

A READING FROM WISDOM 3:1-9

But the souls of the righteous are in the hand of God, and no torment will ever touch them. In the eyes of the foolish they seemed to have died, and their departure was thought to be a disaster, and their going from us to be their destruction; but they are at peace. For though in the sight of others they were punished, their hope is full of immortality. Having been disciplined a little, they will receive great good, because God tested them and found them worthy of himself; like gold in the furnace he tried them, and like a sacrificial burnt-offering he accepted them. In the time of their visitation they will shine forth, and will run like sparks through the stubble. They will govern nations and rule over peoples, and the Lord will reign over them for ever. Those who trust in him will understand truth, and the faithful will abide with him in love, because grace and mercy are upon his holy ones, and he watches over his elect.

The Word of the Lord.

PSALM 130

Said by half verse

¹ Out of the depths have I called to you, O Lord; Lord hear my voice; *

Let your ears consider well the voice of my supplication.

² If you, Lord, were to note what is done amiss, *

O Lord, who could stand?

³ For there is forgiveness with you; *

therefore you shall be feared.

⁴ I wait for the Lord; my soul waits for him; *

in his word is my hope.

⁵ My soul waits for the Lord, more than watchmen for the morning, *

more than watchmen for the morning.

⁶ O Israel, wait for the Lord, *

for with the Lord there is mercy;

⁷ With him there is plenteous redemption, *

and he shall redeem Israel from all their sins.

A READING FROM 1 THESSALONIANS 4:13-18

But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died. For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air; and so we will be with the Lord for ever. Therefore encourage one another with these words.

The Word of the Lord.

ALL SOULS DAY PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE (TO BE LED BY LAY READER)

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Almighty God, who has knit together your elect in one communion and fellowship, in the mystical body of your Son Christ our Lord: Grant, we ask, to your whole Church, in paradise and on earth, your light and your peace. ***Amen.***

Grant that all who have been baptized into Christ's death and resurrection may die and rise to newness of life, and that, through the grave and gate of death, we may pass with him to our joyful resurrection. ***Amen.***

Grant to us who are still in our pilgrimage, and who walk as yet by faith, that your Holy Spirit may lead us in holiness and righteousness all our days. ***Amen.***

Grant to your faithful people pardon and peace, that we may be cleansed from all our sins, and serve you with a quiet mind. ***Amen.***

Grant us, with all who have died in the hope of the resurrection, to have our consummation and bliss in your eternal and everlasting glory, and, with all your saints, to receive the crown of life which you promise to all who share in the victory of your Son Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. ***Amen.***