

## **SECOND READING**

2 Timothy 4:1-2;6-8

### **A READING FROM THE SECOND LETTER OF PAUL TO TIMOTHY:**

I charge you in the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who will judge the living and the dead, and by his appearing and his kingly power: proclaim the Word; be persistent whether it is convenient or inconvenient; convince, reprimand, encourage through all patience and teaching

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 me, but to all who have longed for his appearance.

**THE WORD OF THE LORD.**

Thanks be to God.

## SECOND READING

### **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 His people. He will live with them and they shall be His people and God Himself will always be with them. 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 child.

THE WORD OF THE LORD.

*Thanks be to God.*

## **SECOND READING**

Acts 10: 34-36: 42-43

### **A READING FROM THE ACTS OF THE APOSTLES:**

Then Peter proceeded to speak and said, "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 the prophets bear witness, that everyone who believes in him will receive forgiveness of sins through his name."

**THE WORD OF THE LORD.**

Thanks be to God.

## **SECOND READING**

Romans 8:14-18

### **A READING FROM THE LETTER OF PAUL TO THE ROMANS:**

For 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. Rather 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.

**THE WORD OF THE LORD.**

Thanks be to God.

## **SECOND READING**

(1 John 3:1-2)

### **A READING FROM THE FIRST LETTER OF ST. JOHN:**

See what love the Father has bestowed on us in letting us be called children of God! Yet that, in fact, is what we are. The reason the world does not recognize us is that it never recognized the Son.

Dearly Beloved, we are God's children now; what we shall later be has not yet come to light. We know that when it comes to light we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is.

**THE WORD OF THE LORD.**

Thanks be to God.

## SECOND READING

2 Cor 5:1,6-10

### **A READING FROM SECOND LETTER OF PAUL TO THE CORINTHIANS:**

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.

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

THE WORD OF THE LORD.

*Thanks be to God.*

## **SECOND READING**

Romans 8, 31-39

### **A READING FROM THE LETTER OF PAUL TO THE ROMANS:**

If God is for us, who can be against us? Is it possible that He who did not spare His own Son but handed Him over for the sake of us all will not grant us all things besides? Who shall bring a charge against God's chosen ones? God, who justifies? Who shall condemn them? Christ Jesus, who died or rather was raised up, who is at the right hand of God and who intercedes for us?

Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Trial, or distress, or persecution, or hunger, or nakedness, or danger, or the sword? Yet in all this we are more than conquerors because of Him who has loved us. For I am certain that neither death nor life, neither angels nor principalities, neither the present nor the future, nor powers, neither height nor depth nor any other creature, will be able to separate us from the love of God that comes to us in Christ Jesus our Lord.

**THE WORD OF THE LORD.**

Thanks be to God.

## **SECOND READING**

Romans 14:7-9

### **A READING FROM THE LETTER OF SAINT 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.”

**THE WORD OF THE LORD.**

Thanks be to God.

## **SECOND READING**

*1 Thes 4:13-18*

### **A reading from the first Letter of Paul to the Thessalonians:**

We do not want you to be unaware, my brothers and sisters, 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:**      *Thanks be to God.*

## **SECOND READING**

Romans 6:3-9

### **A READING FROM THE LETTER OF SAINT PAUL TO THE ROMANS:**

Brothers and sisters:

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.**

Thanks be to God.

## SECOND READING

Philippians 3:20-21

### **A READING FROM SECOND LETTER OF PAUL TO THE PHILIPPIANS:**

Brothers and sisters,

Our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we also await a savior, the Lord Jesus Christ. He will change our lowly body to conform with His glorified Body by the power that enables Him also to bring all things into subjection to Himself.

THE WORD OF THE LORD.

*Thanks be to God.*

## SECOND READING

1 Cor. 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 this, which is mortal must clothe itself with immortality. And when this 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.

*Thanks be to God.*

**SECOND READING**

Romans 5:17-21

**A READING FROM THE LETTER OF PAUL TO THE ROMANS:**

Brothers and sisters:

If, by the transgression of one,  
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 one transgression.

In conclusion, just as through one transgression  
condemnation came up all,  
so, through one righteous act,  
acquittal and life came to all.

For just as through the disobedience of the one man  
the many were made sinners,  
so through the obedience of the 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.**

Thanks be to God.

## SECOND READING

2 Cor.4:14-5:1

### **A Reading from the Second Letter of Paul to the Corinthians:**

We know that the one who raised the Lord Jesus will raise us also with Jesus and place us with you in His presence. Everything indeed is for you, so that the grace bestowed in abundance on more and more people may cause the thanksgiving to overflow for the glory of God.

Therefore, we are not discouraged; rather, although our outer self is wasting away, our inner self is being renewed day by day. For this momentary light affliction is producing for us an eternal crown of glory beyond all comparison, as we look not to what is seen but to what is unseen; for what is seen is transitory, but what is unseen is eternal.

For 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.

**The Word of the Lord.**

Thanks be to God.

## **SECOND READING**

Romans 5:5-11

### **A READING FROM THE LETTER OF PAUL TO THE ROMANS:**

Hope will not leave us disappointed, because the love of God has been poured out in our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us. At the appointed time, when we were still powerless, Christ died for us godless people. It is rare that anyone should lay down his life for a just man, though it is barely possible that for a good man someone may have courage to die. It is precisely in this that God proves his love for us: That while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Now that we have been justified by his blood, it is all the more certain that we shall be saved by him from God's wrath. For if, when we were God's enemies, we were reconciled to him by the death of his Son, it is all the more certain that we who have been reconciled will be saved by his life. Not only that; we go so far as to make God our boast through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

**THE WORD OF THE LORD.**

Thanks be to God.