New Testament Readings #1 Romans 6:3-9

A reading from the Letter of St. 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.

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.

The Word of the Lord.

New Testament #2 Romans 8:31b-35, 37-39

A Reading from the letter of St. 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 Christ Jesus our Lord.

The Word of the Lord

New Testament #3: 2 Corinthians 4:14-5:1

A reading from the second letter of St Paul to the Corinthians(4:14-5:1)

We know that he who raised the Lord Jesus to life will raise us with Jesus in our turn, and put us by his side and you with us. You see, all this is for your benefit, so that the more grace is multiplied among people, the more thanksgiving there will be, to the glory of God. That is why there is no weakening on our part, and instead, though this outer man of ours may falling into decay, the inner man is renewed day by day. Yes the troubles which are soon be over, though they weigh little, train us for the carrying of a weight of eternal glory which is out of all proportion to them. And so we have no eyes for things that are visible, but only for things that are invisible; for visible things last only for a time, and the invisible things are eternal.

For we know that when the tent that we live in on earth is folded up, there is a house built by God for us, an everlasting home not made by human hands, in the heavens.

The word of the Lord.

New Testament #4: 2 Corinthians 5:1, 6-10

A reading from the second Letter of Saint Paul to the Corinthians

Brothers and sisters:

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.

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 may receive recompense, according to what he did in the body, whether good or evil.

The Word of the Lord.

New Testament #5: Colossians 3:12-17

A reading from the Letter of Saint Paul to the Colossians

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

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New Testament #6 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

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

We do not want you to be unaware, brothers, 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

New Testament#7 2 Timothy 4:6-8, 18b

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

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, 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.

To him be glory forever and ever. Amen

The word of the Lord

New Testament #8 John 3:1

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.

The word of the Lord.