

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

10: 34-36, 42-43

Peter proceeded to speak and said,

“In truth, I see that God shows no partiality.
Rather, in every nation whoever fears him
and acts uprightly is acceptable to him.

You know the word that he sent to the Israelites
as he proclaimed peace through Jesus Christ,
who is Lord of all.

He commissioned us to preach to the people
and testify that he is the one appointed by God
as judge of the living and the dead.

To him all the prophets bear witness,
that everyone who believes in him
will receive forgiveness of sins through his name.”

The Word of the Lord.

A reading from the Letter of Paul to the Romans

5: 5-8, 10-11

Hope does not disappoint,
because the love of God
has been poured out into our hearts
through the holy Spirit
that has been given to us.

For Christ, while we were still helpless,
yet died at the appointed time for the ungodly.

Indeed, only with difficulty does one die for another person,
though perhaps for a good person one might find courage to die.

But God proves his love for us in that while we were still sinners
Christ died for us.

Indeed, if while we were enemies,
we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son,
how much more, once reconciled,
will we be saved by his life.

Not only that, but we also boast of God through our Lord Jesus Christ,
through whom we have now received reconciliation.

The Word of the Lord.

A reading from the Letter of Paul to the Romans

6: 3-4, 8-9

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

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

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

The Word of the Lord.

A reading from the Letter of Paul to the Romans

8: 31b-35, 37-39

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

He who did not spare his own son
but handed him over for us all,
how will he not also give us everything else along with him?

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

It is God who acquits us.

Who will condemn?

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

What will separate us from the love of Christ?

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

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

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

The Word of the Lord.

A reading from the Letter of Paul to the Romans

14: 7-9, 10b-12

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

For if we live,
we live for the Lord,
and if we die,
we die for the Lord;
so then, whether we live or die,
We are the Lord's.

For this is why Christ died and came to life,
that he might be Lord
of both the dead and the living.

For we shall all stand before the judgment seat of God;
For it is written:

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

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

The Word of the Lord.

A reading from the First Letter of Paul to the Corinthians

15: 20-24a

Christ has been raised from the dead,
the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep.

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

For just as in Adam all die,
so too in Christ shall all be brought to life,
but each one in proper order: Christ the first fruits;
then, at his coming, those who belong to Christ;
then comes the end,
when he hands over the kingdom to his God and Father,
for he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet.

The last enemy to be destroyed is death.

The Word of the Lord.

A reading from the First Letter of Paul to the Corinthians

15: 51-55, 57

Behold, I tell you a mystery.
We shall not all fall asleep,
but we will all be changed,
in an instant, in a blink of an eye, at the last trumpet.

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

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

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

“Where, O death, is your victory?
Where, O death, is your sting?”

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

The Word of the Lord.

A reading from the Second Letter of Paul to the Corinthians 4:14-16a, 17- 5:1

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

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

Therefore, we are not discouraged.

For this momentary light affliction is producing for us
an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison,
as we look not to what is seen
but to what is unseen;
for what is seen
is transitory,
but what is unseen
is eternal.

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

The Word of the Lord.

A reading from the second Letter of Paul to the Corinthians 4:14-16a, 5:1

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The Word of the Lord.

A reading from the Second Letter of Paul to the Corinthians

5:1, 6-10

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

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

Yet we are courageous,
and we would rather leave the body
and go home to the Lord.
Therefore, we aspire to please him,
whether we are at home or away.

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

The Word of the Lord.

A reading from the Letter of Paul to the Philippians

3: 20-21

Our citizenship is in heaven,
and from it we also await a savior,
the Lord Jesus Christ.

He will change our lowly body
to conform with his glorious body
by the power that enables him also
to bring all things into subjection to himself.

The Word of the Lord.

A reading from the First Letter of Paul to the Thessalonians

4: 13-18

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

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

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

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

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

Therefore, console one another with these words.

The Word of the Lord.

A reading from the First Letter of Paul to the Thessalonians

4: 13-14, 16-18

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about those who have fallen asleep,
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The Word of the Lord.

A reading from the First Letter of John

3:1-2

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

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

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

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

The Word of the Lord.

A reading from the First Letter of John

3:16-18

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

If someone who has worldly means
sees a brother or sister in need
and refuses him compassion,
how can the love of God remain in him?

Children, let us love not in word or speech,
But in deed and truth.

The Word of the Lord.

A reading from the Book of Revelation

14: 13

I heard a voice from heaven say,

“Write this:

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

“Yes” said the Spirit,

“Let them find rest from their labors,

for their good works accompany them.”

The Word of the Lord.

A reading from the Book of Revelation

21: 1-5a, 6b-7

I saw a new heaven and a new earth.
The former heaven and the former earth had passed away,
and the sea was no more.

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

I heard a loud voice from the throne saying,
“Behold, God’s dwelling is with the human race.
He will dwell with them and they will be his people
and God himself will always be with them as their God.

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

The one who sat on the throne said,
“Behold, I make all things new.
I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end.

To the thirsty I will give a gift
from the spring of life-giving water.
The victors will inherit these gifts,
and I shall be their God,
and they will be my heirs.”

The Word of the Lord.

A reading from the First Letter of Peter

1: 3-9

Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ!

In his great mercy he has given us new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that can never perish, spoil or fade.

This inheritance is kept in heaven for you, who through faith are shielded by God's power until the coming of the salvation that is ready to be revealed in the last time.

In all this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while you may have had to suffer grief in all kinds of trials.

These have come so that the proven genuineness of your faith—of greater worth than gold which perishes, even though refined by fire—may result in praise, glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed.

Though you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and are filled with an inexpressible and glorious joy, for you are receiving the end result of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

The Word of the Lord.

A reading from the Second Letter of Paul to Timothy

4:6-8

For I am already being poured out like a libation,
and the time of my departure is at hand.

I have competed well;
I have finished the race;
I have kept the faith.

From now on the crown of righteousness awaits me,
that the Lord, the just judge,
will award to me on that day,
and not only to me,
but to all who have longed for his appearance.

The Word of the Lord.

A reading from the First Letter of Paul to the Corinthians

13:1-13

If I speak in human and angelic tongues, but do not have love,
I am a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal.

And If I have the gift of prophecy
and comprehend all mysteries and all knowledge;
if I have a faith so as to move mountains,
but do not have love,
I am nothing.

If I give away everything I own to the poor
and hand my body over to hardship that I may boast,
but do not have love, I gain nothing.

Love is patient, love is kind.
It is not jealous, it is not pompous, it is not inflated.

It is not rude,
it does not seek its own interests,
it is not quick-tempered,
it does not brood over injury.

Love does not rejoice over wrongdoing,
but rejoices with the truth.

It bears all things, believes all things,
hopes all things,
endures all things.

Love never fails.

The Word of the Lord.

A reading from the Letter of Paul to the Colossians

3:12-17

Put on then, as God's chosen ones -- holy and beloved --
heartfelt compassion,
kindness, humility,
gentleness and patience,
bearing with one another
and forgiving one another if one has a grievance against another;
as the Lord has forgiven you,
so must you also do.

And over all these, put on love,
that is the bond of perfection.

And let the peace of Christ control your hearts,
the peace into which you were also called in one body.
And be thankful.

Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly,
as in all wisdom you teach and admonish one another,
singing psalms, hymns and spiritual songs
with gratitude in your hearts to God

And whatever you do, in word or in deed,
do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus,
giving thanks to God the Father through him.

The Word of the Lord.