

+ A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

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.

(People:) Praise to You, Lord Jesus Christ

Matthew 5:1-12

+ A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

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.

(People:) Praise to You, Lord Jesus Christ

Matthew 11:25-30

+ A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

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.

Then the door was locked.

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.

(People:) Praise to You, Lord Jesus Christ

Matthew 25:1-13

+ A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

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.’

The Gospel of the Lord.

(People:) Praise to You, Lord Jesus Christ

Matthew 25:31-40

+ A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

When the days were completed for their purification
according to the law of Moses,
Mary and Joseph took Jesus up to Jerusalem
to present him to the Lord,

Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon.

This man was righteous and devout,
awaiting the consolation of Israel,
and the Holy Spirit was upon him.

It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit
that he should not see death
before he had seen the Christ of the Lord.

He came in the Spirit into the temple;
and when the parents brought in the child Jesus
to perform the custom of the law in regard to him,
he took him into his arms and blessed God, saying:

“Now, Master, you may let your servant go in peace, according to your word,
for my eyes have seen your salvation,
which you prepared in the sight of all the peoples:
and glory for your people Israel.”

There was also a prophetess, Anna,
the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher.

She was advanced in years,
having lived seven years with her husband after her marriage,
and then as a widow until she was eighty-four.

She never left the temple,
but worshiped night and day with fasting and prayer.

And coming forward at that very time,
she gave thanks to God and spoke about the child
to all who were awaiting the redemption of Jerusalem.

The Gospel of the Lord

(People:) Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ

Luke 2:22-32, 36-39

+ A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

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.

(People:) Praise to You, Lord Jesus Christ

Luke 7:11-17

+ A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

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.

(People:) Praise to You, Lord Jesus Christ

Luke 12:35-40

+ A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

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

(People:) Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ

Luke 24:13-35

+ A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

Jesus said to Nicodemus,

“Amen, amen, I say to you, no one can enter the kingdom of God
without being born of water and Spirit.

What is born of flesh is flesh
and what is born of spirit is spirit.

Do not be amazed that I told you, ‘You must be born from above.’
The wind blows where it wills, and you can hear the sound it makes,
but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes;
so it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.”

Nicodemus answered and said to him, “How can this happen?”

Jesus answered and said to him,

“You are the teacher of Israel and you do not understand this?

Amen, amen, I say to you,
we speak of what we know and we testify to what we have seen,
but you people do not accept our testimony.

If I tell you about earthly things and you do not believe,
how will you believe if I tell you about heavenly things?

No one has gone up to heaven
except the one who has come down from heaven, the Son of Man.

And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the desert,
so must the Son of Man be lifted up,
so that everyone who believes in him may have eternal life.”

For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son,
so that everyone who believes in him might not perish
but might have eternal life.

The Gospel of the Lord

(People:) Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ

John 3:5-16

+ A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

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.

(People:) Praise to You, Lord Jesus Christ

John 5:24-29

+ A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

Jesus said to the crowds:

“Everyone 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 anyone that he gave me,
but that I should raise you 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 you on the last day.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

(People:) Praise to You, Lord Jesus Christ

John 6:37-40

+ A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

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 you 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 you.

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.

(People:) Praise to You, Lord Jesus Christ

John 6:51-59

+ A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

I am the good shepherd,

and I know mine and mine know me,

just as the Father knows me and I know the Father;

and I will lay down my life for the sheep.

My sheep hear my voice;

I know them, and they follow me.

I give them eternal life,

and they shall never perish.

No one can take them out of my hand.

My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all,

and no one can take them out of the Father's hand.

The Father and I are one.

The Gospel of the Lord

(People:) Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ

John 10:14-15, 27-30

+ A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

When Jesus arrived,

he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb for four days.

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

And 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 Messiah,

the Son of God, the one who is coming into the world.”

The Gospel of the Lord

(People:) Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ

John 11:17-27

+ A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

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 was 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.

(People:) Praise to You, Lord Jesus Christ

John 11:32-45

+ A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

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

(People:) Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ

John 12:23-28

+ A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

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 comes to the Father except through me.”

The Gospel of the Lord

(People:) Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ

John 14:1-6

+ A reading from the holy Gospel according to John

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

(People:) Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ

John 17:24-26