There is no celebration of the Eucharist on this day.

When there is a Liturgy of the Word, the Celebrant begins with the Collect of the Day

Collect of the Day

O God, Creator of heaven and earth: Grant that, as the crucified body of your dear Son was laid in the tomb and rested on this holy Sabbath, so we may await with him the coming of the third day, and rise with him to newness of life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

OR

O God of the living, on this day your Son our Savior descended to the place of the dead: Look with kindness on all of us who wait in hope for liberation from the corruption of sin and death, and give us a share in the glory of the children of God; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord. **Amen.**

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Job 14:1-17

"Man who is born of a woman is few of days and full of trouble.

² He comes out like a flower and withers; he flees like a shadow and continues not. ³ And do you open your eyes on such a one and bring me into judgment with you? ⁴ Who can bring a clean thing out of an unclean? There is not one. ⁵ Since his days are

determined, and the number of his months is with you, and you have appointed his limits that he cannot pass, ⁶ look away from him and leave him alone, that he may enjoy, like a hired hand, his day.

⁷ "For there is hope for a tree, if it be cut down, that it will sprout again, and that its shoots will not cease. 8 Though its root grow old in the earth, and its stump die in the soil, 9 yet at the scent of water it will bud and put out branches like a young plant. 10 But a man dies and is laid low; man breathes his last, and where is he? 11 As waters fail from a lake and a river wastes away and dries up, 12 so a man lies down and rises not again; till the heavens are no more he will not awake or be roused out of his sleep. ¹³ Oh that you would hide me in Sheol, that you would conceal me until your wrath be past, that you would appoint me a set time, and remember me! 14 If a man dies, shall he live again? All the days of my service I would wait, till my renewal should come. ¹⁵ You would call, and I would answer you; you would long for the work of your hands. ¹⁶ For then you would number my steps; you would not keep watch over my sin; ¹⁷ my transgression would be sealed up in a bag, and you would cover over my iniquity.

Reader: The word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

PSALTER VERSES

Psalm130

- ¹ Out of the deep have I called unto you, O LORD; * Lord, hear my voice.
- ² O let your ears consider well * the voice of my supplications.

- ³ If you, LORD, were to mark what is done amiss, * O Lord, who could abide it?
- ⁴ For there is mercy with you; * therefore you shall be feared.
- ⁵ I wait for the LORD; my soul waits for him; * in his word is my trust.
- ⁶ My soul waits for the Lord, * more than watchmen for the morning, more than watchmen for the morning.
- O Israel, trust in the LORD, for with the LORD there is mercy, * and with him is plenteous redemption;
- ⁸ And he shall redeem Israel * from all their sins.

OR

Psalm 31:1-6

- ¹ In you, O LORD, have I put my trust; * let me never be put to confusion; deliver me in your righteousness.
- ² Bow down your ear to me, * make haste to deliver me,
- ³ And be my strong rock and house of defense, * that you may save me.
- ⁴ For you are my strong rock and my castle; * be also my guide, and lead me for your Name's sake.

- ⁵ Draw me out of the net that they have laid secretly for me, * for you are my strength.
- ⁶ Into your hands I commend my spirit, * for you have redeemed me, O LORD, O God of truth.

Epistle Reading

1 Peter 4:1-8

Since therefore Christ suffered in the flesh, arm yourselves with the same way of thinking, for whoever has suffered in the flesh has ceased from sin, ² so as to live for the rest of the time in the flesh no longer for human passions but for the will of God. ³ For the time that is past suffices for doing what the Gentiles want to do, living in sensuality, passions, drunkenness, orgies, drinking parties, and lawless idolatry. ⁴ With respect to this they are surprised when you do not join them in the same flood of debauchery, and they malign you; ⁵ but they will give account to him who is ready to judge the living and the dead. ⁶ For this is why the gospel was preached even to those who are dead, that though judged in the flesh the way people are, they might live in the spirit the way God does.

⁷ The end of all things is at hand; therefore be self-controlled and sober-minded for the sake of your prayers. ⁸ Above all, keep loving one another earnestly, since love covers a multitude of sins.

Reader: The word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

THE HOLY GOSPEL

Deacon: The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ,

according to St. Matthew. (St. John if using second Gospel reading.)

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Matthew 27:57-66

When it was evening, there came a rich man from Arimathea, named Joseph, who also was a disciple of Jesus. ⁵⁸ He went to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. Then Pilate ordered it to be given to him. ⁵⁹ And Joseph took the body and wrapped it in a clean linen shroud ⁶⁰ and laid it in his own new tomb, which he had cut in the rock. And he rolled a great stone to the entrance of the tomb and went away. ⁶¹ Mary Magdalene and the other Mary were there, sitting opposite the tomb.

62 The next day, that is, after the day of Preparation, the chief priests and the Pharisees gathered before Pilate 63 and said, "Sir, we remember how that impostor said, while he was still alive, 'After three days I will rise.' 64 Therefore order the tomb to be made secure until the third day, lest his disciples go and steal him away and tell the people, 'He has risen from the dead,' and the last fraud will be worse than the first." 65 Pilate said to them, "You have a guard of soldiers. Go, make it as secure as you can." 66 So they went and made the tomb secure by sealing the stone and setting a guard.

OR

John 19:38-42

After these things Joseph of Arimathea, who was a disciple of Jesus, but secretly for fear of the Jews, asked Pilate that he might take away the body of Jesus, and Pilate gave him permission. So he came and took away his body. ³⁹ Nicodemus also, who earlier had come to Jesus by night, came bringing a mixture of myrrh and aloes, about seventy-five pounds in weight. ⁴⁰ So they took

the body of Jesus and bound it in linen cloths with the spices, as is the burial custom of the Jews. ⁴¹ Now in the place where he was crucified there was a garden, and in the garden a new tomb in which no one had yet been laid. ⁴² So because of the Jewish day of Preparation, since the tomb was close at hand, they laid Jesus there.

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

After the Gospel (and homily), in place of the Prayers of the People, the following anthem is sung or said.

THE ANTHEM

Man born of woman has but a short time to live, and is full of misery.

He springs up, and is cut down like a flower; he flees like a shadow, and never continues the same.

In the midst of life we are in death: of whom do we seek strength, but you, O Lord, who for our sins are justly displeased?

Yet, O Lord God most holy,
O Lord most mighty,
O holy and most merciful Savior,
deliver us not into the pains of eternal death.

You know, O Lord, the secrets of our hearts; shut not your ears to our prayer; but spare us, Lord most holy,

O God most mighty, O holy and merciful Savior, most worthy Judge eternal, do not let us, in this our final hour, through the pain of death, fall away from you.

The liturgy then concludes with the Lord's Prayer (omitting the doxology) and the Grace.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, Save us from the time of trial, but deliver us from evil. Amen.

Our Father in heaven. hallowed be your Name. Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. And forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. and deliver us from evil. Amen.

THE GRACE

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all evermore.

Amen.

2 Corinthians 13:14

