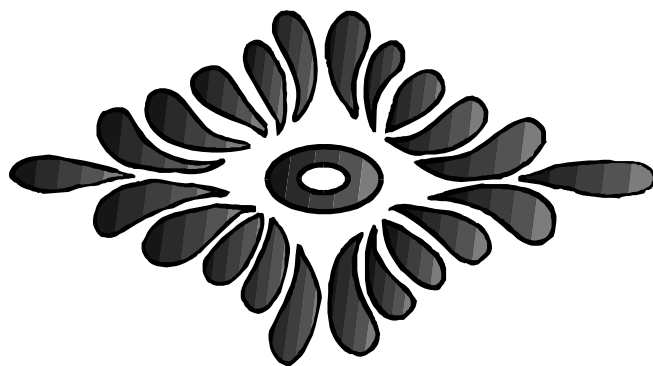


Funeral Liturgies

Book of First and Second Readings



1st

Reading

A Reading from the Book of Job

I know that my Redeemer lives.

Job answered and said:

Oh, would that my words were written down!

 Would that they were inscribed in a record;

That with an iron chisel and with lead

 They were cut in the rock forever!

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

 And that he will at last stand forth upon the dust;

Whom I myself shall see;

 My own eyes, not another's, shall behold him,

And from my flesh, I shall see God;

 My inmost being is consumed with longing.

The Word of the Lord.

A Reading from the Book of Wisdom

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

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

But they are in peace.

For if before men indeed, they be punished,
yet is their hope full of immortality.

Chastised a little, they shall be greatly blessed,
because God tried them and found them worthy of
Himself.

As gold in the furnace, He proved them,
and as sacrificial offerings He took them to Himself.

Those who trust in Him shall understand truth,
and the faithful shall abide with Him in love,
because grace and mercy are with His holy ones,
and His care is with His elect.

The Word of the Lord

A Reading from the Book of Wisdom

The virtuous man, though he die before his time,
will find rest.

Length of days is not what makes age honorable,
nor number of years the true measure of life;
understanding - this is man's gray hairs,
untarnished life - this is ripe old age.

He has sought to please God, so God has loved him;
as he was living among sinners he has been taken up.

Coming to perfection in so short a while, he achieved long life;
his soul being pleasing to the Lord.

The Word of the Lord

A Reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah

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

On this mountain he will destroy
the veil that veils all peoples,

The web that is woven over all nations;
he will destroy death forever.

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

The reproach of his people he will remove
from the whole earth; for the Lord has spoken.

On that day it will be said:

"Behold our God, to whom we looked to save us!
This is the Lord for whom we looked;
let us rejoice and be glad that he has saved us!"

The Word of the Lord.

A reading from the Book of Lamentations

It is good to wait in silence for the Lord God to save.

My soul is deprived of peace,

I have forgotten what happiness is;

I tell myself my future is lost,

All that I hoped for from the Lord.

The thought of my homeless poverty

is wormwood and gall;

Remembering it over and over

Leaves my soul downcast within me.

But I will call this to mind,

As my reason to have hope;

The favors of the Lord are not exhausted,

His mercies are not spent;

They are renewed each morning,

so great is his faithfulness.

My portion is the Lord, says my soul;

Therefore will I hope in him.

Good is the Lord to one who waits for him,

To the soul that seeks him;

It is good to hope in silence

For the saving help of the Lord.

The Word of the Lord.

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Daniel

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

"At that time, there shall arise

Michael, the great prince, guardian of your people;

It shall be a time unsurpassed in distress

Since nations began until that time.

At that time your people shall escape,

Everyone who is found written in the book.

Many of those who sleep

In the dust of the earth shall awake;

Some shall live forever,

Others shall be an everlasting horror and disgrace.

But the wise shall shine brightly

Like the splendor of the firmament,

And those who lead the many to justice

Shall be like the stars forever."

The Word of the Lord.

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Jeremiah

For I know well the plans I have in mind for you, says the
Lord, plans for your welfare, not for woe!

Plans to give you a future full of hope.

When you call Me, when you go to pray to Me, I will listen
to you.

When you look for Me, you will find Me.

Yes, when you seek Me with all your heart,
you will find Me with you, says the Lord,
and I will change your lot;

I will gather you together from all the nations
and all the places to which I have banished you, says
the Lord,
and bring you back to the place from which I have
exiled you.

The Word of the Lord

A Reading from the Book of Proverbs

When one finds a worthy wife, her value is far beyond pearls.

Her husband, entrusting his heart to her, has an unfailing prize.

She brings him good, and not evil, all the days of her life. She obtains wool and flax and makes cloth with skillful hands.

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

She reaches out her hands to the poor and extends her arms to the needy.

Charm is deceptive and beauty fleeting;
the woman who fears the Lord is to be praised.

Give her a reward of her Mars,
and let her works praise her at the city gates.

The Word of the Lord

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah

But now thus says the Lord, who created you, O Israel.
Fear not, for I have redeemed you,

I have called you by name, you are Mine.

When you pass through the water, I will be with you.

In the rivers, you shall not drown.

When you walk through fire, you shall not be burned,
the flames shall not consume you.

For I am the Lord, your God,

the Holy One of Israel, your Savior.

The Word of the Lord

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah

Rise up in splendor, Jerusalem!
Your light has come,
 the glory of the Lord shines upon you.
See, darkness covers the earth,
 and thick clouds cover the peoples,
 but upon you the Lord shines,
 and over you appears His glory.
Nations shall walk by your light,
 and kings by your shining radiance.
Raise your eyes and look about,
 they all gather and come to you.
Your sons come from afar
 and your daughter in the arms of their nurses.
Then you shall be radiant at what you see,
 your heart shall throb and overflow.
For the riches of the sea shall be emptied out before you,
 the wealth of nations shall be brought to you.

The Word of the Lord

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah

The Spirit of the Lord God is upon me,
because the Lord has anointed me.
He has sent me to bring glad tidings to the lowly,
to heal the broken-hearted,
to proclaim liberty to the captives and release to the
prisoners,
to announce a year of favor from the Lord
and a day of vindication by our God to comfort all
who mourn;
to place on those who mourn in Zion
a diadem instead of ashes,
to give them the oil of gladness in place of mourning,
a glorious mantle instead of a listless spit?.

They will be called oaks of justice,
planted by the Lord to show His glory.

The Word of the Lord

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah

God indeed is my Savior;

I am confident and unafraid.

My strength and my courage is the Lord
and He has been my Savior.

With joy you will draw water at the fountain of salvation,
and say on that day:

Give thanks to the Lord, acclaim His name;
among the nations make known His deeds,
proclaim how exalted is His name.

Sing praise to the Lord for His glorious achievements;
let this be known throughout all the earth.

Shout with exultation, O city of Zion,
for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.

The Word of the Lord

Isaiah 40:28b,29,31
God gives strength

No. 13

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Isaiah

The Lord is the eternal God, creator of the ends of the earth.
He does not faint nor grow weary,
 and His knowledge is beyond scrutiny.
He gives strength to the fainting;
 for the weak He makes vigor abound.
They that hope in the Lord will renew their strength,
 they will soar as with eagles= wings.
They will run and not grow weary,
 walk and not grow faint.

The Word of the Lord

Ecclesiastes 3:1-11

A Reading from the Book of Ecclesiastes

There is an appointed time for everything,
and a time for every affair under the heavens.
A time to-be born, and a time to die;
a time to plant, and a time to uproot the plant.
A time to kill, and a time to heal;
a time to tear down, and a time to build.
A time to weep, and a time to laugh;
a time to mourn, and a time to dance.
A time to scatter stones, and a time to gather them;
a time to embrace, and a time to be far from embraces.
A time to seek and a time to lose;
a time to keep and a time to cast away.
A time to rend, and a time to sew;
a time to be silent, and a time to speak.
A time to love and a time to hate;
a time of war, and a time of peace.

What advantage has the worker from his toil?

I have considered the task

which God has appointed two men to be busied about.

He has made everything appropriate to its time,
and has put the timeless into their hearts,
without man's ever discovering,
from beginning to end,
the work which God has done.

The Word of the Lord

A reading from the Book of the Sirach

The Lord sets a father in honor over his children;
a mothers authority He confirms over her sons.
He who honors his father atones for sins;
he stores up riches who reveres his mother.
He who honors his father is gladdened by children,
and when he prays he is heard.
He who reveres his father will live a long life;
he obeys the Lord who brings comfort to his mother.
My son, take care of your father when he is old;
grieve him not as long as he lives.
Even if his mind fail, be considerate with him;
revile him not in the fullness of your strength.
For kindness to a father will not be forgotten.
In time of tribulation, it will be recalled to your advantage,

The Word of the Lord

A Reading from the Book of Lamentations

My soul is deprived of peace.
I have forgotten what happiness is.
I tell myself my future is lost, all that I hoped for from the
 Lord.
Remembering it over and over leaves my soul downcast
 within me.

But I will call this to mind as my reason to have hope:
The favors of the Lord are not exhausted,
 His mercies are not spent.
They are renewed each morning,
 so great is His faithfulness.
My portion is the Lord, says my soul;
 therefore will I hope in Him.
Good is the Lord to one who waits for Him,
 to the soul that seeks Him.
It is good to hope in silence for the saving help of the
Lord.

The Word of the Lord

*2nd
Reading*

A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles

Peter proceeded to address the people in these words:

"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."

Word of the Lord.

A Reading from the Letter of Paul to the Romans

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

Word of the Lord.

A Reading from the Letter of Paul to the Romans

If, by the transgression of one person, death came to reign through that one, how much more will those who receive the abundance of grace and the gift of justification come to reign in life through the one person Jesus Christ.

In conclusion, just as through one transgression condemnation came upon all, so through one righteous act acquittal and life, came to all. For just as through the disobedience of one person the many were made sinners, so through the obedience of one, the many will be made righteous. The law entered in so that transgression might increase but, where sin increased, grace overflowed all the more, so that, as sin reigned in death, grace also might reign through justification for eternal life through Jesus Christ Our Lord.

Word of the Lord.

A Reading from the Letter of Paul to the Romans

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

Word of the Lord.

A Reading from the Letter of Paul to the Romans:

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

I consider that the sufferings of this present time are as nothing compared with the glory to be revealed for us. We know that all creation is groaning in labor pains even until now; and not only that, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, we also groan within ourselves as we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies.

Word of the Lord.

A Reading from the Letter of Paul to the Romans

If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son but handed him over for us all, how will he not also give us everything else along with him? Who will bring a charge against God's chosen ones? It is God who acquits us. Who will condemn? It is Christ Jesus who died, rather, was raised, who also is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us.

What will separate us from the Love of Christ? Will anguish, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or the sword? No, in all these things we conquer overwhelmingly through him who loved us. For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor present things, nor future things, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor any other creature will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Word of the Lord.

A Reading from the letter of Paul to the Romans

None of us lives for oneself, and no one dies for oneself. For if we live, we live for the Lord, and if we die, we die for the Lord; so then, whether we live or die, we are the Lord's. For this is why Christ died and came to life, that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living. For we shall all stand before the judgment seat of God; for it is written:

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

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

Word of the Lord.

A Reading from the first letter of Paul to the Corinthians

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.

Word of the Lord.

A Reading from the 1st letter of Paul to the Corinthians

Behold, I tell you a mystery. We shall not all fall asleep, but we will all be changed, in an instant, in the blink of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, the dead will be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. For that which is corruptible must clothe itself with incorruptibility. And that which is mortal must clothe itself with immortality. And when that which is corruptible clothes itself with incorruptibility and that which is mortal clothes itself with immortality, then the word that is written shall come about:

"Death is swallowed up in victory.

Where, O death, is your victory?

Where, O death, is your sting?"

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

Word of the Lord.

A Reading from the First Letter of St. Paul to the Corinthians

Love is patient, love is kind.

Love is not jealous, it does not put on airs, it is not snobbish.

Love is never rude, it is not self-seeking,

it is not prone to anger, neither does it brood over injuries.

Love does not rejoice in what is wrong, but rejoices with the truth.

There is no limit to love's forbearance,
to its trust, its hope, its power to endure.

Love never fails.

There are in the end three things that last: faith, hope, and love;
and the greatest of these is love.

The Word of the Lord

A Reading from the second letter of Paul to the Corinthians

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

So we are always courageous, although we know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord, for we walk by faith, not by sight. Yet we are courageous, and we would rather leave the body and go home to the Lord. Therefore, we aspire to please him, whether we are at home or away. For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each one may receive recompense, according to what he did in the body, whether good or evil.

Word of the Lord.

A Reading from the Letter of St. Paul to the Philippians

We have our citizenship in heaven;
it is from there that we eagerly await the coming of our
Savior,
the Lord Jesus Christ.

He will give a new form to this lowly body of ours
and remake it according to the pattern of His-glorified
body,
by His power to subject everything to Himself.

The Word of the Lord

A Reading from the First Letter of St. Paul to the
Thessalonians

We want you to be quite certain about those who have died,
to make sure that you do not grieve about them like the
other people who have no hope.

We believe that Jesus died and rose again
and that it will be the same for those who have died in
Jesus:

God will bring them with Him.

We can tell you this from the Lord's own teaching.

With such thoughts as these you should comfort one another.

The Word of the Lord

A Reading from the Second Letter of St. Paul to Timothy

I am already being poured out like a libation.

The time of my dissolution is near.

I have fought the good fight,

I have finished the race,

I have kept the faith.

From now on a merited crown awaits me.

On that day the Lord, just judge that He is,

will award it to me and not only to me,

but to all who have looked for His appearing with eager
longing.

The Word of the Lord

A Reading from the first letter of John

See what love the Father has bestowed on us that we may be called the children of God. Yet so we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved, we are God's children now; what we shall be has not yet been revealed. We do know that when it is revealed we shall be like him, for we shall see him as he is.

Word of the Lord.

A Reading from the first letter of John

We know that we have passed from death to life because we love our brothers and sisters. Whoever does not love remains in death. The way we came to know love was that Jesus laid down his life for us; so we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers and sisters.

Word of the Lord.

A Reading from the book of Revelation

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

Word of the Lord.

A Reading from the Letter of St. Paul to the Romans

So far then we have seen that, through our Lord Jesus Christ, -
by faith we are judged righteous and at peace with God,
since it is by faith and through Jesus
that we have entered this state of grace
in which we can boast about looking forward to Gods
glory.

But that is not all we can boast about:
we can boast about our sufferings.

These sufferings bring patience, as we know,
and patience brings perseverance,
and perseverance brings hope,
and this hope is not deceptive,
because the love of God has been poured into our hearts
by the Holy Spirit which has been given us. .

The Word of the Lord

A Reading from the Book of Revelation

I saw a new heaven and a new earth.
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."

The Word of the Lord

A Reading from the Letter of St. Paul
to the Romans

Brothers and sisters:

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

He did not spare His own Son,
but handed Him over for us all.

Will he not also give us everything else along with Him?

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

It is God who acquits us.

Who will condemn?

It is Christ Jesus who died, rather was raised,
who also is at the right hand of God,
who 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 loves 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.

Word of the Lord.

A Reading from the First Letter of St. Paul to the Corinthians

Set your hearts on greater gifts.

I will show you the way which surpasses all the others.

If I speak with human tongues and angelic as well,
but do not have love, I am a noisy gong, a clanging
cymbal.

If I have the gift of prophecy and, with full knowledge,
comprehend all mysteries,
if I have faith great enough to move mountains,
but have not loved I am nothing.

If I give everything I have to feed the poor
and hand over my body to be burned, but have not love,
I gain nothing.

Love is patient, love is kind.

Love is not jealous, it does not put on airs, it is not snobbish.

Love is never rude, it is not self-seeking, it is not prone to
anger, neither does it brood over injuries.

Love does not rejoice in what is wrong, but rejoices with the
truth.

There is no limit to love's forbearance,
to its trust, its hope, its power to endure.

Love never fails.

There are in the end three things that last: faith, hope, and
love;

and the greatest of these is love.

The Word of the Lord

A Reading from the Letter of St. Paul to the Colossians

Because you are God's chosen ones, holy and beloved,
clothe yourselves with heartfelt mercy,
with kindness, humility, meekness, and patience.

Bear with one another;
forgive whatever grievances you have against one
another.

Forgive as the Lord has forgiven you.

Over all these virtues put on love,
which binds the rest together and- makes them perfect.

Christ's peace must reign in your hearts,
since as members of the one body
you have been called to that peace.

Dedicate yourselves to thankfulness.

Let the word of Christ, rich as it is, dwell in you.

In wisdom made perfect, instruct and admonish one another.

Sing gratefully to God from your hearts
in psalms, hymns, and inspired songs.

Whatever you do, whether in speech or in actions,
do it in the name of the Lord Jesus.

Give thanks to God the Father through Him.

The Word of the Lord

A Reading from the First Letter of St. Peter

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
who in His great mercy gave us a new birth to a living
hope
through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead;
to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and
unfading;
to a salvation that is ready to be revealed in the final time.
In this you rejoice, although now for a little while
you may have to suffer through various trials,
so that the genuineness of your faith,
more precious than gold that is perishable
even though tested by fire,
may prove to be of praise, glory, and honor
at the revelation of Jesus Christ.
Although you have not seen Him you love-Him;
even though you do not see Him now,
yet you believe in Him,
you rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy,
as you attain the goal of your faith,
the salvation of your souls.

The Word of the Lord

A Reading from the Letter of St. Paul to the Philippians.

Brothers and sisters: rejoice in the Lord always.
I shall say it again: rejoice!
Your kindness should be known to all.
The Lord is near.
Have no anxiety at all,
 but in everything, make your requests known to God.
Then the peace of God that surpasses all understanding
 will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

Finally brothers and sisters,
 whatever is true, whatever is honorable,
 whatever is just, whatever is pure,
 whatever is lovely, whatever is gracious,
 if there is any excellence
 and if there is anything worthy of praise,
 think about these things.
Keep on .doing what you, have learned and received
 and heard and seen in me.
Then the God of peace will be with you.

The Word of the Lord