

St. Martin of Tours Church

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Guide for Preparing **The Funeral Liturgy**



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FIRST READING SELECTED DURING THE EASTER SEASON

ES-5 FIRST READING **Revelation 21:1-5a, 6b-7**
A reading from the Book of Revelation

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 from 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 victor will inherit these gifts, and I shall be his God, and he will be my son." The Word of the Lord.



FIRST READING SELECTED DURING THE EASTER SEASON

ES-3 FIRST READING Revelation 14:13

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."

The Word of the Lord.

ES-4 FIRST READING Revelation 20:11-21:1

A reading from the book of Revelation

I 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.

The Word of the Lord.

INTRODUCTION

In spite of the sadness of letting go and giving back to God a person who is dear to us, we Christians believe that death is not an end, but a beginning; that a beloved has passed through death from this present, temporary life to a perfect, permanent one; that he or she who saw God in faith on earth now sees the Lord face to face in heaven; that while death separates us now, it is but for a time only. Soon we will be reunited, as God tells us in the Bible, with those we love in a "dwelling provided for us by God, a dwelling in the heavens, not made by hands but to last forever. (2 Corinthians 5:1)

The funeral Mass especially expresses this faith in Jesus' victory over death and our personal share in that resurrection. It does so through prayers and blessings, through songs and readings, through ceremonies and symbols. We ask the family to choose four hymns from the list given in this booklet. Try to pick ones that will be meaningful to you; will help to remember the deceased; and express our faith in the Lord's resurrection.

We also ask you to choose two readings, one from the Old Testament and one from the New Testament. **Only during the EASTER SEASON - from Easter to Pentecost Sunday - are both readings taken from the New Testament, the first reading being taken from the special Easter selection (pp. 17-19). The second reading is then chosen from pp. 8-16.** Meditate a bit on the readings first and then choose the two that speak best to your heart and reflect God's working in your lives at this moment.

May God hold you in the palm of his hand; console you through the life death and resurrection of Jesus Christ; and strengthen you in the Holy Spirit.

- The Clergy and Staff of Saint Martin of Tours Parish

SUGGESTED FUNERAL MUSIC SELECTIONS

Amazing Grace	I Heard the Voice of Jesus
As the Deer Longs	I Know That My Redeemer Lives
Ave Maria (Schubert)	Loving and Forgiving
Be Not Afraid	Old Irish Blessing
Behold the Lamb	On Eagles Wings
Blest Are They	One Bread, One Body
Bread of Life	Only This I Want
Center of My Life	Panis Angelicus
Christ Be Our Light	Prayer of St. Francis
Come To Me	Remember Your Love
Eat This Bread	Shelter Me, O God
Eye Has Not Seen	Shepherd Me, O God
Fly Like a Bird	Softly & Tenderly Jesus Is Calling
For All the Saints (cannot be used during Lent)	Taste and See
Gift of Finest Wheat	The King of Love My Shepherd Is
Here I Am, Lord	The Lord Is My Light
Hold Me in Life	The Supper of the Lord
Hosea	This Alone
How Great Thou Art	To You O Lord
How Lovely is Your Dwelling Place	We Remember
I Am the Bread of Life	We Will Rise Again
I Am the Living Bread	You Are Mine
I Have Loved You	You Are Near

If you should have any questions or special requests regarding music, please contact Elena Scollo a day or two in advance of the funeral mass at 516-713-8854 or leave a message at the rectory office at 516-931-0818.

FIRST READING SELECTED DURING THE EASTER SEASON

ES-1 FIRST READING (long form) Acts 10:34-43

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, 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." The Word of the Lord.

ES-2 FIRST READING (short form) Acts 10:34-36, 42-43

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 prophets bear witness, that everyone who believes in him will receive forgiveness of sins through his name." The Word of the Lord.

NT-18 SECOND READING**2 Timothy 2:8-13**

A reading from the second letter of Paul to Timothy

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.

The Word of the Lord.

NT-19 SECOND READING**2 Timothy 4:6-8**

A reading from the second letter of 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.

The Word of the Lord.

OT-1 FIRST READING**Daniel 12:1-3**

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.

OT-2 FIRST READING**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 for men to be busied about. He has made everything appropriate to its time, and has put the timeless into their hearts, without men's ever discovering, from beginning to end, the work which God has done.

The Word of the Lord.

OT-3 FIRST READING**Isaiah 25:6a, 7-9**

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 look 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.

OT-4 FIRST READING**Isaiah 43:1a - 5a**

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah

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.
I give Egypt as your ransom, Ethiopia and Seba in return for you.
Because you are precious in my eyes and glorious,
And because I love you, I give men in return for you
And peoples in exchange for your life.
Fear not, for I am with you. The Word of the Lord.

NT-16 SECOND READING**Romans 8:31b-35, 37-39**

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. The Word of the Lord.

NT-17 SECOND READING**Romans 14:7-9, 10b-12**

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 us shall give an account of himself to God. The Word of the Lord.

NT-14 SECOND READING (short version) Romans 6:3-4, 8-9

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.

The Word of the Lord.

NT- 15 SECOND READING Romans 8:14-23

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. 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 first fruits of the Spirit, we also groan within ourselves as we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. The Word of the Lord.

OT-5 FIRST READING

Isaiah 61:1-3

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 brokenhearted,
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 oil of gladness in place of mourning,
a glorious mantle instead of a listless spirit.
They will be called oaks of justice,
planted by the Lord to show his glory. The Word of the Lord.

OT-6 FIRST READING

Job 19:1, 23-27

A reading from the book of Job.

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.

OT-7 FIRST READING**Lamentations 3:17-26**

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. 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.

OT-8 FIRST READING**2 Maccabees 12:43-46**

A reading from the second book of Maccabees

Judas (the ruler of Israel) then took up a collection among all his soldiers, amounting to two thousand silver drachmas, which he sent to Jerusalem to provide for an expiatory sacrifice. In doing this he acted in a very excellent and noble way, inasmuch as he had the resurrection of the dead in view; for if he were not expecting the fallen to rise again, it would have been useless and foolish to pray for them in death. But if he did this with a view to the splendid reward that awaits those who had gone to rest in godliness, it was a holy and pious thought. Thus he made atonement for the dead that they might be freed from sin.

The Word of the Lord.

NT-12 SECOND READING**Romans 5:17-21**

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 of 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.

The Word of the Lord.

NT-13 SECOND READING (long version)**Romans 6:3-9**

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. 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.

NT-10 SECOND READING**Revelation 21:1-5a, 6b-7**

A reading from the book of Revelation

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 victor will inherit these gifts, and I shall be his God, and he will be my son." The Word of the Lord.

NT-11 SECOND READING**Romans 5:5-11**

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 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.

The Word of the Lord.

OT-9 FIRST READING**Proverbs 31:10-20, 23, 25-31**

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.
Like merchant ships, she secures her provisions from afar.
She rises while it is still night,
and distributes food to her household.
She picks out a field to purchase;
out of her earnings she plants a vineyard.
She is girt about with strength, and sturdy are her arms.
She enjoys the success of her dealings;
At night her lamp is undimmed.
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.
Her husband is prominent at the city gates
As he sits with the elders of the land.
She is clothed with strength and dignity,
And she laughs at the days to come.
She opens her mouth in wisdom,
and on her tongue is kindly counsel.
She watches the conduct of her household,
And eats not her food in idleness.
Her children rise up and praise her; her husband, too extols her:
"Many are the women of proven worth,
But you have excelled them all."
Charm is deceptive and beauty fleeting;
The woman who fears the Lord is to be praised.
Give her a reward of her labors,
And let her works praise her at the city gates.

The Word of the Lord.

OT-10 FIRST READING (long form)**Wisdom 3:1-9**

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.

In the time of their visitation, they shall shine
And shall dart about as sparks through stubble;
They shall judge nations and rule over peoples,
And the Lord shall be their King forever.
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.

NT-7 SECOND READING**1 John 3:14-16**

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. 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 Jesus laid down his life for us; so we ought to lay down our lives for our brothers and sisters.
The Word of the Lord.

NT-8 SECOND READING**Revelation 14:13**

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."
The Word of the Lord.

NT-9 SECOND READING**Revelation 20:11-21:1**

A reading from the book of Revelation

I 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 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. The Word of the Lord.

NT-5 SECOND READING (long form)

1 Corinthians 15:20-23, 24b-28

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; 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 in all. The Word of the Lord.

NT-6 SECOND READING

1 John 3:1-2

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.

OT-11 FIRST READING (short form)

Wisdom 3:1-6, 9

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.

OT-12 FIRST READING

Wisdom 4:7-15

A reading from the book of Wisdom

The just man, though he die early, shall be at rest. For the age that is honorable comes not with the passing of time, nor can it be measured in terms of years. Rather, understanding is the hoary crown for men, and an unsullied life, the attainment of old age.

He who pleased God was loved; he who lived among sinners was transported - snatched away, lest wickedness pervert his mind or deceit beguile his soul; for the witchery of paltry things obscures what is right and the whirl of desire transforms the innocent mind.

Having become perfect in a short while, he reached the fullness of a long career; for his soul was pleasing to the Lord, therefore he sped him out of the midst of wickedness. But the people saw and did not understand, nor did they take this into account. Because grace and mercy are with his holy ones, and his care is with his elect. The Word of the Lord.

SECOND READING - NEW TESTAMENT

NT-1 SECOND READING (long form)

Acts 10:34-43

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, 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.” The Word of the Lord.

NT-2 SECOND READING (short form)

Acts 10:34-36, 42-43

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

NT-3 SECOND READING

1 Corinthians 15:51-57

A reading from the first 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. The Word of the Lord.

NT-4 SECOND READING (short form)

1 Corinthians 15:20-23

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. The Word of the Lord.