**Psalm 1**

**1**Blessed is the one  
    who does not walk in step with the wicked  
or stand in the way that sinners take  
    or sit in the company of mockers,  
**2**but whose delight is in the law of the Lord,  
    and who meditates on his law day and night.  
**3**That person is like a tree planted by streams of water,  
    which yields its fruit in season  
and whose leaf does not wither—  
    whatever they do prospers.

**4**Not so the wicked!  
    They are like chaff  
    that the wind blows away.  
**5**Therefore the wicked will not stand in the judgment,  
    nor sinners in the assembly of the righteous.

**6**For the Lord watches over the way of the righteous,  
    but the way of the wicked leads to destruction.

**1st New Testament Reading – Acts 1:12-26**

**Matthias Chosen to Replace Judas**

**12**Then the apostles returned to Jerusalem from the hill called the Mount of Olives, a Sabbath day’s walk[[c](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=acts+1&version=NIV#fen-NIV-26936c)] from the city. **13**When they arrived, they went upstairs to the room where they were staying. Those present were Peter, John, James and Andrew; Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew; James son of Alphaeus and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James. **14**They all joined together constantly in prayer, along with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with his brothers.

**15**In those days Peter stood up among the believers (a group numbering about a hundred and twenty) **16**and said, “Brothers and sisters,[[d](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=acts+1&version=NIV#fen-NIV-26940d)] the Scripture had to be fulfilled in which the Holy Spirit spoke long ago through David concerning Judas, who served as guide for those who arrested Jesus. **17**He was one of our number and shared in our ministry.”

**18**(With the payment he received for his wickedness, Judas bought a field; there he fell headlong, his body burst open and all his intestines spilled out. **19**Everyone in Jerusalem heard about this, so they called that field in their language Akeldama, that is, Field of Blood.)

**20**“For,” said Peter, “it is written in the Book of Psalms:

“‘May his place be deserted;  
    let there be no one to dwell in it,’[[e](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=acts+1&version=NIV#fen-NIV-26944e)]

and,

“‘May another take his place of leadership.’[[f](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=acts+1&version=NIV#fen-NIV-26944f)]

**21**Therefore it is necessary to choose one of the men who have been with us the whole time the Lord Jesus was living among us, **22**beginning from John’s baptism to the time when Jesus was taken up from us. For one of these must become a witness with us of his resurrection.”

**23**So they nominated two men: Joseph called Barsabbas (also known as Justus) and Matthias. **24**Then they prayed, “Lord, you know everyone’s heart. Show us which of these two you have chosen **25**to take over this apostolic ministry, which Judas left to go where he belongs.” **26**Then they cast lots, and the lot fell to Matthias; so he was added to the eleven apostles.

**2nd New Testament Reading – 1 John 5:9-15**

**9**We accept human testimony, but God’s testimony is greater because it is the testimony of God, which he has given about his Son. **10**Whoever believes in the Son of God accepts this testimony. Whoever does not believe God has made him out to be a liar, because they have not believed the testimony God has given about his Son. **11**And this is the testimony: God has given us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. **12**Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life.

**Concluding Affirmations**

**13**I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God so that you may know that you have eternal life. **14**This is the confidence we have in approaching God: that if we ask anything according to his will, he hears us. **15**And if we know that he hears us—whatever we ask—we know that we have what we asked of him.

**Gospel Reading – John 17:11b-19**

Holy Father, protect them by the power of[[b](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=john+17&version=NIV#fen-NIV-26771b)] your name, the name you gave me, so that they may be one as we are one. **12**While I was with them, I protected them and kept them safe by[[c](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=john+17&version=NIV#fen-NIV-26772c)] that name you gave me. None has been lost except the one doomed to destruction so that Scripture would be fulfilled.

**13**“I am coming to you now, but I say these things while I am still in the world, so that they may have the full measure of my joy within them. **14**I have given them your word and the world has hated them, for they are not of the world any more than I am of the world. **15**My prayer is not that you take them out of the world but that you protect them from the evil one. **16**They are not of the world, even as I am not of it. **17**Sanctify them by[[d](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=john+17&version=NIV#fen-NIV-26777d)] the truth; your word is truth. **18**As you sent me into the world, I have sent them into the world. **19**For them I sanctify myself, that they too may be truly sanctified.