

Choosing Readings for a Funeral

At least one reading from scripture is required. Best practice is to include a reading from the Hebrew Scriptures (Old Testament), a reading from the New Testament (Epistles, Gospels) and to include a psalm spoken by the congregation between them. If the Eucharist is being celebrated (communion), a selection from the gospels is always proclaimed by a deacon or priest. When the Eucharist is not celebrated, a gospel may be included and may be read by a lay person. Scriptural readings are taken from the New Revised Standard Version of the Bible (NRSV), and psalms are typically prayed from the Saint Helena Psalter.

It is often helpful to review the options and discuss your particular needs with the cathedral staff person planning the service with you, in whichever order makes the most sense for you.

READINGS FOR FUNERALS FROM THE HEBREW SCRIPTURES

JOB 14: 7–9, [10–12]

Mortals die, and are laid low.

Reader A reading from the Book of Job.

For there is hope for a tree, if it is cut down, that it will sprout again, and that its shoots will not cease. Though its root grows old in the earth, and its stump dies in the ground, yet at the scent of water it will bud and put forth branches like a young plant.

[But mortals die, and are laid low; humans expire, and where are they? As waters fail from a lake, and a river wastes away and dries up, so mortals lie down and do not rise again; until the heavens are no more, they will not awake or be roused out of their sleep.]

Reader The Word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

JOB 19: 21–27A

I know that my Redeemer lives.

Reader A reading from the Book of Job.

Have pity on me, have pity on me, O you my friends, for the hand of God has touched me! Why do you, like God, pursue me, never satisfied with my flesh? O that my words were written down! O that they were inscribed in a book! O that with an iron pen and with lead they were engraved on a rock

forever! For I know that my Redeemer lives, and that at the last he will stand upon the earth; and after my skin has been thus destroyed, then in my flesh I shall see God, whom I shall see on my side, and my eyes shall behold, and not another.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

ECCLESIASTES 3: 1–11

For everything there is a season.

Reader A reading from the Book of Ecclesiastes.

For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven: a time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted; a time to kill, and a time to heal; a time to break down, and a time to build up; a time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn, and a time to dance; a time to throw away stones, and a time to gather stones together; a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing;

a time to seek, and a time to lose; a time to keep, and a time to throw away; a time to tear, and a time to sew; a time to keep silence, and a time to speak; a time to love, and a time to hate; a time for war, and a time for peace. What gain have the workers from their toil? I have seen the business that God has given to everyone to be busy with. He has made everything suitable for its time; moreover he has put a sense of past and future into their minds, yet

they cannot find out what God has done from the

beginning to the end.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

ECCLESIASTES 12:1-7

Remember your creator in the days of your youth.

Reader A reading from the Book of Ecclesiastes.

Remember your creator in the days of your youth, before the days of trouble come, and the years draw near when you will say, "I have no pleasure in them"; before the sun and the light and the moon and the stars are darkened and the clouds return with the rain; in the day when the guards of the house tremble, and the strong men are bent, and the women who grind cease working because they are few, and those who look through the windows see dimly; when the doors on the street are shut, and the sound of the grinding is low, and one rises up

at the sound of a bird, and all the daughters of song are brought low; when one is afraid of heights, and terrors are in the road; the almond tree blossoms, the grasshopper drags itself along and desire fails; because all must go to their eternal home, and the mourners will go about the streets; before the silver cord is snapped, and the golden bowl is broken, and the pitcher is broken at the fountain, and the wheel broken at the cistern, and the dust returns to the earth as it was, and the breath returns to God who gave it.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

WISDOM OF SOLOMON 1:13-15

God did not make death.

Reader A reading from the Wisdom of Solomon.

God did not make death, and he does not delight in the death of the living. For he created all things so that they might exist; the generative

forces of the world are wholesome, and there is no destructive poison in them, and the dominion of Hades is not on earth. For righteousness is immortal.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

WISDOM OF SOLOMON 3:1-5, 9

God did not make death.

Reader A reading from the Wisdom of Solomon.

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.

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.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

ISAIAH 25: [6-7], 8-9

God will wipe away the tears.

Reader A reading from the Book of the prophet Isaiah.

On this mountain the Lord of hosts will make for all peoples a feast of rich food, a feast of

well-aged wines, of rich food filled with marrow, of well-aged wines strained clear. And he will destroy

on this mountain the shroud that is cast over all peoples, the sheet that is spread over all nations; he will swallow up death forever.

Then the Lord God will wipe away the tears from all faces, and the disgrace of his people he

Reader The Word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

ISAIAH 61: 1-3

Comfort for those who mourn.

Reader 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 good news to the oppressed, to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and release to the prisoners; to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor, and the day of vengeance of

Reader The Word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

will take away from all the earth, for the Lord has spoken. It will be said on that day, Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that he might save us. This is the Lord for whom we have waited; let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.

our God; to comfort all who mourn; to provide for those who mourn in Zion — to give them a garland instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit. They will be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, to display his glory.

LAMENTATIONS 3: 22-26, 31-33

The Lord is good to those who wait.

Reader A reading from the Lamentations of Jeremiah.

The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases, his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. "The Lord is my portion," says my soul, "therefore I will hope in him." The Lord is good to those who wait for him, to the soul that seeks him. It is good that one should

Reader The Word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

wait quietly for the salvation of the Lord. For the Lord will not reject forever. Although he causes grief, he will have compassion according to the abundance of his steadfast love; for he does not willingly afflict or grieve anyone.

DANIEL 12: 1-3

Those who sleep in the dust shall awake.

Reader A reading from the Book of the Prophet Daniel.

At that time Michael, the great prince, the protector of your people, shall arise. There shall be a time of anguish, such as has never occurred since nations first came into existence. But at that time your people shall be delivered, everyone who is found written in the book. Many of those who

Reader The Word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt. Those who are wise shall shine like the brightness of the sky, and those who lead many to righteousness, like the stars forever and ever.

A suitable psalm, hymn, or canticle may follow. The following are appropriate: Ps. 118:14-29, Ps. 42:1-7, Ps. 46, Ps. 90:1-12, Ps. 121, Ps. 130, or Ps. 139:1-11. This antiphon may be used with the psalm:

☩ O deathless One: to those in darkness you appeared, raising the fallen.

☩ O redeemer and our light: all glory be yours forever.

READINGS FOR FUNERALS FROM THE PSALMS

Please find more Psalms for funerals in the Psalms Text Tox on the Pasteboard to the far left.

PSALM 23

Read by all, alternating sides of the church.

KJV

- 1 **The LORD is my shepherd; ***
I shall not want.
- 2 *He maketh me to lie down in green pastures; **
he leadeth me beside the still waters.
- 3 **He restoreth my soul; ***
he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness
for his Name's sake.
- 4 *Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; **
for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff, they comfort me.
- 5 **Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies; ***
thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.
- 6 *Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, **
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

PSALM 23

Read by all, alternating sides of the church.

BCP-Burial I

- 1 **The LORD is my shepherd; ***
therefore can I lack nothing.
- 2 *He shall feed me in a green pasture, **
and lead me forth beside the waters of comfort.
- 3 **He shall convert my soul, ***
and bring me forth in the paths of righteousness
for his Name's sake.
- 4 *Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; **
for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff comfort me.
- 5 **Thou shalt prepare a table before me in the presence of them that trouble me; ***
thou hast anointed my head with oil, and my cup shall be full.
- 6 *Surely thy loving-kindness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life; **
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

PSALM 23

Read by all, alternating sides of the church.

BCP Psalter

- 1 **The LORD is my shepherd; ***
I shall not be in want.
- 2 *He makes me lie down in green pastures **
and leads me beside still waters.
- 3 **He revives my soul ***
and guides me along right pathways for his Name's sake.
- 4 *Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,*
*I shall fear no evil; **
for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.
- 5 **You spread a table before me in the presence of those who trouble me; ***
you have anointed my head with oil, and my cup is running over.

- 6 *Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, *
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.*

PSALM 23

Read by all, alternating sides of the church.

Saint Helena Psalter

- 1 **O God, you are my shepherd; ***
I shall not be in want.
- 2 *You make me lie down in green pastures *
and lead me beside still waters.*
- 3 **You revive my soul ***
and guide me along right pathways for the sake of your Name.
- 4 *Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I shall fear no evil; **
*for you are with me;
your rod and your staff, they comfort me.*
- 5 **You spread a table before me in the presence of those who trouble me; ***
**you have anointed my head with oil,
and my cup is running over.**
- 6 *Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, *
and I will dwell in the house of God for ever.*

READINGS FOR FUNERALS FROM THE NEW TESTAMENT

ROMANS 6: 3–9, [10–11]

So we too might walk in newness of life.

A reading from the Letter of Paul to the Romans.

Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? Therefore we have been buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life. For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. We know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be destroyed, and

we might no longer be enslaved to sin. For whoever has died is freed from sin. But if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him.

[The death he died, he died to sin, once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God. So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.]

The Word of the Lord.

ROMANS 8: 14–19, [34–35, 37–39]

All who are led by the Spirit are children of God.

A reading from the Letter of Paul to the Romans.

For all 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 have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, “Abba! Father!” it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ—if, in fact,

we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him. I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God;

[Who is to condemn? It is Christ Jesus, who died,

yes, who was raised, who is at the right hand of God, who indeed intercedes for us. Who will separate us from the love of Christ? Will hardship, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword? No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am

The Word of the Lord.

ROMANS 14: 7-9

A reading from the Letter of Paul to the Romans.

We do not live to ourselves, and we do not die to ourselves. If we live, we live to the Lord, and if we die, we die to the Lord; so then, whether

The Word of the Lord.

1 CORINTHIANS 15: 20-26 [35-38, 42-44, 53-58]

A reading from the First Letter of Paul to the Corinthians.

But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died. For since death came through a human being, the resurrection of the dead has also come through a human being; for as all die in Adam, so all will be made alive in Christ. But each in his own 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 God the Father, after he has destroyed every ruler and every authority and power. For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. The last enemy to be destroyed is death.

[But someone will ask, 'How are the dead raised? With what kind of body do they come?' Fool! What you sow does not come to life unless it dies. And as for what you sow, you do not sow the body that is to be, but a bare seed, perhaps of wheat or of some other grain. But God gives it a body as he has chosen, and to each kind of seed its own body.

The Word of the Lord.

1 CORINTHIANS 15: 51-58

A reading from the First Letter of Paul to the Corinthians.

Listen, I will tell you a mystery! We will not all die, but we will all be changed, in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed. For this perishable body must put on imperishability, and

convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.]

we live or whether we die, we are the Lord's. For to this end Christ died and lived again, so that he might be Lord of both the dead and the living.

The last enemy ...is death. [The imperishable body]

So it is with the resurrection of the dead. What is sown is perishable, what is raised is imperishable. It is sown in dishonor, it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness, it is raised in power. It is sown a physical body, it is raised a spiritual body. If there is a physical body, there is also a spiritual body.

For this perishable body must put on imperishability, and this mortal body must put on immortality. When this perishable body puts on imperishability, and this mortal body puts on immortality, then the saying that is written will be fulfilled: 'Death has been 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.

Therefore, my beloved, be steadfast, immovable, always excelling in the work of the Lord, because you know that in the Lord your labor is not in vain.]

Death has been swallowed up in victory.

this mortal body must put on immortality. When this perishable body puts on imperishability, and this mortal body puts on immortality, then the saying that is written will be fulfilled: "Death has been 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. Therefore, my beloved, be

The Word of the Lord.

2 CORINTHIANS [4:16-18,] 5:1-9

[Things that are unseen are eternal.] We walk by faith, not by sight.

Reader A reading from the Second Letter of Paul to the Corinthians.

So we do not lose heart. Even though our outer nature is wasting away, our inner nature is being renewed day by day. For this slight momentary affliction is preparing us for an eternal weight of glory beyond all measure, because we look not at what can be seen but at what cannot be seen; for what can be seen is temporary, but what cannot be seen is eternal.

For we know that if the earthly tent we live in is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. For in this tent we groan, longing to be clothed with our heavenly dwelling— if indeed, when we have taken

steadfast, immovable, always excelling in the work of the Lord, because you know that in the Lord your labor is not in vain.

it off we will not be found naked. For while we are still in this tent, we groan under our burden, because we wish not to be unclothed but to be further clothed, so that what is mortal may be swallowed up by life. He who has prepared us for this very thing is God, who has given us the Spirit as a guarantee. So we are always confident; even though 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. Yes, we do have confidence, and we would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord. So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

1 PETER 1: 3-9

He has given us a new birth into a living hope..

Reader A reading from the First Letter of Peter.

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, who are being protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time. In this you rejoice, even if now for a little while you have had to suffer

various trials, so that the genuineness of your faith—being more precious than gold that, though perishable, is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed. Although you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy, for you are receiving the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

1 JOHN 3: 1-2

We shall be like him.

Reader A reading from the First Letter of John.

See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what 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 will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

Reader A reading from the Revelation to John.

And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them as their God; they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them; he will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have

passed away." And the one who was seated on the throne said, "See, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true." Then he said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life. Those who conquer will inherit these things, and I will be their God and they will be my children."

Reader The Word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

Reader A reading from the Revelation to John.

After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. They cried out in a loud voice, saying, "Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!" And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, singing, "Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen." Then one of the elders addressed me,

saying, "Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?" I said to him, "Sir, you are the one that knows." Then he said to me, "These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. For this reason they are before the throne of God, and worship him day and night within his temple, and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them. They will hunger no more, and thirst no more; the sun will not strike them, nor any scorching heat; for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of the water of life, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

Reader The Word of the Lord.

All **Thanks be to God.**

A suitable psalm, hymn, or canticle may follow. The following are appropriate: Ps. 23, Ps. 27, Ps. 106: 1-5, or Ps. 116.

READINGS FOR FUNERALS FROM THE HOLY GOSPEL

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

All **Glory to you, Lord Christ**

At that time Jesus said, "I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and the intelligent

and have revealed them to infants; yes, Father, for such was your gracious will. All things have been handed over to me by my Father; and no one knows

the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and anyone to whom the Son chooses to reveal him. Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens,

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.

All **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

LUKE 24:13-16, [17-35]

The people stand.

The road to Emmaus.

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to Luke.

All **Glory to you, Lord Christ**

Now on that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, but their eyes were kept from recognizing him.

And he said to them, "What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?" They stood still, looking sad. Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, "Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?" He asked them, "What things?" They replied, "The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place. Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, and when they did not find his body there, they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive. Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.

All **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

JOHN 5: 24-27

The people stand.

He who believes has everlasting life.

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to John.

All **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus said, "Very truly, I tell you, anyone who hears my word and believes him who sent me has eternal life, and does not come under

and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

just as the women had said; but they did not see him." Then he said to them, "Oh, how foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?" Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures. As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. But they urged him strongly, saying, "Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over." So he went in to stay with them. When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him; and he vanished from their sight. They said to each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?" That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem; and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. They were saying, "The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!" Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

judgment, but has passed from death to life. Very truly, I tell 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 he has granted the Son also to have life in himself; and he has given him

The Gospel of the Lord.

All **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

JOHN 6: 37–40

The people stand.

All that the Father gives me will come to me.

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to John.

All **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus said, “Everything that the Father gives me will come to me, and anyone who comes to me I will never drive away; for I have come down from heaven, not to do my own will, but the will of him who sent me. And this is the will of him who sent

me, that I should lose nothing of all that he has given me, but raise it up on the last day. This is indeed the will of my Father, that all who see the Son and believe in him may have eternal life; and I will raise them up on the last day.”

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.

All **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

JOHN 10: 11–16

The people stand.

I am the good shepherd.

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to John.

All **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus said, “I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away—and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. I am the

good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd.”

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.

All **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

JOHN 11: 21–27

The people stand.

I am the resurrection and the life.

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to John.

All **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Martha said to Jesus, “Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him.” Jesus said to her, “Your brother will rise again.” Martha said to him, “I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day.” Jesus

said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?” She said to him, “Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God, the one coming into the world.”

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.

All **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

JOHN 14: 1–6

The people stand.

In my Father’s house are many rooms.

Deacon The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to John.

All **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus said, “Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father’s house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.

All **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

where I am, there you may be also. And you know the way to the place where I am going.” Thomas said to him, “Lord, 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.”

FROM THE PSALMS

PSALM 23

Read by all, alternating sides of the church.

KJV

- 1 **The LORD is my shepherd; ***
I shall not want.
- 2 *He maketh me to lie down in green pastures; **
he leadeth me beside the still waters.
- 3 **He restoreth my soul; ***
he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness
for his Name's sake.
- 4 *Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; **
for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff, they comfort me.
- 5 **Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies; ***
thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.
- 6 *Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, **
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

PSALM 23

Read by all, alternating sides of the church.

BCP-Burial I

- 1 **The LORD is my shepherd; ***
therefore can I lack nothing.
- 2 *He shall feed me in a green pasture, **
and lead me forth beside the waters of comfort.
- 3 **He shall convert my soul, ***
and bring me forth in the paths of righteousness
for his Name's sake.
- 4 *Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; **
for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff comfort me.
- 5 **Thou shalt prepare a table before me in the presence of them that trouble me; ***
thou hast anointed my head with oil, and my cup shall be full.
- 6 *Surely thy loving-kindness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life; **
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

PSALM 23

Read by all, alternating sides of the church.

BCP Psalter

- 1 **The LORD is my shepherd; ***
I shall not be in want.
- 2 *He makes me lie down in green pastures **
and leads me beside still waters.
- 3 **He revives my soul ***
and guides me along right pathways for his Name's sake.
- 4 *Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,*
*I shall fear no evil; **
for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.
- 5 **You spread a table before me in the presence of those who trouble me; ***
you have anointed my head with oil, and my cup is running over.
- 6 *Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, **
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

- 1 **God is my light and my salvation;
whom then shall I fear? ***
 **God is the strength of my life;
 of whom then shall I be afraid?**
- 2 *When evildoers came upon me to eat up my flesh, **
 it was they, my foes and my adversaries, who stumbled and fell.
- 3 **Though an army should encamp against me, ***
 yet my heart shall not be afraid;
- 4 *And though war should rise up against me, **
 yet will I put my trust in God.
- 5 **One thing have I asked of you, O God;
one thing I seek: ***
 that I may dwell in your house all the days of my life,
- 6 *To behold your fair beauty, O God, **
 and to seek you in your temple.
- 7 **For in the day of trouble you shall keep me safe in your shelter; ***
 **you shall hide me in the secrecy of your dwelling
 and set me high upon a rock.**
- 8 *Even now you lift up my head **
 above my enemies round about me.
- 9 **Therefore I will offer in your dwelling an oblation
with sounds of great gladness; ***
 I will sing and make music to you.
- 10 *Hearken to my voice, O Most High, when I call; **
 have mercy on me and answer me.
- 11 **You speak in my heart and say, “Seek my face.” ***
 Your face, O God, will I seek.
- 12 *Hide not your face from me, **
 nor turn away your servant in displeasure.
- 13 **You have been my helper;
cast me not away; ***
 do not forsake me, O God of my salvation.
- 14 *Though my father and my mother forsake me, **
 you will sustain me.
- 15 **Show me your way, O God, ***
 lead me on a level path, because of my enemies.
- 16 *Deliver me not into the hand of my adversaries, **
 *for false witnesses have risen up against me,
 and also those who speak malice.*
- 17 **What if I had not believed
that I should see the goodness of my God ***
 in the land of the living!
- 18 *O tarry and await God’s pleasure;*

*be strong, and let your heart take comfort; *
wait patiently for God.*

PSALM 42: 1-7

Read by all, alternating sides of the church.

Saint Helena Psalter

- 1 **As the deer longs for the water-brooks, ***
so longs my soul for you, O God.
- 2 *My soul is athirst for God, athirst for the living God; *
when shall I come to appear before the presence of God?*
- 3 **My tears have been my food day and night, ***
while all day long they say to me,
“Where now is your God?”
- 4 *I pour out my soul when I think on these things: *
how I went with the multitude and led them into the house of God,*
- 5 **With the voice of praise and thanksgiving, ***
among those who keep holy-day.
- 6 *Why are you so full of heaviness, O my soul, *
and why are you so disquieted within me?*
- 7 **Put your trust in God, ***
for I will yet give thanks to the Holy One,
who is the help of my countenance, and my God.

PSALM 46

Read by all, alternating sides of the church.

Saint Helena Psalter

- 1 **God is our refuge and strength, ***
a very present help in trouble.
- 2 *Therefore we will not fear, though the earth be moved, *
and though the mountains be toppled into the depths of the sea;*
- 3 **Though its waters rage and foam, ***
and though the mountains tremble at its tumult.
- 4 *The God of hosts is with us; *
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.*
- 5 **There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, ***
the holy habitation of the Most High.
- 6 *God is in the midst of the city;
it shall not be overthrown; *
God shall help it at the break of day.*
- 7 **The nations make much ado, and the realms are shaken; ***
God has spoken, and the earth shall melt away.
- 8 *The God of hosts is with us; *
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.*
- 9 **Come now and look upon the works of the Most High, ***
who does awesome things on earth.
- 10 *It is God who makes war to cease in all the world, *
who breaks the bow, and shatters the spear,
and burns the shields with fire.*
- 11 **“Be still, then, and know that I am God; ***
I will be exalted among the nations;

I will be exalted in the earth.”

- 12 *The God of hosts is with us; **
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

PSALM 90: 1-12

Read by all, alternating sides of the church.

Saint Helena Psalter

- 1 **O God, you have been our refuge ***
from one generation to another.
- 2 *Before the mountains were brought forth,*
*or the land and the earth were born, **
from age to age you are God.
- 3 **You turn us back to the dust and say, ***
“Go back, O child of earth.”
- 4 *For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when it is past **
and like a watch in the night.
- 5 **You sweep us away like a dream; ***
we fade away suddenly like the grass.
- 6 *In the morning it is green and flourishes; **
in the evening it is dried up and withered.
- 7 **For we consume away in your displeasure; ***
we are afraid because of your wrathful indignation.
- 8 *Our iniquities you have set before you **
and our secret sins in the light of your countenance.
- 9 **When you are angry, all our days are gone; ***
we bring our years to an end like a sigh.
- 10 *The span of our life is seventy years,*
*perhaps in strength even eighty; **
yet the sum of them is but labor and sorrow,
for they pass away quickly and we are gone.
- 11 **Who regards the power of your wrath; ***
who rightly fears your indignation?
- 12 *So teach us to number our days **
that we may apply our hearts to wisdom.

PSALM 106: 1-5

Read by all, alternating sides of the church.

Saint Helena Psalter

- 1 **Alleluia! Give thanks, for the Holy One is good; ***
God’s mercy endures for ever.
- 2 **Who can declare the mighty acts of God ***
or show forth rightful praise?
- 3 **Happy are they who act with justice ***
and always do what is right!
- 4 **Remember me, O God, with the favor you have for your people, ***
and visit me with your saving help;
- 5 **That I may see the prosperity of your elect**
and be glad with the gladness of your people, *
that I may glory with your inheritance.

- 1 **I love you, O God, because you have heard the voice of my supplication, ***
because you have inclined your ear to me whenever I called upon you.
- 2 *The cords of death entangled me;*
*the grip of the grave took hold of me; **
I came to grief and sorrow.
- 3 **Then I called upon your holy Name: ***
“O God, I pray you, save my life.”
- 4 *Gracious are you and righteous; **
you are full of compassion.
- 5 **You watch over the innocent; ***
I was brought very low, and you helped me.
- 6 *Turn again to your rest, O my soul, **
for God has treated you well.
- 7 **For you, O God, have rescued my life from death, ***
my eyes from tears, and my feet from stumbling.
- 8 *I will walk in the presence of God, **
in the land of the living.
- 9 **I believed, even when I said,**
“I have been brought very low.” *
In my distress I said, “No one can be trusted.”
- 10 *How shall I repay God **
for all the good things done for me?
- 11 **I will lift up the cup of salvation ***
and call upon the Name of God.
- 12 *I will fulfill my vows to God **
in the presence of all people.
- 13 **Precious in your sight, O God, ***
is the death of your servants.
- 14 *O God, I am your servant; **
I am your servant and the child of your handmaid;
you have freed me from my bonds.
- 15 **I will offer you the sacrifice of thanksgiving ***
and call upon your holy Name.
- 16 *I will fulfill my vows to you **
in the presence of all your people,
- 17 **In the courts of God’s house, ***
in the midst of you, O Jerusalem. Alleluia!

- 14 **God is my strength and my song ***
and has become my salvation.
- 15 *There is a sound of exultation and victory **
in the tents of the righteous:
- 16 **“The right hand of the Most High has triumphed; ***

- the right hand of the Most High is exalted;
the right hand of the Most High has triumphed!”**
- 17 *I shall not die, but live *
and declare the works of God.*
- 18 **God has punished me sorely, *
but did not hand me over to death.**
- 19 *Open for me the gates of righteousness; *
I will enter them;
I will offer thanks to God.*
- 20 **“This is the gate of the Holy One; *
those who are righteous may enter.”**
- 21 *I will give thanks to you, for you answered me *
and have become my salvation.*
- 22 **The same stone which the builders rejected *
has become the chief cornerstone.**
- 23 *This is God’s doing, *
and it is marvelous in our eyes.*
- 24 **On this day the Holy One has acted; *
we will rejoice and be glad in it.**
- 25 *Hosanna, O God, hosanna! *
O Holy One, send us now success.*
- 26 **Blest is the one who comes in the name of God; *
we bless you from the house of God.**
- 27 *God is the Holy One who has shined upon us; *
form a procession with branches up to the horns of the altar.*
- 28 **“You are my God, and I will thank you; *
you are my God, and I will exalt you.”**
- 29 *Give thanks to God who is good; *
God’s mercy endures for ever.*

PSALM 121

Read by all, alternating sides of the church.

Saint Helena Psalter

- 1 **I lift up my eyes to the hills; *
from where is my help to come?**
- 2 *My help comes from God, *
the maker of heaven and earth.*
- 3 **God will not let your foot be moved; *
the One who watches over you will not fall asleep.**
- 4 *Behold, the One who keeps watch over Israel *
shall neither slumber nor sleep;*
- 5 **The Holy One watches over you *
and is your shade at your right hand,**
- 6 *So that the sun shall not strike you by day, *
nor the moon by night.*
- 7 **God shall preserve you from all evil *
and is the One who shall keep you safe.**
- 8 *God shall watch over your going out and your coming in, **

