

Old Testament Reading:
Proverbs 9:1–10

- 1 Wisdom has built her house;
she has hewn her seven pillars.
- 2 She has slaughtered her beasts; she has mixed
her wine;
she has also set her table.
- 3 She has sent out her young women to call
from the highest places in the town,
- 4 “Whoever is simple, let him turn in here!”
To him who lacks sense she says,
- 5 “Come, eat of my bread
and drink of the wine I have mixed.
- 6 Leave your simple ways, and live,
and walk in the way of insight.”
- 7 Whoever corrects a scoffer gets himself abuse,
and he who reproves a wicked man incurs
injury.
- 8 Do not reprove a scoffer, or he will hate you;
reprove a wise man, and he will love you.
- 9 Give instruction to a wise man, and he will
be still wiser;
teach a righteous man, and he will
increase in learning.
- 10 The fear of the LORD is the beginning of
wisdom,
and the knowledge of the Holy One is
insight.

Epistle: Ephesians 5:6–21

⁶Let no one deceive you with empty words,
for because of these things the wrath of God
comes upon the sons of disobedience. ⁷Therefore
do not associate with them; ⁸for at one time you
were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord.
Walk as children of light ⁹(for the fruit of light
is found in all that is good and right and true),
¹⁰and try to discern what is pleasing to the Lord.
¹¹Take no part in the unfruitful works of dark-
ness, but instead expose them. ¹²For it is shame-
ful even to speak of the things that they do
in secret. ¹³But when anything is exposed by the
light, it becomes visible, ¹⁴for anything that
becomes visible is light. Therefore it says,

“Awake, O sleeper,
and arise from the dead,
and Christ will shine on you.”

¹⁵Look carefully then how you walk, not as
unwise but as wise, ¹⁶making the best use of the
time, because the days are evil. ¹⁷Therefore do
not be foolish, but understand what the will of

the Lord is. ¹⁸And do not get drunk with wine, for
that is debauchery, but be filled with the Spirit,
¹⁹addressing one another in psalms and hymns
and spiritual songs, singing and making melody
to the Lord with all your heart, ²⁰giving thanks
always and for everything to God the Father in
the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, ²¹submitting
to one another out of reverence for Christ.

Holy Gospel: John 6:51–69

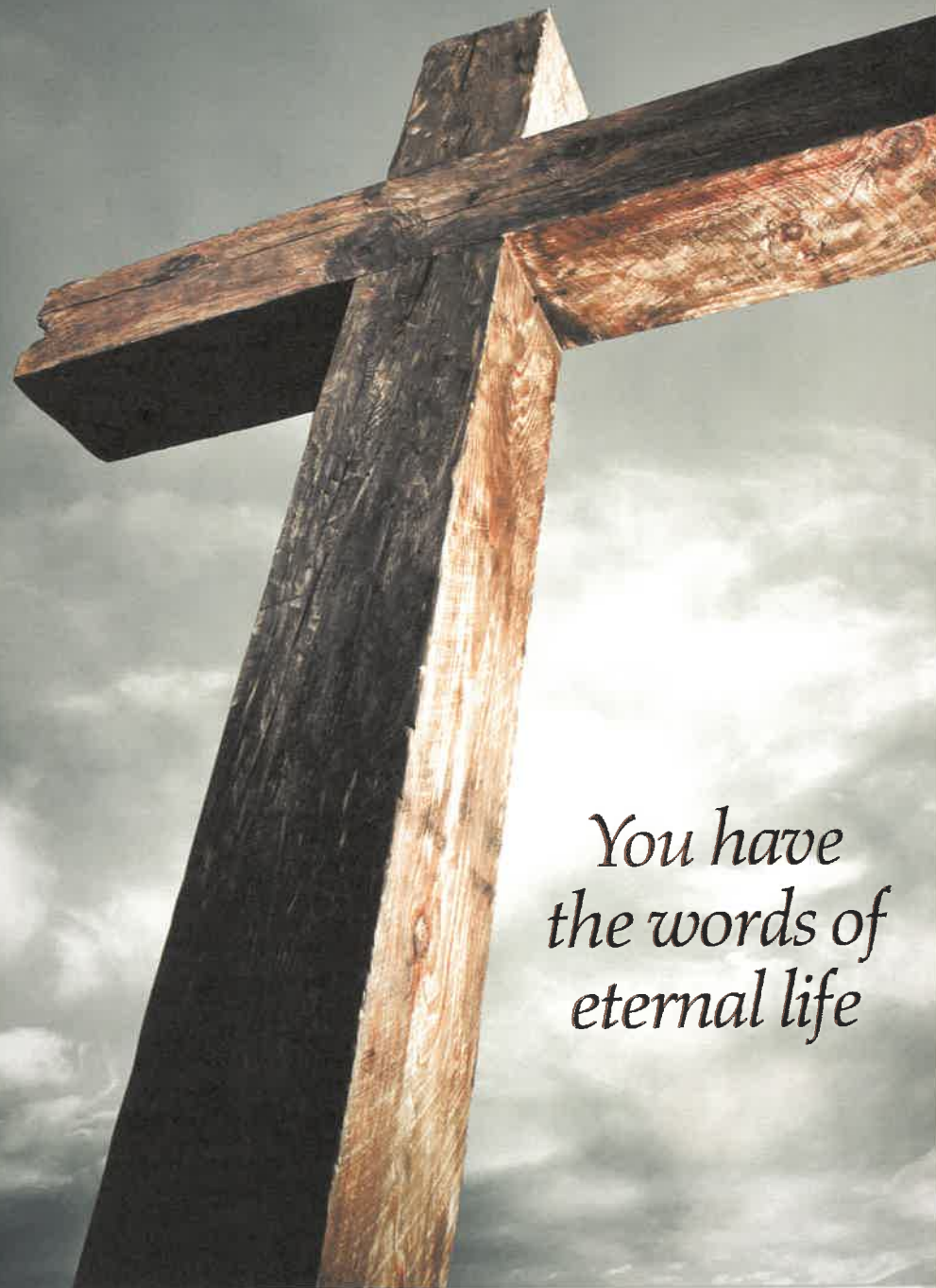
⁵¹[Jesus said:] “I am the living bread that came
down from heaven. If anyone eats of this bread,
he will live forever. And the bread that I will give
for the life of the world is my flesh.”

⁵²The Jews then disputed among themselves,
saying, “How can this man give us his flesh to
eat?” ⁵³So Jesus said to them, “Truly, truly, I say
to you, unless you eat the flesh of the Son of
Man and drink his blood, you have no life in
you. ⁵⁴Whoever feeds on my flesh and drinks my
blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up on
the last day. ⁵⁵For my flesh is true food, and my
blood is true drink. ⁵⁶Whoever feeds on my flesh
and drinks my blood abides in me, and I in him.
⁵⁷As the living Father sent me, and I live because
of the Father, so whoever feeds on me, he also
will live because of me. ⁵⁸This is the bread that
came down from heaven, not as the fathers ate
and died. Whoever feeds on this bread will live
forever.” ⁵⁹Jesus said these things in the syna-
gogue, as he taught at Capernaum.

⁶⁰When many of his disciples heard it, they
said, “This is a hard saying; who can listen to it?”
⁶¹But Jesus, knowing in himself that his disciples
were grumbling about this, said to them, “Do
you take offense at this? ⁶²Then what if you were
to see the Son of Man ascending to where he was
before? ⁶³It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh
is of no avail. The words that I have spoken to
you are spirit and life. ⁶⁴But there are some of
you who do not believe.” (For Jesus knew from
the beginning who those were who did not
believe, and who it was who would betray him.)
⁶⁵And he said, “This is why I told you that no
one can come to me unless it is granted him by
the Father.”

⁶⁶After this many of his disciples turned back
and no longer walked with him. ⁶⁷So Jesus said
to the Twelve, “Do you want to go away as well?”
⁶⁸Simon Peter answered him, “Lord, to whom
shall we go? You have the words of eternal life,
⁶⁹and we have believed, and have come to know,
that you are the Holy One of God.”

Lord, to whom shall we go?



*You have
the words of
eternal life*



About the Cover: The crowds cannot accept the teaching that Jesus is delivering in His bread of life discourse. At Jesus’ question of whether the disciples will leave too, Simon Peter knows there is only one viable option. There is nowhere else to go. Jesus alone has the words of eternal life. The same applies to us. Amid a multitude of voices promising life, Jesus is the only one with words of forgiveness and eternal life accomplished through His cross.