



Joyfully Serving Jesus
Holy Trinity Parish Church
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Registered Charity Number: 1131432

The United Benefice of
**Holy Trinity Cuckfield
and
St Mary Magdalene Bolney**

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BIBLE READINGS OFTEN USED AT FUNERAL SERVICES

John 14.1-6

Jesus said to his disciples: 'Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house there are many rooms. 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 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.'

1 Corinthians 13

If I speak in the tongues of mortals and of angels, but do not have love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. If I give away all my possessions, and if I hand over my body so that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing.

Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant or rude. It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; it does not rejoice in wrongdoing, but rejoices in the truth. It bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

Love never ends. But as for prophecies, they will come to an end; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will come to an end. For we know only in part, and we prophesy only in part; but when the complete comes, the partial will come to an end. When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child; when I became an adult, I put an end to childish ways. For now we see in a mirror, dimly, but then we will see face to face. Now I know only in part; then I will know fully, even as I have been fully known. And now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love.

Revelation 21.1-7

I, John, saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. 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;
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.'

John 6.35-40

Jesus said to them, 'I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never be hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty. But I said to you that you have seen me and yet do not believe. 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.'

Wisdom 3.1-5,9

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;
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.*

John 11.17-27

When Jesus arrived, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb for four days. Now Bethany was near Jerusalem, some two miles away, and many of the



Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them about their brother. When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary stayed at home. 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.'

Romans 8.31-end

What then are we to say about these things? If God is for us, who is against us? He who did not withhold his own Son, but gave him up for all of us, will he not with him also give us everything else? Who will bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. 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? As it is written, 'For your sake we are being killed all day long; we are accounted as sheep to be slaughtered.'

No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us. For I am 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.

1 Thessalonians 4.13-end

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.

Other Possible Passages

Old Testament and Apocrypha

Genesis 42.29-end The sorrow you would cause me would kill me
2 Samuel 1.17,23-end David's lament for Saul and Jonathan



2 Samuel 12.16-23 David's son dies
Job 19.23-27 I know that my Redeemer lives
Isaiah 53.1-10 The suffering servant
Isaiah 61.1-3 To comfort all who mourn
Lamentations 3.22-26,31-33 The love of the Lord never ceases
Daniel 12.1-3[5-9] Everyone whose name shall be found written
in the book
Wisdom 2.22 – 3.5,9 The souls of the righteous are in the hand of God
Wisdom 3.1-5,9 The souls of the righteous are in the hand of God
Wisdom 4.8-11,13-15 Age is not length of time
Ecclesiasticus 38.16-23 Do not forget, there is no coming back

New Testament

Matthew 25.31-end The final judgement
Mark 10.13-16 Let the little children come to me
Mark 15.33-39; 16.1-6 He has risen, he is not here
Luke 12.35-40 The coming of the Son of Man
Luke 24.1-9[10-11] The Resurrection
John 5.[19-20]21-29 Whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me, has
eternal life
John 6.35-40[53-58] All that the Father gives me will come to me
John 11.17-27 I am the resurrection and the life
John 14.1-6 In my Father's house are many rooms
John 19.38-end The burial of Christ
John 20.1-11 The Resurrection of Christ
Romans 6.3-8[9-11] All of us who have been baptized into
Christ Jesus were baptized into his death
Romans 8.18-25[26-30] The future glory
Romans 8.31-end Nothing can separate us from the love of Christ
Romans 14.7-12 Christ the Lord of the living and the dead
1 Corinthians 13 Hymn to love
1 Corinthians 15.1-26,35-38,42-44a,53-end The resurrection of the dead
1 Corinthians 15.20-end The resurrection of the dead
2 Corinthians 4.7-15 We carry in our mortal bodies the death of Jesus
2 Corinthians 4.16 – 5.10 The heavenly body
Ephesians 3.14-19[20-21] The power to understand Christ's love
Philippians 3.10-end God's purposes for us
1 Thessalonians 4.13-18 So we shall always be with the Lord
2 Timothy 2.8-13 If we have died with him, we shall also live with him
1 Peter 1.3-9 We have been born anew to a living hope
1 John 3.1-3 We shall be like him
Revelation 7.9-end The crowd worshipping in heaven
Revelation 21.1-7 Behold I make all things new
Revelation 21.22-end; 22.3b-5 The Lord God will be their light