**Gospel Readings**

**Matthew 5:1-12**

**A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.**

**Rejoice and be glad, for your reward will be great in heaven.**

**When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain,**

**and after he had sat down, his disciples came to him.**

**He began to teach them, saying:**

**“Blessed are the poor in spirit,**

**for theirs is the Kingdom of heaven.**

**Blessed are they who mourn,**

**for they will be comforted.**

**Blessed are the meek,**

**for they will inherit the land.**

**Blessed are they who hunger and thirst for righteousness,**

**for they will be satisfied.**

**Blessed are the merciful,**

**for they will be shown mercy.**

**Blessed are the clean of heart,**

**for they will see God.**

**Blessed are the peacemakers,**

**for they will be called children of God.**

**Blessed are they who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness,**

**for theirs is the Kingdom of heaven.**

**Blessed are you when they insult you and persecute you**

**and utter every kind of evil against you falsely because of me.**

**Rejoice and be glad,**

**for your reward will be great in heaven.”**

**The Gospel of the Lord.**

**Matthew 11:25-30**

**A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew.**

**Come to me and I will give you rest.**

**At that time Jesus answered:**

**“I give praise to you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth,**

**for although you have hidden these things**

**from the wise and the learned**

**you have revealed them to the childlike.**

**Yes, Father, such has been your gracious will.**

**All things have been handed over to me by my Father.**

**No one knows the Son except the Father,**

**and no one knows the Father except the Son**

**and anyone to whom the Son wishes to reveal him.**

**“Come to me, all you who labor and are burdened,**

**and I will give you rest.**

**Take my yoke upon you and learn from me,**

**for I am meek and humble of heart;**

**and you will find rest for yourselves.**

**For my yoke is easy, and my burden light.”**

**The Gospel of the Lord.**

**Matthew 25:1-13**

**A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew**

**Stay awake for you know neither the day nor the hour.**

**Jesus told his disciples this parable:**

**“The Kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins**

**who took their lamps and went out to meet the bridegroom.**

**Five of them were foolish and five were wise.**

**The foolish ones, when taking their lamps,**

**brought no oil with them,**

**but the wise brought flasks of oil with their lamps.**

**Since the bridegroom was long delayed,**

**they all became drowsy and fell asleep.**

**At midnight, there was a cry,**

**‘Behold, the bridegroom! Come out to meet him!’**

**Then all those virgins got up and trimmed their lamps.**

**The foolish ones said to the wise,**

**‘Give us some of your oil,**

**for our lamps are going out.’**

**But the wise ones replied,**

**‘No, for there may not be enough for us and you.**

**Go instead to the merchants and buy some for yourselves.’**

**While they went off to buy it,**

**the bridegroom came**

**and those who were ready went into the wedding feast with him.**

**Afterwards the other virgins came and said,**

**‘Lord, Lord, open the door for us!’**

**But he said in reply,**

**‘Amen, I say to you, I do not know you.’**

**Therefore, stay awake,**

**for you know neither the day nor the hour.”**

**The Gospel of the Lord.**

**Matthew 25: 31-46**

**A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew**

**Come, you who are blessed by my Father.**

**Jesus said to his disciples:**

**“When the Son of Man comes in his glory,**

**and all the angels with him,**

**he will sit upon his glorious throne,**

**and all the nations will be assembled before him.**

**And he will separate them one from another,**

**as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats.**

**He will place the sheep on his right and the goats on his left.**

**Then the king will say to those on his right,**

**‘Come, you who are blessed by my Father.**

**Inherit the kingdom prepared for you**

**from the foundation of the world.**

**For I was hungry and you gave me food,**

**I was thirsty and you gave me drink,**

**a stranger and you welcomed me,**

**naked and you clothed me,**

**ill and you cared for me,**

**in prison and you visited me.’**

**Then the righteous will answer him and say,**

**‘Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you,**

**or thirsty and give you drink?**

**When did we see you a stranger and welcome you,**

**or naked and clothe you?**

**When did we see you ill or in prison, and visit you?’**

**And the king will say to them in reply,**

**‘Amen, I say to you, whatever you did**

**for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me.’**

**Then he will say to those on his left,**

**‘Depart from me, you accursed,**

**into the eternal fire prepared for the Devil and his angels.**

**For I was hungry and you gave me no food,**

**I was thirsty and you gave me no drink,**

**a stranger and you gave me no welcome,**

**naked and you gave me no clothing,**

**ill and in prison, and you did not care for me.’**

**Then they will answer and say,**

**‘Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty**

**or a stranger or naked or ill or in prison,**

**and not minister to your needs?’**

**He will answer them, ‘Amen, I say to you,**

**what you did not do for one of these least ones,**

**you did not do for me.’**

**And these will go off to eternal punishment,**

**but the righteous to eternal life.”**

**The Gospel of the Lord.**

**Long Form**

**Mark 15:33-39, 16:1-6**

**A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark**

**Jesus gave a loud cry and breathed his last.**

**At noon darkness came over the whole land**

**until three in the afternoon.**

**And at three o’clock Jesus cried out in a loud voice,**

***“Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?”***

**which is translated,**

**“My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?”**

**Some of the bystanders who heard it said,**

**“Look, he is calling Elijah.”**

**One of them ran, soaked a sponge with wine, put it on a red,**

**and gave it to him to drink, saying,**

**“Wait, let us see if Elijah comes to take him down.”**

**Jesus gave a loud cry and breathed his last.**

**The veil of the sanctuary was torn in two from top to bottom.**

**When the centurion who stood facing him**

**saw how he breathed his last he said,**

**“Truly this man was the Son of God!”**

**When the Sabbath was over,**

**Mary Magdalene, Mary, the mother of James, and Salome**

**bought spices so that they might go and anoint him.**

**Very early when the sun had risen,**

**on the first day of the week, they came to the tomb.**

**They were saying to one another,**

**“Who will roll back the stone for us**

**from the entrance to the tomb?”**

**When they looked up,**

**they saw that the stone had been rolled back;**

**it was very large.**

**On entering the tomb they saw a young man**

**sitting on the right side, clothed in a white robe,**

**and they were utterly amazed.**

**He said to them, “Do not be amazed!**

**You seek Jesus of Nazareth, the crucified.**

**He has been raised; he is not here.**

**Behold the place where they laid him.”**

**The Gospel of the Lord.**

**Short Form**

**Mark 15:33-39**

**A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark**

**Jesus gave a loud cry and breathed his last.**

**At noon darkness came over the whole land**

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**Jesus gave a loud cry and breathed his last.**

**The veil of the sanctuary was torn in two from top to bottom.**

**When the centurion who stood facing him**

**saw how he breathed his last he said,**

**“Truly this man was the Son of God!”**

**The Gospel of the Lord.**

**Luke 7:11-17**

**A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke**

**Young man, I tell you, arise!**

**Jesus journeyed to a city called Nain,**

**and his disciples and a large crowd accompanied him.**

**As he drew near to the gate of the city,**

**a man who had died was being carried out,**

**the only son of his mother, and she was a widow.**

**A large crowd from the city was with her.**

**When the Lord saw her,**

**he was moved with pity for her and said to her,**

**“Do not weep.”**

**He stepped forward and touched the coffin;**

**at this the bearers halted,**

**and he said, “Young man, I tell you, arise!”**

**The dead man sat up and began to speak,**

**and Jesus gave him to his mother.**

**Fear seized them all, and they glorified God, exclaiming,**

**“A great prophet has arisen in our midst,”**

**and “God has visited his people.”**

**This report about him spread through the whole of Judea**

**and in all the surrounding region.**

**The Gospel of the Lord.**

**Luke 12:35-40**

**A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke**

**You also must be prepared.**

**Jesus said to his disciples:**

**“Gird your loins and light your lamps**

**and be like servants who await their master’s return**

**from a wedding,**

**ready to open immediately when he comes and knocks.**

**Blessed are those servants**

**whom the master finds vigilant on his arrival.**

**Amen, I say to you, he will gird himself,**

**have them recline at table, and proceed to wait on them.**

**And should he come in the second or third watch**

**and find them prepared in this way,**

**blessed are those servants.**

**Be sure of this:**

**if the master of the house had known the hour**

**when the thief was coming,**

**he would not have let his house be broken into.**

**You also must be prepared, for at an hour you do not expect,**

**the Son of Man will come.”**

**The Gospel of the Lord.**

**Luke 23:33, 39-43**

**A reading from the holy gospel according to Luke**

**Today you will be with me in Paradise.**

**When the soldiers came to the place called the Skull,**

**they crucified Jesus and the criminals there,**

**one on his right, the other on his left.**

**Now one of the criminals hanging there**

**reviled Jesus, saying,**

**“Are you not the Christ?**

**Save yourself and us.”**

**The other man, however, rebuking him, said in reply,**

**“Have you no fear of God,**

**for you are subject to the same condemnation?**

**And indeed, we have been condemned justly,**

**but this man has done nothing criminal.”**

**Then he said,**

**“Jesus, remember me when you come into your Kingdom.”**

**He replied to him,**

**“Amen, I say to you,**

**today you will be with me in Paradise.”**

**The Gospel of the Lord.**

**Luke 23: 44-46, 50, 52-53; 24:1—6**

**A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke**

**Father, into your hands I commend my spirit.**

**It was about noon and darkness came over the whole land**

**until three in the afternoon**

**because of an eclipse of the sun.**

**Then the veil of the temple was torn down the middle.**

**Jesus cried out in a loud voice,**

**“Father, into your hands I commend my spirit”;**

**and when he had said this he breathed his last.**

**Now there was a virtuous and righteous man named Joseph who,**

**though he was a member of the council,**

**went to Pilate and asked for the Body of Jesus.**

**After he had taken the Body down,**

**he wrapped it in a linen cloth**

**and laid him in a rock-hewn tomb**

**in which no one had yet been buried.**

**At daybreak on the first day of the week**

**the women took the spices they had prepared**

**and went to the tomb.**

**They found the stone rolled away from the tomb;**

**but when they entered,**

**they did not find the Body of the Lord Jesus.**

**While they were puzzling over this, behold,**

**two men in dazzling garments appeared to them.**

**They were terrified and bowed their faces to the ground.**

**They said to them,**

**“Why do you seek the living one among the dead?**

**He is not here, but he has been raised.”**

**The Gospel of the Lord**

**Short Form**

**Luke 23: 44-46, 50, 52-53**

**A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke**

**Father, into your hands I commend my spirit.**

**It was about noon and darkness came over the whole land**

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**After he had taken the Body down,**

**he wrapped it in a linen cloth**

**and laid him in a rock-hewn tomb**

**in which no one had yet been buried.**

**The Gospel of the Lord**

**Luke 24:13-35 Long Form**

**A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke**

**Was it not necessary that the Christ should suffer these things and enter into his glory?**

**That very day, the first day of the week,**

**two of the disciples of Jesus were going**

**to a village called Emmaus, seven miles from Jerusalem,**

**and they were conversing about all the things that had occurred.**

**And it happened that while they were conversing and debating,**

**Jesus himself drew near and walked with them,**

**but their eyes were prevented from recognizing him.**

**He asked them,**

**“What are you discussing as you walk along?”**

**They stopped, looking downcast.**

**One of them, named Cleopas, said to him in reply,**

**“Are you the only visitor to Jerusalem**

**who does not know of the things**

**that have taken place there in these days?”**

**And he replied to them, “What sort of things?”**

**They said to him,**

**“The things that happened to Jesus the Nazarene,**

**who was a prophet mighty in deed and word**

**before God and all the people,**

**how our chief priests and rulers both handed him over**

**to a sentence of death and crucified him.**

**But we were hoping that he would be the one to redeem Israel;**

**and besides all this,**

**it is now the third day since this took place.**

**Some women from our group, however, have astounded us:**

**they were at the tomb early in the morning**

**and did not find his Body;**

**they came back and reported**

**that they had indeed seen a vision of angels**

**who announced that he was alive.**

**Then some of those with us went to the tomb**

**and found things just as the women had described,**

**but him they did not see.”**

**And he said to them, “Oh, how foolish you are!**

**How slow of heart to believe all that the prophets spoke!**

**Was it not necessary that the Christ should suffer these things**

**and enter into his glory?”**

**Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets,**

**Jesus interpreted to them what referred to him**

**in all the Scriptures.**

**As they approached the village to which they were going,**

**Jesus gave the impression that he was going on farther.**

**But they urged him, “Stay with us,**

**for it is nearly evening and the day is almost over.”**

**So he went in to stay with them.**

**And it happened that, while he was with them at table,**

**he took bread, said the blessing,**

**broke it, and gave it to them.**

**With that their eyes were opened and they recognized him,**

**but he vanished from their sight.**

**Then they said to each other,**

**“Were not our hearts burning within us**

**while he spoke to us on the way and opened the Scriptures to us?”**

**So they set out at once and returned to Jerusalem**

**where they found gathered together**

**the Eleven and those with them, who were saying,**

**“The Lord has truly been raised and has appeared to Simon!”**

**Then the two recounted**

**what had taken place on the way**

**and how he was made known to them in the breaking of the bread.**

**The Gospel of the Lord.**

**Luke 24:13-16, 28-35 Short Form**

**A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke**

**Was it not necessary that the Christ should suffer these things and enter into his glory?**

**That very day, the first day of the week,**

**two of the disciples of Jesus were going**

**to a village called Emmaus, seven miles from Jerusalem,**

**and they were conversing about all the things that had occurred.**

**And it happened that while they were conversing and debating,**

**Jesus himself drew near and walked with them,**

**but their eyes were prevented from recognizing him.**

**As they approached the village to which they were going,**

**Jesus gave the impression that he was going on farther.**

**But they urged him, “Stay with us,**

**for it is nearly evening and the day is almost over.”**

**So he went in to stay with them.**

**And it happened that, while he was with them at table,**

**he took bread, said the blessing, broke it, and gave it to them.**

**With that their eyes were opened and they recognized him,**

**but he vanished from their sight.**

**Then they said to each other,**

**“Were not our hearts burning within us**

**while he spoke to us on the way and opened the Scriptures to us?”**

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**the Eleven and those with them, who were saying,**

**“The Lord has truly been raised and has appeared to Simon!”**

**Then the two recounted**

**what had taken place on the way**

**and how he was made known to them in the breaking of the bread.**

**The Gospel of the Lord.**

**John 5:24-29**

**A reading from the holy gospel according to John**

**Whoever hears my word and believes has passed from death to life.**

**Jesus answered the Jews and said to them:**

**“Amen, amen, I say to you, whoever hears my word**

**and believes in the one who sent me**

**has eternal life and will not come to condemnation,**

**but has passed from death to life.**

**Amen, amen, I say to you, the hour is coming and is now here**

**when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God,**

**and those who hear will live.**

**For just as the Father has life in himself,**

**so also he gave to the Son the possession of life in himself.**

**And he gave him power to exercise judgment,**

**because he is the Son of Man.**

**Do not be amazed at this,**

**because the hour is coming in which all who are in the tombs**

**will hear his voice and will come out,**

**those who have done good deeds**

**to the resurrection of life,**

**but those who have done wicked deeds**

**to the resurrection of condemnation.**

**The Gospel of the Lord.**

**John 6:37-40**

**A reading from the holy Gospel according to John**

**All who believe in the Son will have eternal life and I will raise them to life again on the last day.**

**Jesus said to the crowds:**

**“Everything that the Father gives me will come to me,**

**and I will not reject anyone who comes to me,**

**because I came down from heaven not to do my own will**

**but the will of the one who sent me.**

**And this is the will of the one who sent me,**

**that I should not lose anything of what he gave me,**

**but that I should raise it on the last day.**

**For this is the will of my Father,**

**that everyone who sees the Son and believes in him**

**may have eternal life,**

**and I shall raise him on the last day.”**

**The Gospel of the Lord.**

**John 6:51-59**

**A reading from the holy Gospel according to John**

**All who eat this bread will live forever; and I will raise them up on the last day.**

**Jesus said to the crowds:**

**“I am the living bread that came down from heaven;**

**whoever eats this bread will live forever;**

**and the bread that I will give is my Flesh**

**for the life of the world.”**

**The Jews quarreled among themselves, saying,**

**“How can this man give us his Flesh to eat?”**

**Jesus said to them,**

**“Amen, amen, I say to you,**

**unless you eat the Flesh of the Son of Man and drink his Blood,**

**you do not have life within you.**

**Whoever eats my Flesh and drinks my Blood**

**has eternal life,**

**and I will raise him on the last day.**

**For my Flesh is true food,**

**and my Blood is true drink.**

**Whoever eats my Flesh and drinks my Blood**

**remains in me and I in him.**

**Just as the living Father sent me**

**and I have life because of the Father,**

**so also the one who feeds on me**

**will have life because of me.**

**This is the bread that came down from heaven.**

**Unlike your ancestors who ate and still died,**

**whoever eats this bread will live forever.”**

**The Gospel of the Lord.**

**Long Form**

**John 11: 17-27**

**A reading from the holy Gospel according to John**

**I am the resurrection and the life.**

**When Jesus arrived in Bethany, he found that Lazarus**

**had already been in the tomb for four days.**

**Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, only about two miles away.**

**Many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary**

**to comfort them about their brother.**

**When Martha heard that Jesus was coming,**

**she went to meet him;**

**but Mary sat at home.**

**Martha said to Jesus,**

**“Lord, if you had been here,**

**my brother would not have died.**

**But even now I know that whatever you ask of God,**

**God will give you.”**

**Jesus said to her,**

**“Your brother will rise.”**

**Martha said to him,**

**“I know he will rise,**

**in the resurrection on the last day.”**

**Jesus told her,**

**“I am the resurrection and the life;**

**whoever believes in me, even if he dies, will live,**

**and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die.**

**Do you believe this?”**

**She said to him, “Yes Lord.**

**I have come to believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God,**

**the one who is coming into the world.”**

**The Gospel of the Lord.**

**Short Form**

**John 11: 21-27**

**A reading from the holy Gospel according to John**

**I am the resurrection and the life.**

**Martha said to Jesus,**

**“Lord, if you had been here,**

**my brother would not have died.**

**But even now I know that whatever you ask of God,**

**God will give you.”**

**Jesus said to her,**

**“Your brother will rise.”**

**Martha said to him,**

**“I know he will rise,**

**in the resurrection on the last day.”**

**Jesus told her,**

**“I am the resurrection and the life;**

**whoever believes in me, even if he dies, will live,**

**and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die.**

**Do you believe this?”**

**She said to him, “Yes Lord.**

**I have come to believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God,**

**the one who is coming into the world.”**

**The Gospel of the Lord.**

**John 11: 32-45**

**A reading from the holy Gospel according to John**

**Lazarus, come out!**

**When Mary came to where Jesus was and saw him,**

**she fell at his feet and said to him,**

**“Lord, if you had been here,**

**my brother would not have died.”**

**When Jesus saw her weeping**

**and the Jews who had come with her weeping,**

**he became perturbed and deeply troubled, and said,**

**“Where have you laid him?”**

**They said to him, “Sir, come and see.”**

**And Jesus wept.**

**So the Jews said, “See how he loved him.”**

**But some of them said,**

**“Could not the one who opened the eyes of the blind man**

**have done something so that this man would not have died?”**

**So Jesus, perturbed again, came to the tomb.**

**It was a cave, and a stone lay across it.**

**Jesus said, “Take away the stone.”**

**Martha, the dead man’s sister, said to him,**

**“Lord, by now there will be a stench;**

**he has been dead for four days.”**

**Jesus said to her,**

**“Did I not tell you that if you believe**

**you will see the glory of God?”**

**So they took away the stone.**

**And Jesus raised his eyes and said,**

**“Father, I thank you for hearing me.**

**I know that you always hear me;**

**but because of the crowd here I have said this,**

**that they may believe that you sent me.”**

**And when he had said this,**

**he cried out in a loud voice,**

**“Lazarus, come out!”**

**The dead man came out,**

**tied hand and foot with burial bands,**

**and his face wrapped in a cloth.**

**So Jesus said to the crowd,**

**“Untie him and let him go.”**

**Now many of the Jews who had come to Mary**

**and seen what he had done began to believe in him.**

**The Gospel of the Lord.**

**John 12:23-28 Long Form**

**A reading from the holy Gospel according to John**

**The Father will honor whoever serves me.**

**Jesus said to his disciples:**

**“The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified.**

**Amen, amen, I say to you,**

**unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies,**

**it remains just a grain of wheat;**

**but if it dies, it produces much fruit.**

**Whoever loves his life will lose it,**

**and whoever hates his life in this world**

**will preserve it for eternal life.**

**Whoever serves me must follow me,**

**and where I am, there also will my servant be.**

**The Father will honor whoever serves me.**

**“I am troubled now. Yet what should I say?**

**‘Father, save me from this hour’?**

**But it was for this purpose that I came to this hour.**

**Father, glorify your name.”**

**Then a voice came from heaven,**

**“I have glorified it and will glorify it again.”**

**The Gospel of the Lord.**

**Short Form 12: 23-26**

**A reading from the holy Gospel according to John**

**The Father will honor whoever serves me.**

**Jesus said to his disciples:**

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**Amen, amen, I say to you,**

**unless a grain of wheat falls to the ground and dies,**

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**Whoever loves his life will lose it,**

**and whoever hates his life in this world**

**will preserve it for eternal life.**

**Whoever serves me must follow me,**

**and where I am, there also will my servant be.**

**The Father will honor whoever serves me.**

**The Gospel of the Lord.**

**John 14: 1-6**

**A reading from the holy Gospel according to John**

**In my Father’s house there are many dwellings.**

**Jesus said to his disciples:**

**“Do not let your hearts be troubled.**

**You have faith in God; have faith also in me.**

**In my Father’s house there are many dwelling places.**

**If there were not,**

**would I have told you that I am going to prepare a place for you?**

**And if I go and prepare a place for you,**

**I will come back again and take you to myself,**

**so that where I am you also may be.**

**Where I am going you know the way.”**

**Thomas said to him,**

**“Master we do not know where you are going;**

**how can we know the way?”**

**Jesus said to him, “I am the way and the truth and the life.**

**No one come to the Father except through me.”**

**The Gospel of the Lord.**

**John 17: 24-26**

**A reading from the holy Gospel according to John**

**I wish that where I am they also may be with me.**

**Jesus raised his eyes to heaven and said:**

**“Father, those whom you gave me are your gift to me.**

**I wish that where I am they also may be with me,**

**that they may see my glory that you gave me,**

**because you loved me before the foundation of the world.**

**Righteous Father, the world also does not know you,**

**but I know you, and they know that you sent me.**

**I made known to them your name and I will make it known,**

**that the love with which you loved me**

**may be in them and I in them.”**

**The Gospel of the Lord.**

**John 19:17-18, 25-29**

**A reading from the holy Gospel according to John**

**And bowing his head he handed over his Spirit.**

**So they took Jesus, and, carrying the cross himself,**

**he went out to what is called the Place of the Skull,**

**in Hebrew, Golgotha.**

**There they crucified him, and with him two others,**

**one on either side, with Jesus in the middle.**

**Standing by the cross of Jesus were his mother**

**and his mother’s sister, Mary the wife of Clopas,**

**and Mary Magdalene.**

**When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved,**

**he said to his mother, “Woman, behold, your son.”**

**Then he said to the disciple,**

**“Behold, your mother.”**

**And from that hour the disciple took her into his home.**

**After this, aware that everything was now finished,**

**in order that the Scripture might be fulfilled,**

**Jesus said, “I thirst.”**

**There was a vessel filled with common wine.**

**So they put a sponge soaked in wine on a sprig of hyssop**

**and put it up to his mouth.**

**When Jesus had taken the wine, he said,**

**“It is finished.”**

**And bowing his head, he handed over the Spirit.**

**Now since it was preparation day,**

**in order that the bodies might not remain**

**on the cross on the Sabbath,**

**for the Sabbath day of that week was a solemn one,**

**the Jews asked Pilate that their legs be broken**

**and they be taken down.**

**So the soldiers came and broke the legs of the first**

**and then of the other one who was crucified with Jesus.**

**But when they came to Jesus and saw that he was already dead,**

**they did not break his legs,**

**but one soldier thrust his lance into his side,**

**and immediately Blood and water flowed out.**

**An eyewitness has testified, and his testimony is true;**

**he knows that he is speaking the truth,**

**so that you also may come to believe.**

**For this happened so that the Scripture passage might be fulfilled:**

***Not a bone of it will be broken.***

**And again another passage says:**

***They will look upon him who they have pierced.***

**After this, Joseph of Arimathea,**

**secretly a disciple of Jesus for fear of the Jews,**

**asked Pilate if he could remove the Body of Jesus.**

**And Pilate permitted it.**

**So he came and took his Body.**

**Nicodemus, the one who had first come to him at night,**

**also came bringing a mixture of myrrh and aloes**

**weighing about one hundred pounds.**

**The Gospel of the Lord.**