.

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!

The Lord says, 'I am the Way, the Truth and the Life. No one can come to the Father but only through me (Jesus).'

ALLELUIA!

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF JOHN

John 6:24–35

When the people saw that Jesus and his disciples were not there, they got into boats and went to Capernaum to look for Jesus. When they arrived on the other side of the sea, they found Jesus. They said to him, 'Rabbi (Teacher), when did you arrive here?'

Jesus answered: 'Why are you searching for me? I know you are looking for me, not because you saw the miracles, but because I gave you plenty of bread to eat. You must not work for food that will decay (rot). You must look for the bread that will give eternal life. This is the food that the Son of Man will give you, because

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God the Father has chosen him (Jesus) to give life.'

So they asked Jesus, 'What should we do? How can we work for God?' Jesus answered, 'God wants you to believe in the One (Jesus) that God sent.' So the people asked, 'Can you work (do) a miracle to prove that God sent you? If you work (do) a miracle and we see it, then we will believe you. Our fathers, a long time ago, ate the manna (bread) in the desert. The scripture (Bible) says, "They received bread from heaven to eat."'

Jesus answered: 'I tell you the truth: It was not Moses that gave the people bread to eat in the desert. It was my Father that gave them bread from heaven. The same Father gives you the true bread; The bread of God comes down from heaven, and this bread gives life to the world.'

The people said, 'Lord, give us that bread always.'

Jesus replied: 'I am the bread of life. Any person that comes to me will never be hungry. Any person

that believes in me will never be thirsty.'

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS CHRIST

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Psalm 33

A READING FROM THE FIRST SCROLL ⇌ OF KINGS

1 Kings 19:4–8

Elijah walked all day into the desert. He sat down under a bush and he wished he were dead. He said, 'Lord, I have had enough. Let me die. I am no better than my people of long ago.' He lay down and slept. An angel came, touched him, and said, 'Wake up and eat.' Elijah looked round and saw some bread baked on hot stones and a jar of water. Elijah ate and drank and then went to sleep again. The angel came again and touched him and said, 'Get up and eat. If you do not eat and drink, you will not be strong enough for the long walk.' So Elijah got up. He ate and drank. Now feeling strong, he walked for forty (40) days and forty (40) nights, and he arrived at Horeb, the mountain of God.

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

**RESPONSE: TASTE! SEE!
THE LORD IS GOOD TO US!**

**TASTE! SEE!
THE LORD IS GOOD TO US!**

I will always bless the Lord.
I will never stop praising him.
I looked for the Lord.

He answered, and saved me from
all my terrors (fears).

**TASTE! SEE!
THE LORD IS GOOD TO US!**

Look to him; do not be ashamed.
The Lord will listen and he will
save you.

The Lord is near to all that ask for
his help.

The Lord will always be happy to
help us.

**TASTE! SEE!
THE LORD IS GOOD TO US!**

A READING FROM ST PAUL'S SCROLL ⇕ TO THE EPHESIANS

Ephesians 4:30 – 5:2

Do not make God's Holy Spirit
sad. Having the Spirit of God is
proof that you belong to God. At
the right time in the future God's

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Spirit will free you. Do not be bitter, or become angry or have bad feelings against anyone. Do not shout or say things to hurt anyone. Be friends with each other. Be kind and forgiving, the same as God has forgiven you through Christ.

You are God's children and God loves you. Imitate (copy) God by following Christ. Love each other the same as Christ loved you. He gave up his life on the cross for you, so Christ was the same as a sweet-smelling sacrifice to God.

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!

If any person loves me (Jesus), that person will keep my word. My Father will love that person. My Father and I will come to that person.

ALLELUIA!

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF JOHN

John 6:41-51

The Jews were complaining about Jesus because he said, 'I am the bread that came down from heaven.' The Jews said, 'This man is Jesus. He is the son of Joseph. We know his father and mother. How can he say, "I came down from heaven?"'

Jesus replied: 'Stop complaining to each other. The Father sent me and brings people to me; and I will raise up people to life on the last day. The prophets wrote: "Each person will be taught by God." If they want to receive the Father's teaching, if they want to learn from the Father, they must come to me (Jesus). This does not mean that any person has seen the Father; the only person that has seen the Father is the one (Jesus) that came from the Father. I tell you the truth, if any person believes, that person will have eternal life. I am the bread of life. Your fathers ate manna (bread) in the desert, and your fathers are dead. I am the living bread that

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comes down from heaven. Any person that eats this bread will live for ever. The bread that I will give is my flesh; I give life so that the world can live.'

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

**PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS
CHRIST**

20th Sunday of the Year

A READING FROM THE SCROLL ⇄ OF PROVERBS

Proverbs 9:1–6

Wisdom built a house for herself and made seven pillars. Wisdom killed animals and prepared a feast, prepared wine, and prepared the table. Wisdom sent her servants and told them to go to the highest places in the town, to tell everybody: 'You foolish people, come! Come and eat my bread and drink the wine that I prepared for you. Stop your foolish ways, live with wisdom and you will truly live.'

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

Psalms 33

RESPONSE: **TASTE! SEE!**
THE LORD IS GOOD TO US!

TASTE! SEE!
THE LORD IS GOOD TO US!

I will always bless the Lord.
I will never stop praising him.
Strong lions will always be hungry,
but those that respect the Lord,

the Lord will always look after them.

TASTE! SEE!

THE LORD IS GOOD TO US!

Children, come and listen to me. I will teach you to respect the Lord.

If you want a long life, you must not say nor do evil things but do good.

Always work for peace.

TASTE! SEE!

THE LORD IS GOOD TO US!

A READING FROM ST PAUL'S SCROLL ⇄ TO THE EPHESIANS

Ephesians 5:15–20

Be very careful how you live. Do not live like stupid people. You must be sensible and wise. Your lives can save the world during these (now) evil wicked times. You must not be foolish with your lives but try to find out what the Lord wants you to do. Do not get drunk with wine; it can spoil your lives. Try to be filled with the Holy Spirit. Use hymns, psalms and pray together. Pray and sing to

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the Lord in your hearts, so that always and everywhere you are thanking God, our Father, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!

The Word (Jesus) became flesh. He lived with us. To people that accepted him, He (Jesus) gave them power to become God's children.

ALLELUIA!

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF JOHN

John 6:51-58

Jesus said to the people: 'I am the living bread come down from heaven. Any person that eats this bread will live for ever. The bread that I will give is my flesh; I give life so that the world can live.'

The Jews started to argue with each other. They said, 'How can this man give us his flesh to eat?'

Jesus replied: 'I tell you the truth. If you do not eat the flesh of the Son of Man, and if you do not drink his blood, you will not have life in you. Any person that eats my body and drinks my blood has eternal life. And I will raise up that person on the last day. My body is real food and my blood is real drink. If a person eats my body and drinks my blood, that person lives in me and I live in that person. The Father sent me and I receive life from him, so any person that eats me will receive life from me. I am the bread come down from heaven, not like the bread our ancestors (people of the past) ate; they are dead. Any person that eats this bread will live for ever.'

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS CHRIST

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A READING FROM THE SCROLL ⇄ OF JOSHUA

Joshua 24:1–2, 15–18

Joshua asked all the family groups of Israel to meet together at Shechem. The older leaders, the heads of the families, the judges, and the scribes (writers) of Israel stood before God. Then Joshua said to all the people: ‘Long ago your people lived on the other side of the Euphrates River, people like Terah, the father of Abraham, and Nahor; they worshipped other gods. But if you do not want to serve the Lord, you must decide which god you will worship. Will you worship other gods like your people long ago, or will you worship the gods of the Amorite people here? I, and my family, will worship the Lord God.’

The people answered, ‘We will never leave the Lord our God and we will never serve other gods. The Lord God brought us and our people long ago from slavery, from the land of Egypt. We saw the miracles that the Lord God worked. He kept us safe on our

journey through the desert. We will serve the Lord because he is our God.’

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

Psalm 33

RESPONSE: **TASTE! SEE!**
THE LORD IS GOOD TO US!

TASTE! SEE!

THE LORD IS GOOD TO US!

I will always bless the Lord.

I will never stop praising him.

The Lord does not like people doing evil things.

The Lord listens to the prayers of good people.

TASTE! SEE!

THE LORD IS GOOD TO US!

People that want justice seem to suffer but the Lord will save them.

The Lord will protect them.

Not one bone of his body will be broken.

Wicked people will die, but good faithful people will never be condemned.

TASTE! SEE!

THE LORD IS GOOD TO US!

21st Sunday of the Year

A READING FROM ST PAUL'S SCROLL ↕ TO THE EPHESIANS

Ephesians 5:21–32

If you obey Jesus Christ, then you should respect each other. Wives should respect their husbands in the same way that they respect the Lord. A husband is the head (in charge) of his wife in the same way that Christ himself is the head (in charge) of the Church; and He (Christ) saves the Church because the Church is his body. Wives should obey their husbands in the same way that the Church obeys Christ. Husbands should love their wives in the same way that Christ loves his Church. Christ gave his life for the Church to make her holy. He made the Church clean by his words and by washing in the water so that the Church would be beautiful, pure, not spoilt but holy and without fault. Husbands must love their wives in the same way that they look after their own bodies; the man that truly loves his wife also loves himself. Why? Because no man hates his own body, but he feeds his body and

looks after his body. In the same way, Christ looks after his Church because the Church is his body, and we are members of the Church, Christ's body. That is why a man must leave his father and mother and join his wife, and the two will become one body. This mystery is difficult to understand, there are many different ways of explaining. But I, Paul, am talking about Christ and the Church.

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!

Lord, your words are spirit. Your words have life. You have the message of eternal life.

ALLELUIA!

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF JOHN

John 6:60–69

Many people that followed Jesus heard his teaching. They said, 'His

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language is impossible to accept. Who could accept his teaching?’

Jesus knew that his disciples were complaining so he said to them, ‘Why is my teaching difficult for you to accept? Why are you upset? What would you do if you saw the Son of Man ascend (go up) to the place where he was before? It is the spirit that gives life, not the body. The flesh cannot give life. The words I have spoken to you are spirit and my words have life. But some of you do not believe.’

Jesus knew from the beginning, who would not believe in him. He also knew who would betray him.

Jesus continued speaking, ‘That is why I told you that no one can come to me but only if the Father allows that person to come to me.’ After saying this, many disciples left him. They stopped following Jesus.

Then Jesus turned to the twelve (12) apostles and asked them, ‘What about you, do you want to give up and leave me?’ Simon Peter answered, ‘Lord, who shall

we follow? You have the message of eternal life and we believe. We know that you are the Holy One of God.’

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS CHRIST

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A READING FROM THE SCROLL ⇄ OF DEUTERONOMY

Deuteronomy 4:1–2, 6–8

Moses said to the people: ‘Now, Israel, obey the laws and customs (culture, tradition) that I teach you today. If you obey, you will have life and you will have the land God will give you. You must not add anything to the laws that I give you, and you must not take away anything from the laws. You must obey and keep the commandments that I give you from the Lord your God. Respect and obey the laws. Show other people your wisdom and understanding. When they know and begin to understand God’s laws, they will say, “The people of Israel have great wisdom.” It is true that God is very near to Israel. He is always ready to help when we ask him. Other countries do not have laws and customs (culture, tradition) as great as ours. I, Moses, give you these laws and customs (culture, tradition) from the Lord our God.’

THE WORD OF THE LORD THANKS BE TO GOD

Psalm 14

RESPONSE: **LORD, WHO CAN GO INTO YOUR TENT?**

LORD, WHO CAN GO INTO YOUR TENT?

Lord, who can live on your holy mountain?

A person with no sin.

A person that does things fairly,
And tells the truth from his heart.

LORD, WHO CAN GO INTO YOUR TENT?

Lord, who can live on your holy mountain?

A person that does not hurt brother or sister.

A person that lends things without charging interest.

A person that does not fiddle with money.

LORD, WHO CAN GO INTO YOUR TENT?

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Lord, who can live on your holy mountain?

A person that always honours and respects the Lord.

A person that is faithful forever.

That person can live on your holy mountain forever.

LORD, WHO CAN GO INTO YOUR TENT?

A READING FROM ST JAMES' SCROLL ⇅

James 1:17–18, 21–22, 27

All good things are from heaven. All gifts are from God. God is the Father, creator of all light. There is no darkness in God, there is no shadow. God does not change. It was God's choice that we become his children by the message of truth, so that we become important in his created world.

Be humble and accept the word that God planted (put) in you, this teaching will save you. Do not listen and do nothing. If you only listen and think you obey God, this will not help you. You must listen and follow God's word.

God our Father wants you to look after those children that have no parents; support the widows when they need help; and keep yourself pure from the world's evil influence.

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!

Lord, your words are spirit. Your words have life. You have the message of eternal life.

ALLELUIA!

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF MARK

Mark 7:1–8, 14–15, 21–23

Some Pharisees and scribes (writers) came from Jerusalem and gathered around Jesus. They saw some of Jesus' disciples were eating with dirty hands – they did not wash their hands. The Pharisees and the Jews never eat before washing their hands. They follow the Jewish tradition and

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always wash their hands properly, up to the elbow. Also, after they come back from the market place, they always sprinkle (throw) water on themselves first before eating. They have many other rules – how to wash cups, pots and bronze dishes.

So the Pharisees and the scribes (writers) asked Jesus, 'Why do your disciples not respect the Jewish tradition but eat with dirty hands?'

Jesus answered, 'You are all hypocrites (two-faced)! Isaiah was right about you when he prophesied (preached) in the Scripture (Bible): "These people say they honour God but their hearts are really far away from me (God). The worship they give to me is false. They teach others using their rules and they say that their rules are the same as God's laws!" You forget God's laws and you follow your own rules and your own traditions.'

Jesus continued and said to the people, 'Listen to me, all of you. You must understand that if a

person eats something, that food cannot make a person bad or wrong. No, it is the things a person says from within (inside a person) that make a person bad or wrong. Evil things come from the heart, like adultery, fornication (sex before marriage), theft, murder, greed for money, cruelty, lies, selfishness, no respect, jealousy, gossiping and back-stabbing or telling lies about other people, pride and foolish living. All these are evil things from inside a person. These are the sins that make a person bad and wrong.'

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS CHRIST

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A READING FROM THE SCROLL ⇄ OF ISAIAH

Isaiah 35:4–7

Tell all people that are discouraged: ‘Courage! Do not be afraid. Look, your God is coming. God will punish your enemies. God comes to save you. Blind people will be able to see, their eyes will be opened. Deaf people will be able to hear, their ears will be opened. Crippled people will jump like a deer. Dumb people will sing with joy. Streams (small rivers) of water will flow through the desert and make a lake. Dry land will be filled with water.’

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

Psalm 145

RESPONSE: **MY SOUL, PRAISE THE LORD.**

MY SOUL, PRAISE THE LORD.

The Lord is faithful forever.
God is fair to oppressed people.
He gives bread to the hungry.
Prisoners are freed by the Lord.

MY SOUL, PRAISE THE LORD.

The Lord helps blind people see.
Those with heavy burdens are helped by God.

He protects strangers, widows and orphans (children without parents).

The Lord God reigns forever.

MY SOUL, PRAISE THE LORD.

A READING FROM ST JAMES’ SCROLL ⇄

James 2:1–5

My brothers and sisters, if you have faith in Jesus Christ, then you must not think that some people are better than other people. Suppose a man comes into your synagogue, beautifully dressed and with a gold ring. At the same time a poor man comes in wearing very poor clothes, and you look at the well-dressed man and say to him, ‘Come here and take the best seat.’ Then you tell the poor man, ‘Stand over there at the back, or sit down on the

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floor next to me.' If you do that, do you realise that you have become a terrible bad judge? Because you have used two different ways of judging and you have not been fair to the poor man.

My brothers and sisters, listen to me: the world thinks these people are poor, but God chose them to be rich in faith. They will receive the kingdom that God promises to all that love Him.

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!

Lord, speak to us. We are listening. You have the message of eternal life.

ALLELUIA!

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF MARK

Mark 7:31–37

Jesus left the area of Tyre, he went through Sidon and through

the area of Decapolis to the Sea of Galilee. There, the people brought a deaf man to Jesus. The deaf man could not speak. They asked Jesus to lay his hand on him. Jesus took the deaf man away in private away from the crowd. Jesus put his fingers into the man's ears. Then Jesus spat into his hand, rubbed the spittle and touched the man's tongue. Jesus looked up to heaven and breathed deeply. He said to the deaf man, 'Ephphatha,' that means: 'Be opened.' The deaf man's ears were opened, and he could speak clearly. Jesus told them to tell no one about this. Jesus always told people not to say anything, but this made the people want to talk about it more and more. The people were really amazed. They said, 'Jesus does everything very well. He makes the deaf hear and the dumb speak.'

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS CHRIST

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A READING FROM THE SCROLL ⇄ OF ISAIAH

Isaiah 50:5–9

The Lord opened my mind. I did not object nor turn away. I let people whip my back. I let people pull my beard. They swore and insulted me, but I did not turn away from them nor cover my face. They spat in my face. The Lord helps me: people's insults (swearing, criticism) cannot hurt me. I will be strong, firm. I know I will not be ashamed of myself. God is near, God will prove I am not guilty. I challenge anyone to make a charge (accusation) against me. If so, let us go to court together. Who thinks they can accuse me? Let this person come to me. The Lord will help me. No one can condemn me.

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

Psalm 114

RESPONSE: **I WILL WALK IN THE PRESENCE OF THE LORD.**

I WILL WALK IN THE PRESENCE OF THE LORD.

I love the Lord because He heard my prayers.

When I asked him, the Lord came to help me.

My enemies are against me, I am afraid.

I prayed to the Lord to save me.

I WILL WALK IN THE PRESENCE OF THE LORD.

The Lord is good and compassionate.

The Lord protects the simple hearts.

He saved my soul from death.

The Lord helped me to walk with him again.

I WILL WALK IN THE PRESENCE OF THE LORD.

A READING FROM ST JAMES' SCROLL ⇄

James 2:14–18

If you say you have faith but have never done one good act of charity, can your faith save you? No! If one of the brothers or one of the sisters needs clothes and has not enough food, and you say to them, 'I hope you keep

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well. Keep warm and eat plenty,' that is not good enough. First, you must give them the things they need. If you do no works of charity, your faith is dead.

People say it is better to have faith. But I tell you: 'Can you prove you have faith without doing any works of charity? I will prove to you that I have faith by showing you my works of charity.'

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!

Jesus says, 'I am the Way, the Truth and the Life. No one can come to the Father but only through me.'

ALLELUIA!

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF MARK

Mark 8:27–35

Jesus and his disciples went to the villages in the area of Caesarea Philippi. On the way,

Jesus asked his disciples a question, 'Who do people say I am?' The disciples said, 'Some people say you are John the Baptist, other people say you are Elijah, and others say you are one of the prophets.' Jesus asked his disciples, 'But you, who do you say I am?' Peter said, 'You are the Christ.' Then Jesus told them not tell anyone about him.

Jesus began to teach his disciples that the Son of Man must suffer a lot. The Jewish leaders, chief priests and the scribes (writers) will reject him. They will kill him but after three days the Son of Man will rise again. Jesus said this openly. But, in private, Peter told Jesus he disagreed with him. Jesus turned and saw his disciples, then Jesus told off Peter, 'Devil! Go away from me. The way you think is your (people's) way of thinking, but not God's way.'

Jesus told the people and the disciples to come and he said to them, 'If any person wants to follow me, they must forget

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themselves, carry their cross and follow me. Any person that wants to save their life, will lose their life. But any person that gives up life for me, and for the gospel, will have true life.'

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

**PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS
CHRIST**

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A READING FROM THE SCROLL ⇄ OF WISDOM

Wisdom 2:12, 17–20

People that do not believe in God say to themselves: ‘Good people are a nuisance, they are against us because of our way of life. They accuse us of breaking the Law and not following the traditions of our people long ago. But we will see if what they say is true. We will see what will happen when they die. If these people are truly good, then God will save them from their enemies. So let us test them with cruelty and torture. We will find out if they are calm, gentle and endure (patient with) suffering. We will condemn them to a shameful death because they say God will protect them.’

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

Psalm 53

RESPONSE: **THE LORD GIVES ME LIFE.**

THE LORD GIVES ME LIFE.

O God, by your name save me.

By your power, protect me.

O God, hear my prayer.

Proud people have no respect for God.

THE LORD GIVES ME LIFE.

But I know God will help me.

The Lord gives me life.

I will be happy to make sacrifices to you.

I will praise your name because you are good.

THE LORD GIVES ME LIFE.

A READING FROM ST JAMES’ SCROLL ⇄

James 3:16 – 4:3

If there is jealousy and selfishness, there is also confusion and evil. But the wisdom that comes from heaven is pure. Wisdom from God is also peaceful, kind and friendly. Wisdom is full of compassion and shows itself by doing good. In wisdom there is no hypocrisy (two-face). When peacemakers try to spread peace, they always

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sow seeds that will help people become holy.

Why do you fight and quarrel with each other? How do fights and quarrels start? The fighting and the quarrelling comes from inside yourselves, from your selfish desires. You want things but you cannot have them, so you are ready to kill. You strongly want something but you don't have it, so you start to quarrel and fight to get your way. If you want something and you don't have it, it is because you have not prayed for it. When you do pray, and don't get it, it is because you have not prayed properly. You have prayed and asked for things to use for your own pleasure.

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!

The Lord says, 'I am the light of the world. Any person that follows me will have the light of life.'

ALLELUIA!

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF MARK

Mark 9:30-37

Leaving the mountain, Jesus and his disciples went through Galilee. Jesus did not want anyone to know where they were because he was teaching his disciples. Jesus told them, 'The Son of Man will be arrested by men. They will kill him. Three days later, he, the Son of Man, will rise to life.' But the disciples did not understand what Jesus said; they were afraid to ask him.

They arrived at Capernaum and when Jesus was in the house, he asked them, 'What were you arguing about along the road?' They said nothing because they had been arguing which of them was the greatest (important). So Jesus sat down and told the twelve (12) apostles to come and said to them, 'If any person wants to be first and important, that person must become last of all and serve all people.' Jesus showed a small child to his apostles. Jesus hugged the child, and said to them, 'If anyone

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welcomes a child in my name, they also welcome me. And if a person welcomes me, that person also welcomes the Father that sent me.'

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

**PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS
CHRIST**

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Psalm 18

A READING FROM THE SCROLL ⇄ OF NUMBERS

Numbers 11:25–29

The Lord came down in the cloud and spoke with Moses. The spirit that was in Moses, God now took and gave to the seventy leaders. After the spirit came down on them, they began to prophesy only once.

Two men stayed outside the Tent. One was called Eldad and the other Medad. The spirit also came down on them and the two men began to prophesy. A young man ran to tell Moses, 'Look, Eldad and Medad are prophesying outside.' Another man, Joshua son of Nun - he had served Moses from his youth - said to Moses, 'You must stop them!' But Moses replied, 'Why are you jealous? I wish the Lord would give his Spirit to all his people so that they could prophesy too!'

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

**RESPONSE: GOD'S LAW WILL
MAKE US HAPPY.**

**GOD'S LAW
WILL MAKE US HAPPY.**

The Law of the Lord is perfect. God's law gives life to the soul. We can trust God's law. His law gives us wisdom.

**GOD'S LAW
WILL MAKE US HAPPY.**

It is holy to respect the Lord. All God's laws are truth. Lord, your laws will teach us. Your laws are perfect and we will be free from sin.

**GOD'S LAW
WILL MAKE US HAPPY.**

**A READING FROM ST JAMES'
SCROLL ⇄**

James 5:1–6

All you rich people, listen to me. Start crying because troubles and terrible things will happen to you. Your wealth (riches) will rot, your clothes will be eaten by moths. Your gold and silver will become rust, and this rust will be a

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witness against you, this rust will eat your bodies like fire. You saved your wealth (riches) for your future, but people worked in your fields and you cheated, you did not pay them properly. These people complained against you. The Lord God Almighty heard their complaints. Your life here on earth was full of rich living and pleasure. You ate and became fat, like an animal ready for slaughter. You condemned good people and you killed them because they could not defend themselves.

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!

Lord, your word is truth.
Consecrate (bless) us in the truth.

ALLELUIA!

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF MARK

Mark 9:38–43, 45, 47–48

John said to Jesus, 'We saw a man using your name to throw out devils. He was not one of us so we tried to stop him.' Jesus replied, 'You must not stop him. Any person that uses my name to work (do) miracles will not say bad things about me. A person that is not against us is our friend. If a person gives you a glass of water to drink because you belong to Christ, then that person will receive their reward.

If a little child believes in me, and another person comes and makes this child sin, then that person would be better thrown into the sea with a heavy millstone round their neck and be drowned! If your hand tempts you to sin, cut it off. It is better to go to heaven with one hand than to have two hands and go to hell where the fire will never go out. And if your foot tempts you to sin, cut it off. It is better to go to heaven crippled than to have two feet

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and go to hell. If your eye tempts you to sin, take it out. It is better to go to heaven with one eye, than to have two eyes and be thrown into hell where worms never die and the fire never goes out.'

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

**PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS
CHRIST**

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A READING FROM THE SCROLL ⇌ OF GENESIS

Genesis 2:18–24

The Lord God said, 'It is not good for man to be alone. I will make him a helpmate (helping friend).'

So from the soil the Lord God created all the wild beasts and all the birds of heaven. These God gave to the man. The man gave names to all the cattle, all the birds of heaven and all the wild beasts. But no helpmate (helping friend) suitable for man was found for him.

So the Lord God made the man go into a deep sleep. And while the man slept, God took one of the man's ribs and put flesh on it. The Lord God built the rib into a woman. God brought the woman to the man and the man exclaimed (said in surprise):

'At last! A person like me. Her bones are from my bones, her flesh from my flesh! I will call her woman because she was created from man.' This is why a man leaves his father and mother and

joins himself to his wife, and they become one body.

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

Psalm 127

RESPONSE: THE LORD WILL BLESS US EVERYDAY.

THE LORD WILL BLESS US EVERYDAY.

Blessed are the people that show respect to the Lord.

Blessed are they that walk God's way.

Blessed are you that work hard, you will eat.

You will be happy and do well.

THE LORD WILL BLESS US EVERYDAY.

Your wife will be like a vine, full of good fruit.

Your children around your table will be as many as the branches of an olive tree.

Let the Lord bless you,
Everyday of your life!

THE LORD WILL BLESS US EVERYDAY.

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A READING FROM THE SCROLL ⇅ TO THE HEBREWS

Hebrews 2:9–11

For a short time, Jesus became less important than the angels. Jesus suffered and through God's grace he died for all people, but Jesus now wears the crown of glory and honour.

God's plan was to let many of his children share his glory. It was right that God, the Creator of everything, made Jesus perfect through suffering, so that He (Jesus) could lead them to salvation. Jesus purifies (cleanses) people from their sins, and these people that are made holy, are from the same family. That is why Jesus is not ashamed to call them his brothers and sisters.

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!

Lord, your word is truth. Consecrate (bless) us with your truth.

ALLELUIA!

[Short form read between *.....*]

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF MARK

Mark 10:2–16

* Some Pharisees came to Jesus and asked, 'Is it against the law for a man to divorce his wife?' They were trying to trap Jesus to say something wrong. Jesus replied, 'What did Moses tell you? What law did he give you?' The Pharisees said, 'Moses gave permission for a man to divorce his wife by writing a certificate of divorce.' Jesus said, 'Moses wrote that law for you, because you were so stubborn! But in the beginning, after God created the world, God created male (man) and female (woman). That is why a man must leave father and mother, and the two become one body. The man and wife are not

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two persons but one body. So, if God joined the two persons together, man must not separate them.' Later, in the house the disciples asked Jesus some questions about divorce. Jesus said to them, 'Any man that divorces his wife and marries another woman, he is guilty of adultery. And any woman that divorces her husband and marries another man, she is also guilty of adultery.' *

People brought small children to Jesus so that he could touch them. The disciples tried to stop the children and told them to go away. Jesus saw this; he was annoyed and said to his disciples, 'Let the children come to me! Do not stop them because the kingdom of God belongs to these children. I tell you the truth, you must accept the kingdom of God the same way as the children accept it (kingdom of God). If you do not, you will never enter heaven.' Then Jesus put his arms

round the children, laid his hands on them and blessed them.

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

**PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS
CHRIST**

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Psalm 89

A READING FROM THE SCROLL ⇄ OF WISDOM

Wisdom 7:7–11

I prayed and God gave me understanding. I asked and God gave me the spirit of Wisdom. I valued Wisdom more than any crown or throne; compared with Wisdom, wealth is nothing. Precious jewels are not equal to Wisdom. Compared to wisdom, gold is just like sand, and silver is like mud. I loved Wisdom more than health and good looks. Wisdom has a brightness that never fades. When I have the spirit of Wisdom, good things happen to me. Wisdom brings so many riches.

THE WORD OF THE LORD THANKS BE TO GOD

RESPONSE: **FILL US WITH YOUR LOVE AND WE WILL REJOICE.**

FILL US WITH YOUR LOVE AND WE WILL REJOICE.

Help us realise that our lives are short, so that we will be wise.

Lord, forgive us!

Do not be angry with us for ever. Show us your mercy.

FILL US WITH YOUR LOVE AND WE WILL REJOICE.

In the morning, fill us with your love.

When we suffer, give us joy.

Show your glory to your children.

Give success to the work of our hands.

FILL US WITH YOUR LOVE AND WE WILL REJOICE.

A READING FROM THE SCROLL ⇄ TO THE HEBREWS

Hebrews 4:12–13

The word of God is something real, alive and active (working). The word of God is sharper (more sharp) than any sword. The word of God can go through, like a

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sword, deep into the place where soul and spirit come together; deep into the place where joints and bones are joined. The word of God can judge the secret feelings and thoughts of all people. Nothing can be hidden from God. Everything is open to the eyes of God, and we must be responsible for the way we live.

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!

Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth. You showed the kingdom of heaven to your children.

ALLELUIA!

[Short form read between *.....*]

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF MARK

Mark 10:17-30

* Jesus started to go on a journey; a man came to him, knelt in front of him and asked him this

question, 'Good Master, what must I do to win eternal life?' Jesus said to him, 'Why do you call me good? No one is good, only God. You know the commandments: "You must not kill. You must not commit (do the sin of) adultery. You must not steal. You must not lie. You must not defraud (fiddle money). You must honour your father and mother.'" The man said to him, 'Master, I have obeyed the commandments since I was young.' Jesus looked straight at him with love and said, 'There is one more thing. Go and sell everything that you have and give the money to the poor, and you will have reward in heaven. Then come and follow me.' The man looked down, his face sad, and he walked away because he was a very rich man.

Jesus looked round at his disciples and said, 'It is hard for a rich person to go into God's kingdom!' The disciples were surprised that Jesus said this. But Jesus said again, 'My children, it is very hard to go into God's

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kingdom! It is easier (more easy) for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich person to go into God's kingdom.' Now the disciples were shocked, and they said, 'If it is hard, then who can be saved?' Jesus looked at them and said, 'It is impossible for people, but not impossible for God. Everything is possible for God.' *

Peter said to Jesus, 'What about us? We have left everything and followed you.' Jesus said, 'I tell you the truth. Any person that has left home, brothers, sisters, mother, father, children, land for me and for the Gospel will receive many rewards. Here in the world, this person will receive many more houses, brothers, sisters, mothers, children and land, but not without persecutions. And, later in heaven, this person will receive eternal life.'

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

**PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS
CHRIST**

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Psalm 32

A READING FROM THE SCROLL ⇌ OF ISAIAH

Isaiah 53:10–11

The Lord allowed his servant to suffer. If the servant offers his life for the forgiveness of sin, he will have a long life. Through him, what the Lord wants will happen. After his suffering is over (finished), he will understand and will be happy and peaceful. Through his sufferings, my servant will shoulder (carry on his shoulders) the faults (sins) of many people and free them from their sins.

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

RESPONSE: **LORD, LET YOUR LOVE BE WITH US, AS WE HOPE IN YOU.**

LORD, LET YOUR LOVE BE WITH US, AS WE HOPE IN YOU.

The word of the Lord is always true.

We trust his works.

The Lord loves justice and right.

The Lord fills the earth with his love.

LORD, LET YOUR LOVE BE WITH US, AS WE HOPE IN YOU.

The Lord looks on those that respect him.

He saves their souls from death.

The Lord is our help and shield.

Lord, show us your love.

LORD, LET YOUR LOVE BE WITH US, AS WE HOPE IN YOU.

A READING FROM THE SCROLL ⇕ TO THE HEBREWS

Hebrews 4:14–16

Jesus, the Son of God, is our great high priest. He has gone to heaven. We must never give up our faith. This high priest, Jesus

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Christ, really understands and feels our weaknesses because he had temptations the same as us, but he never sinned. So, let us have confidence, we can approach God's throne, and we will receive mercy from God and find grace when we need help.

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!

Jesus said, 'I am the Way, the Truth and the Life. No one can come to the Father but only through me.'

ALLELUIA!

[Short form read between *.....*]

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF MARK

Mark 10:35-45

James and John, the sons of Zebedee, approached Jesus. They said to him, 'Master, we want to ask you to do something for us.' Jesus asked, 'What do you want

me to do for you?' They said to him, 'When you sit on your throne in heaven, allow us to sit with you, one at your right and the other at your left.' Jesus said to them, 'You don't understand what you are asking. Can you drink the cup that I must drink? Can you be baptised the same way that I must be baptised?' They replied, 'Yes, we can!' Jesus said to them, 'You will receive the cup and have the same suffering that I receive. You will be baptised the same way that I will be baptised, but I cannot choose who will sit at my right and my left. Only God chooses who will sit at my right and my left.'

When the other ten disciples heard this, they were angry with James and John, so

* Jesus told his disciples to come together and he said to them, 'You know, people that don't believe in God have their leaders. These leaders have power over the people. This must not happen with you. If any person wants to

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become great (important), that person must serve you. If anyone wants to be first, that person must become last and serve you like a slave. The Son of Man himself did not come and expect others to serve him. No! He (Jesus) came to serve, and to give his life to save many people.' *

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

**PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS
CHRIST**

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Psalm 125

A READING FROM THE SCROLL ⇌ OF JEREMIAH

Jeremiah 31:7–9

The Lord says: 'Rejoice for Jacob, the most important people among all people. Sing, praise and shout: "The Lord has saved his people Israel, those people that are left alive, the Lord saved them!"'

The Lord says: 'I will bring my people back from the land of the North. I will gather my people from other places. I will bring all of them: the blind and the lame, pregnant women and those ready to give birth. Many people will come back. Long ago these people left their land weeping (crying), but as they come back I will comfort them. I will guide them to rivers of water on a smooth path so that they will not stumble (fall). I am a father to Israel, and Ephraim is my first-born son.'

THE WORD OF THE LORD THANKS BE TO GOD

RESPONSE: **WE ARE GLAD
BECAUSE THE LORD'S WORK IS
MARVELLOUS.**

**WE ARE GLAD BECAUSE THE
LORD'S WORK IS
MARVELLOUS.**

The Lord helped us and freed us, it seemed like a dream become true!

We rejoiced, we sang and we were happy.

Other people said, 'The Lord did good things for them! Truly the Lord is wonderful.'

**WE ARE GLAD BECAUSE THE
LORD'S WORK IS
MARVELLOUS.**

We were prisoners, but the Lord freed us.

The sad people with tears, are now happy.

People go out sowing seeds with tears.

But now, they gather the crops and they come back with joy.

**WE ARE GLAD BECAUSE THE
LORD'S WORK IS
MARVELLOUS.**

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A READING FROM THE SCROLL ↕ TO THE HEBREWS

Hebrews 5:1–6

Every Jewish high priest is chosen from his people. He has the job of helping people to have a good relationship with God. The Jewish high priest also offers gifts and sacrifices for sins. Because he himself is weak, he can understand people that do not know God or make mistakes. Because he is weak, he has to make offerings to take away his own sins as well as the sins of other people. To be a Jewish high priest is really a wonderful honour but no one can choose the honour for himself. Each high priest is chosen by God, the same as Aaron was chosen by God. In the same way, Jesus Christ did not choose the honour of becoming a high priest. No, God chose him. God said to him, 'You are my son, today I have become your Father.' Also, it is written in Scripture (Bible) that God said, 'You are a priest forever, the same as Melchizedek.'

THE WORD OF THE LORD THANKS BE TO GOD

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!

The Lord said, 'I am the light of the world. Any person that follows me will have the light of life.'

ALLELUIA!

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF MARK

Mark 10:46–52

Jesus left Jericho with his disciples, and a large crowd of people followed him. A blind man, Bartimaeus, son of Timaeus, sat by (near) the road. He was begging. When he heard that Jesus from Nazareth was coming, the blind man began to shout, 'Jesus, Son of David, have pity on me!' Many people told him off and told him to be quiet. But he shouted more loudly, 'Son of David, have pity on me!' Jesus stopped walking and said, 'Tell

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him to come here.’ The people told the blind man, ‘Courage! Get up! Jesus wants to see you.’ The blind man threw off his coat and stood up quickly. He came to Jesus. Jesus asked him, ‘What do you want me to do for you?’ The blind man said, ‘Master, I want to see again.’ Jesus said to him, ‘Go. Your faith has saved you.’ Immediately, the blind man could see again and he followed Jesus on the road.

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

**PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS
CHRIST**

31st Sunday of the Year

A READING FROM THE SCROLL ⇄ OF DEUTERONOMY

Deuteronomy 6:2–6

Moses said to the people, ‘If you, your son, and your grandson respect the Lord your God and everyday obey all his laws that I give you, you will have a long life. You people of Israel, listen carefully: keep and obey God’s laws, and God will give you all the things you need and you will do well. You will become a great people, and live in a land rich with milk and honey. This is what the Lord God promised.

People of Israel, listen: The Lord our God is the one Lord. You must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your strength. Always remember everything I said today, and that you obey God’s laws in your heart.’

THE WORD OF THE LORD THANKS BE TO GOD

Psalm 17

RESPONSE: **LORD, I LOVE YOU.
YOU GIVE ME STRENGTH.**

**LORD, I LOVE YOU.
YOU GIVE ME STRENGTH.**

I love the Lord.

He is my rock, my saviour.

He protects me like a shield; He helps me.

He saves me from my enemies; praise the Lord!

**LORD, I LOVE YOU.
YOU GIVE ME STRENGTH.**

The Lord will live for ever.

Praise to God because he saves me.

He gives me victories over my enemies.

He has shown his love for his anointed king.

**LORD, I LOVE YOU.
YOU GIVE ME STRENGTH.**

A READING FROM THE SCROLL ⇄ TO THE HEBREWS

Hebrews 7:23–28

In the old days, there were many priests but each priest died because no one can live for ever.

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But Christ lives for ever; He can never lose his priesthood. This means we know that Christ can save people, because He lives for ever and He helps those that want to come to God through him (Jesus).

Christ is really the high priest that we need. He is holy. He has no fault or sin in him. He is pure and not influenced by sinners. He is raised above the heavens. He is not like other priests; He does not need to offer sacrifices every day, first for his own sins, and then for the sins of the people. Because Christ offered one sacrifice, once and forever, by offering himself on the cross. The Law of Moses chose men to become high priests, but they were weak and not perfect, the same as other people. But God made a promise and He chose his Son as the High Priest - Christ is perfect for ever.

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!

Lord, your words are spirit. Your words have life. You have the message of eternal life.

ALLELUIA!

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF MARK

Mark 12:28-34

A scribe (writer) came to Jesus and asked him a question, 'Which commandment is the first and most important?' Jesus replied, 'This is the first and most important commandment: "People of Israel, listen! There is only one Lord. You must love God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind and with all your strength." This is the second important commandment: "You must love your neighbour the same as you love yourself." There is no other commandment more important than these two commandments.' The scribe (writer) said to him, 'You are right. You have given a good answer. What you have said

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is true; there is only one God, no other. We must love him with all our heart, with all our understanding and with all our strength. And we must love our neighbour the same as we love ourselves - these two commandments are more important than any sacrifices that we give to God.' Jesus saw that the scribe (writer) spoke wisely and said to him, 'You are near to the kingdom of God.' After that, no one had the courage to question Jesus again.

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

**PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS
CHRIST**

32nd Sunday of the Year

A READING FROM THE FIRST SCROLL ⇌ OF KINGS

1 Kings 17:10–16

Elijah went to Sidon. After he arrived at the city gate, he saw a widow collecting wood for a fire. Elijah said to her, 'Please give me a drink of water and some bread to eat.' She answered, 'I tell you the truth and God knows, I have no bread and only a small amount of flour and a little cooking oil in a jug. I came here to find some firewood to cook the last meal for myself and my son, and then we will starve to death.' Elijah said to her, 'Do not worry. Go and prepare your meal like you said. But first bake a small loaf of bread from the flour that you have. Give it to me. Then make some for yourself and your son. Because the Lord, the God of Israel, says:

"The bowl will not be empty of flour, and the jug will not be empty of oil, before the Lord sends rain."

The woman went and did everything Elijah told her to do,

and they ate food, she, himself (Elijah) and her son. The bowl was never empty of flour and the jug was never empty of oil. This happened as the Lord said through Elijah.

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

Psalms 145

RESPONSE: **MY SOUL, PRAISE THE LORD.**

MY SOUL, PRAISE THE LORD.

The Lord is faithful forever.

God is fair to oppressed people.

He gives bread to the hungry.

Prisoners are freed by the Lord.

MY SOUL, PRAISE THE LORD.

The Lord helps blind people see.

Those with heavy burdens are helped by God.

He protects strangers, widows and orphans (children without parents).

The Lord God reigns forever.

MY SOUL, PRAISE THE LORD.

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A READING FROM THE SCROLL ↕ TO THE HEBREWS

Hebrews 9:24–28

Christ did not go into a sanctuary (holy place) made by human hands; that sanctuary (holy place) is only a copy of the real one. Christ went to heaven and He is now with God to help us. The Jewish High Priest goes into the sanctuary (holy place) once every year with the blood of an animal. Christ went to heaven not to offer himself many times like the Jewish High Priest. If Christ had to offer himself many times, he would have to suffer many times since the beginning of the world. Christ came and He offered himself once only, and He took away all sin through the sacrifice of himself. Each person dies once, and after that God judges the person. In the same way, Christ offered himself once to take away the sins of many people. And Christ will come again a second time, not to take away people's sins, but to save those that are waiting for him.

THE WORD OF THE LORD THANKS BE TO GOD

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!

The Lord says, 'Have faith and follow me, even if it means you have to die, and I will give you the crown of life.'

ALLELUIA!

[Short form read between *....*]

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF MARK

Mark 12:38–44

Jesus taught people and said, 'Be careful of the scribes (writers). They like to walk around wearing long robes (clothes). They like people to show respect to them in the market places. They like to have the best seats in the synagogues and important seats at banquets. But they are mean (selfish) and they take a lot of things from poor widows, and then they show off by saying long

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prayers. Their punishment will be serious!

* Jesus sat opposite the Temple treasury (money room) and watched the people putting money in the treasury. Many rich people put in a lot of money. Then a poor widow came and she put in two small coins, worth about a penny. Then Jesus turned to his disciples and said, 'I tell you the truth. This poor widow has given more money than all the others. Because the others gave some money and they had plenty of money left for themselves. This woman is very poor and she needed that money to live, but she gave all the money she had to the Temple treasury (money room).' *

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

**PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS
CHRIST**

33rd Sunday of the Year

A READING FROM THE SCROLL ⇌ OF DANIEL

Daniel 12:1-3

‘The great angel Michael has been guarding your people, the Jews. At some time in the future he will appear. A time of terrible trouble will happen, terrible things that never happened before since the beginning of the world. But when this happens, your people, all those with their names written in the Book, will be saved. Many of the dead people will wake up. Some will enjoy eternal life, some will suffer terrible shame for ever. The wise people will shine in the sky. And those that have taught people to live and follow the good way will shine like the stars forever and ever.’

THE WORD OF THE LORD THANKS BE TO GOD

Psalm 15

RESPONSE: **SAVE ME GOD,
I TRUST YOU.**

SAVE ME GOD, I TRUST YOU.

Lord, you give me everything I need.

Lord, you support me.

My heart rejoices, my soul is glad.

My body will rest in safety.

SAVE ME GOD, I TRUST YOU.

Lord, you will never leave my soul with the dead.

You will not let my body decay (rot, die).

You will show me the way of life.

Your presence will fill me with joy forever.

SAVE ME GOD, I TRUST YOU.

A READING FROM THE SCROLL ⇌ TO THE HEBREWS

Hebrews 10:11-14, 18

All the priests have to make the same sacrifices many times everyday, but these sacrifices can never take away sins. Christ gave only one sacrifice for sins, and that one sacrifice was enough for ever. After his sacrifice, Christ sat down at the right side (right hand) of God. Christ now waits until God puts his enemies under his power. Through that one

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sacrifice, Christ made his people perfect for ever; He made them holy, and after all sins are forgiven there will be no more sacrifices.

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!

Stay awake, stand ready, because you do not know the hour when the Son of Man is coming.

ALLELUIA!

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF MARK

Mark 13:24-32

Jesus said to his disciples, 'Sometime in the future, after the terrible things happen, the sun will become dark, the moon will fail to give light, the stars will fall from heaven, and everything in the sky will be changed. Then people will see the Son of Man coming in the clouds with great power and glory. He will send

angels all over the earth to gather his people from all over the world.

Look at the fig tree, it will teach you a lesson. When its branches become green and it starts growing leaves, you know that summer is near. In the same way, when you see all these different things happening - the sun, the moon and the stars - you will know that the time is near, ready to begin. I tell you the truth, all these things will happen before our people die. Heaven and earth will be destroyed but my words will never be destroyed.

No one knows when it will actually happen. The angels in heaven don't know and the Son does not know, only the Father knows.'

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS CHRIST

Christ the King

A READING FROM THE SCROLL ⇌ OF DANIEL

Daniel 7:13–14

One night I had a vision: I saw a person like the son of man, and he was coming on the clouds. He came to a very old Ruler and stood in front of him. The old Ruler gave him authority, glory, and kingly power, so that people from all different countries, languages and cultures would serve him. He will reign (rule) for ever, and his kingdom will never be destroyed.

THE WORD OF THE LORD THANKS BE TO GOD

RESPONSE: **THE LORD IS KING,
HE REIGNS (RULES) WITH
GLORY AND POWER.**

**THE LORD IS KING,
HE REIGNS (RULES) WITH
GLORY AND POWER.**

Psalm 92

The Lord is king.
The Lord reigns (rules) with
majesty (wonder) and strength.
He is powerful, He created the
world.

Nothing will change his plan.

**THE LORD IS KING,
HE REIGNS (RULES) WITH
GLORY AND POWER.**

Lord, your kingdom will continue
for ever.

We trust your laws.

We will find holiness in your
house,

Until the end of time.

**THE LORD IS KING,
HE REIGNS (RULES) WITH
GLORY AND POWER.**

A READING FROM THE SCROLL ⇌ OF REVELATION

Revelation 1:5–8

Grace and peace to you from
Jesus Christ, the faithful witness.
He was the First to rise from
death. He is the Ruler of all the
kings in the world. He loves us,
and through his blood and his
death, he took away our sins. He

Christ the King

made us kings and priests to serve his God and Father. To Jesus Christ be glory and power for ever and ever! Amen. Look! He (Jesus) is coming on the clouds. Everybody will see him, including those that pierced (put spear through) him. All people on earth will mourn over him. This is the truth. Amen. The Lord God Almighty says, 'I am the Alpha, the First. I am the Omega, the Last.' Yes, He (God) is, He was and He will come again!

THE WORD OF THE LORD

THANKS BE TO GOD

ALLELUIA, ALLELUIA!

Blessings on Jesus coming in the name of the Lord! Blessings on Jesus from the family of King David!

ALLELUIA!

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL OF JOHN

John 18:33–37

Pilate asked Jesus, 'Are you the king of the Jews?' Jesus answered, 'Is that your own question, or

have other people told you about me?' Pilate replied, 'Am I a Jew? Your own people and the chief priests brought you here. What have you done?' Jesus said, 'My kingdom does not belong to this world. If my kingdom belonged to this world, my disciples would have fought and protected me to stop the Jewish leaders seizing (arresting) me. But no, my kingdom is not in this world.' Pilate said, 'So, you are a king?' Jesus answered, 'You say that I am a king. Yes, I am a king. I was born for this: I came into the world to give witness, to tell people about the truth. Any person that believes the truth will listen to me.'

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

PRAISE TO YOU LORD JESUS CHRIST

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12 th Sunday	Jb 38:1. 8–11	Ps 106	2 Co 5:14–17	Mk 4:35–41
13 th Sunday	Ws 1:13–15; 2:23–24	Ps 29	2 Co 8:7, 9, 13–15	Mk 5:21–43
14 th Sunday	Ezk 2:2–5	Ps 122	2 Co 12:7–10	Mk 6:1–6
15 th Sunday	Am 7:12–15	Ps 84	Ep 1:3–14	Mk 6:7–13
16 th Sunday	Jr 23:1–6	Ps 22	Ep 2:13–18	Mk 6:30–34
17 th Sunday	2 K 4:42–44	Ps 144	Ep 4:1–6	Jn 6:1–15
18 th Sunday	Ex 16:2–4, 12–15	Ps 77	Ep 4:17, 20–24	Jn 6:24–35
19 th Sunday	1 K 19:4–8	Ps 33	Ep 4:30 – 5:2	Jn 6:41–51
20 th Sunday	Pr 9:1–6	Ps 33	Ep 5:15–20	Jn 6:51–58
21 st Sunday	Jos 24:1–2, 15–18	Ps 33	Ep 5:21–32	Jn 6:60–69
22 nd Sunday	Dt 4:1–2, 6–8	Ps 14	Jm 1:17–18, 21–22, 27	Mk 7:1–8, 14–15, 21–23
23 rd Sunday	Is 35:4–7	Ps 145	Jm 2:1–5	Mk 7:31–37
24 th Sunday	Is 50:5–9	Ps 114	Jm 2:14–18	Mk 8:27–35
25 th Sunday	Ws 2:12, 17–20	Ps 53	Jm 3:16 – 4:3	Mk 9:30–37
26 th Sunday	Nb 11:25–29	Ps 18	Jm 5:1–6	Mk 9:38–43, 45, 47–48

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	FIRST READING	PSALM	SECOND READING	GOSPEL
27 th Sunday	Gn 2:18–24	Ps 127	Heb 2:9–11	Mk 10:2–16
28 th Sunday	Ws 7:7–11	Ps 89	Heb 4:12–13	Mk 10:17–30
29 th Sunday	Is 53:10–11	Ps 32	Heb 4:14–16	Mk 10:35–45
30 th Sunday	Jr 31:7–9	Ps 125	Heb 5:1–6	Mk 10:46–52
31 st Sunday	Dt 6:2–6	Ps 17	Heb 7:23–28	Mk 12:28–34
32 nd Sunday	1 K 17:10–16	Ps 145	Heb 9:24–28	Mk 12:38–44
33 rd Sunday	Dn 12:1–3	Ps 15	Heb 10:11–14, 18	Mk 13:24–32
Christ the King	Dn 7:13–14	Ps 92	Rev 1:5–8	Jn 18:33–37

