A reading from the second Letter of Saint Paul to Timothy

Beloved:
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, which 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.

#### A reading from the Book of Revelation

I, John, 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, Gods 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 victor will inherit these gifts, and I shall be his God, and he will be my son.

A reading from the Book of Revelation Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord.

I, John, 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.

A reading from the Book of Revelation

The dead were judged according to their deeds.

I, John, saw a large white throne and the one who was sitting on it. The earth and the sky fled from his presence and there was no place for them. I saw the dead, the great and the lowly, standing before the throne, and scrolls were opened. Then another scroll was opened, the book of life. The dead were judged according to their deeds, by what was written in the scrolls. The sea gave up its dead; then Death and Hades gave up their dead. All the dead were judged according to their deeds. Then Death and Hades were thrown into the pool of fire. (This pool of fire is the second death.) Anyone whose name was not found written in the book of life was thrown into the pool of fire. Then 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.

A reading from the Book of Revelation *There shall be no more death.* 

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A reading from the Book of Revelation
   God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.
I, John, had a vision of a great multitude,
 which no one could count,
 from every nation, race, people, and tongue.
They stood before the throne and before the Lamb,
 wearing white robes and holding palm branches in their hands.
They cried out in a loud voice:
 Salvation comes from our God, who is seated on the throne,
   and from the Lamb.
 For this reason they stand before Gods throne
   and worship him day and night in his temple.
   The One who sits on the throne will shelter them.
 They will not hunger or thirst anymore,
   nor will the sun or any heat strike them.
 For the Lamb who is in the center of the throne
   will shepherd them
   and lead them to springs of life-giving water,
   and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.
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A reading from the Book of Revelation *There shall be no more death.* 

I, John, saw a new heaven and a new earth.
I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, Behold, Gods dwelling is with the human race.
He will dwell with them and they will be his people and God himself will always be with them as their God.
He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and there shall be no more death or mourning, wailing or pain, for the old order has passed away.
The One who sat on the throne said,

Behold, I make all things new.

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

He is the one appointed by God as judge of the living and the dead.

Peter proceeded to speak, saying: 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 children of Israel as he proclaimed peace through Jesus Christ, who is Lord of all, what has happened all over Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John preached, how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and power. He went about doing good and healing all those oppressed by the Devil, for God was with him. We are witnesses of all that he did both in the country of the Jews and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree. This man God raised on the third day and granted that he be visible, not to all the people, but to us, the witnesses chosen by God in advance, who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. 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.

A reading from the Acts of the Apostles

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#### ROMANS 5: 5-11

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans

Since we are now justified by his Blood, we will be saved through him from the wrath.

Brothers and sisters:

Hope does not disappoint,

because the love of God has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.

For Christ, while we were still helpless,

died at the appointed time for the ungodly.

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

though perhaps for a good person

one might even find courage to die.

But God proves his love for us

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

How much more then, since we are now justified by his Blood, will we be saved through him from the wrath.

Indeed, if, while we were enemies,

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

how much more, once reconciled,

will we be saved by his life.

Not only that,

but we also boast of God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

## ROMANS 5: 17-21

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans *Where sin increased, grace overflowed all the more.* 

Brothers and sisters: If, by the transgression of the one, death came to reign through that one, how much more will those who receive the abundance of grace and of the gift of justification come to reign in life through the one 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 the one man the many were made sinners, so through the obedience of the 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.

#### **ROMANS 6: 3-9**

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans *We too might live in newness of life.* 

Brothers and sisters:

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

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

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

We know that our old self was crucified with him,

so that our sinful body might be done away with,

that we might no longer be in slavery to sin.

For a dead person has been absolved from sin.

If, then, we have died with Christ,

we believe that we shall also live with him.

We know that Christ, raised from the dead, dies no more;

death no longer has power over him.

#### ROMANS 6: 3-4, 8-9

# A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans *We too might live in newness of life.*

Brothers and sisters:

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.

#### ROMANS 8: 14-23

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans We also groan within ourselves as we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. Brothers and sisters: Those who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God. For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you received a spirit of adoption, through which we cry, Abba, Father! The Spirit itself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God. and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if only we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him. I consider that the sufferings of this present time are as nothing compared with the glory to be revealed for us. For creation awaits with eager expectation the revelation of the children of God; for creation was made subject to futility, not of its own accord but because of the one who subjected it, in hope that creation itself would be set free from slavery to corruption and share in the glorious freedom of the children of God. We know that all creation is groaning in labor pains even until now; and not only that, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, we also groan within ourselves as we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies.

#### ROMANS 8: 31B-35, 37-39

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans What will separate us from the love of Christ? 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 Gods 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.

#### ROMANS 14:

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans Whether we live or die, we are the Lords. Brothers and sisters: No one 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 Lords. For this is why Christ died and came to life, that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living. Why then do you judge your brother? Or you, why do you look down on your brother? 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 accounting of himself to God.

# 1 CORINTHIANS 15: 20-28

A reading from the first Letter of Saint Paul to the Corinthians So too in Christ shall all be brought to life. Brothers and sisters: Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. For since death came through a man, the resurrection of the dead came also through man. For just as in Adam all die, so too in Christ shall all be brought to life, but each one in proper order: Christ the firstfruits; then, at his coming, those who belong to Christ; then comes the end. when he hands over the Kingdom to his God and Father. For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. The last enemy to be destroyed is death, for he subjected everything under his feet. But when it says that everything has been subjected, it is clear that it excludes the one who subjected everything to him. When everything is subjected to him, then the Son himself will also be subjected to the one who subjected everything to him, so that God may be all in all.

# 1 CORINTHIANS 15: 20-23

A reading from the first Letter of Saint Paul to the Corinthians So too in Christ shall all be brought to life. Brothers and sisters: Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. For since death came through a man, the resurrection of the dead came also through man. For just as in Adam all die, so too in Christ shall all be brought to life, but each one in proper order: Christ the firstfruits; then, at his coming, those who belong to Christ.

# 1 CORINTHIANS 15: 51-37

A reading from the first Letter of Saint Paul to the Corinthians *Death is swallowed up in victory.* 

Brothers and sisters:

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 this which is corruptible clothes itself with

incorruptibility

and this which is mortal clothes itself with immortality,

then the word that is written shall come about:

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

The sting of death is sin,

and the power of sin is the law.

But thanks be to God who gives us the victory

through our Lord Jesus Christ.

# 2 CORINTHIANS 4: 14-5: 1

A reading from the second Letter of Saint Paul to the Corinthians *What is seen is transitory, but what is unseen is eternal.* 

Brothers and sisters:

Knowing that the One who raised the Lord Jesus

will raise us also with Jesus

and place us with you in his presence.

Everything indeed is for you,

so that the grace bestowed in abundance on more and more people

may cause the thanksgiving to overflow for the glory of God. Therefore, we are not discouraged;

rather, although our outer self is wasting away,

our inner self is being renewed day by day.

For this momentary light affliction

is producing for us an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison,

as we look not to what is seen but to what is unseen;

for what is seen is transitory, but what is unseen is eternal.

For we know that if our earthly dwelling, a tent,

should be destroyed,

we have a building from God,

a dwelling not made with hands, eternal in heaven.

# 2 CORINTHIANS 5: 1, 6-10

A reading from the second Letter of Saint Paul to the Corinthians
What is seen is transitory, but what is unseen is eternal.
Brothers and sisters:
Knowing 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;
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as we look not to what is seen but to what is unseen;
for what is seen is transitory, but what is unseen is eternal.
For we know that if our earthly dwelling, a tent, should be destroyed,
we have a building from God,
a dwelling not made with hands, eternal in heaven.

#### PHILIPPIANS 3: 20-21

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Philippians *He will change our lowly bodies to conform to his glory.* 

Brothers and sisters:
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 glorified Body by the power that enables him also to bring all things into subjection to himself.

# 1 THESSALONIANS 4: 13-18

#### 2 TIMOTHY 2: 8-13

A reading from the second Letter of Saint Paul to Timothy

If we have died with him we shall also live with him.

Beloved:

Remember Jesus Christ, raised from the dead, a descendant of David:

such is my Gospel, for which I am suffering,

even to the point of chains, like a criminal.

But the word of God is not chained.

Therefore, I bear with everything for the sake of those who are chosen,

so that they too may obtain the salvation that is in Christ Jesus, together with eternal glory.

This saying is trustworthy:

If we have died with him

we shall also live with him;

if we persevere

we shall also reign with him.

But if we deny him

he will deny us.

If we are unfaithful

he remains faithful,

for he cannot deny himself.

# 1 JOHN 3: 1-2

#### A reading from the first Letter of Saint John *We shall see him as he is.*

Beloved:
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 Gods 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.

# 1 JOHN 3: 14-16

# A reading from the first Letter of Saint John

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

Beloved:

We know that we have passed from death to life because we love our brothers.
Whoever does not love remains in death.
Everyone who hates his brother is a murderer, and you know that no murderer has eternal life remaining in him.
The way we came to know love was that he laid down his life for us; so we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers.

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans *We believe that we shall also live with him.* 

Brothers and sisters:

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.

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Romans *Whether we live or die, we are the Lord's.* 

Brothers and sisters:No one 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 Lords.For this is why Christ died and came to life, that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

A reading from the first Letter of Saint Paul to the Corinthians So too in Christ shall all be brought to life.

Brothers and sisters:
Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep.
For since death came through a man, the resurrection of the dead came also through man.
For just as in Adam all die, so too in Christ shall all be brought to life, but each one in proper order: Christ the firstfruits; then, at his coming, those who belong to Christ.

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Ephesians *He chose us in him, before the foundation of the world, to be holy.* 

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavens, as he chose us in him, before the foundation of the world, to be holy and without blemish before him.In love he destined us for adoption to himself through Jesus Christ, in accord with the favor of his will.

# FOR BAPTIZED CHILDREN 1 THESSALONIANS 4: 13-14, 18

A reading from the first Letter of Saint Paul to the Thessalonians *We shall be with the Lord forever.* 

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.
Therefore, console one another with these words.