

First Reading

A reading from the book of Wisdom 4:7-15

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 grey 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. He has been carried off so that evil may not warp his understanding or treachery seduce his soul; for the fascination of evil throws good things into the shade and the whirlwind of desire corrupts a simple heart. Coming to perfection in so short a while, he achieved long life; his soul being pleasing to the Lord, he has taken him quickly from the wickedness around him. Yet people look on, uncomprehending; it does not enter their heads that grace and mercy await the chosen of the Lord, and protection, his holy ones.

The word of the Lord.

Psalm 23

The LORD Is My Shepherd

A Psalm of David.

The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.

He makes me lie down in green pastures.

He leads me beside still waters.[a]

He restores my soul.

He leads me in paths of righteousness[b]

for his name's sake.

Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,[c]

I will fear no evil,

for you are with me;

your rod and your staff,

they comfort me.

You prepare a table before me

in the presence of my enemies;

you anoint my head with oil;

my cup overflows.

Surely[goodness and mercy[e] shall follow me

all the days of my life,

and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD

forever

Gospel
John 5:24–29

Whoever listens to my words and believes has passed from death to life.

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

Jesus said to the Jews: I tell you most solemnly, whoever listens to my words, and believes in the one who sent me has eternal life; without being brought to judgement he has passed from death to life. I tell you most solemnly, the hour will come — in fact it is here already — when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God, and all who hear it will live. For the Father, who is the source of life, has made the Son the source of life; and, because he is the Son of Man, has appointed him supreme judge. Do not be surprised at this, for the hour is coming when the dead will leave their graves at the sound of his voice; those who did good will rise again to life; and those who did evil, to condemnation. I can do nothing by myself; I can only judge as I am told to judge, and my judging is just, because my aim is to do not my own will, but the will of him who sent me.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

Universal Prayers

Reader: For John who in baptism was given the pledge of eternal life, that he may now be admitted through the gates of heaven to be in the company of saints. Lord in your mercy:

R: Hear our prayer

Reader: For the family and friends of our brother/sister John, that they may be consoled in their grief by the Lord, who wept at the death of his friend Lazarus. Lord in your mercy: R. Hear our prayer.

Reader: For our deceased relatives and friends and for all who have helped us, that they may have the reward of their goodness. Lord in your mercy:
R. Hear our prayer

Reader: For all assembled here to worship in faith, that we may be gathered together again in God's Kingdom. Lord in your mercy:
R. Hear our prayer.

Presentation of the Gifts

Hymn Soul of my Saviour

*Soul of my Saviour sanctify my breast,
Body of Christ, be thou my saving guest,
Blood of my Saviour, bathe me in thy tide,
wash me with waters gushing from thy side.*

*Strength and protection may thy passion be,
O blessed Jesus, hear and answer me;
deep in thy wounds, Lord, hide and shelter me,
so shall I never, never part from thee.*

*Guard and defend me from the foe malign,
in death's dread moments make me only thine;
call me and bid me come to thee on high
where I may praise thee with thy saints for ay.
Communion*

Hymn Here I Am Lord

*I, the Lord of sea and sky
I have heard my people cry
All who dwell in dark and sin
My hand will save
I have made the stars of night
I will make their darkness bright
Who will bear my light to them?
Whom shall I send?
Here I am, Lord*

Is it I, Lord?
I have heard You calling in the night
I will go, Lord
If You lead me
I will hold Your people in my heart
I, the Lord of wind and flame
I will tend the poor and lame
I will set a feast for them
My hand will save
Finest bread I will provide
'Til their hearts be satisfied
I will give my life to them
Whom shall I send?
Here I am, Lord
Is it I, Lord?
I have heard You calling in the night
I will go, Lord
If You lead me
I will hold Your people in my heart
I will hold Your people in my heart

Hymn

Amazing Grace

Amazing grace, how sweet the sound
That saved a wretch like me.
I once was lost, but now I'm found;
Was blind, but now I see.
T'was grace that taught my heart to fear,
And grace my fear relieved;
How precious did that grace appear
The hour I first believed.
Through many dangers, toils and snares,
We have already come.