

# **SERVICE OF THE WORD**

**Sunday before Lent**

14 February 2021

## **GREETING**

This is the day that the Lord has made.

**We will rejoice and be glad in it.**

Lord, direct our thoughts,  
help us to pray,  
and lift our hearts to worship you  
in Spirit and in truth,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

# HYMN

# CONFESSION

If we say we have no sin,  
we deceive ourselves,  
and the truth is not in us.

If we confess our sins,  
God is faithful and just  
and will forgive our sins  
and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

**O God, our loving Father in heaven,  
we confess that we have sinned against you;  
we have broken your commandments;  
we have often been selfish,  
and we have not loved you as we should.**

**For these, and all our sins,  
forgive us, we pray;  
through our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.  
Amen.**

# ABSOLUTION

In the name of Jesus

I declare to you:

you are forgiven;

your sins are gone.

Be strong in the Holy Spirit,

and live for God.

**Amen.**

## COLLECT

Holy God,  
you know the disorder of our sinful lives:  
set straight our crooked hearts,  
and bend our wills  
to love your goodness and your glory  
in Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

## PSALM 50.1-6

- 1 The Lord, the most mighty God, has spoken and called the world from the rising of the sun to its setting.
- 2 Out of Zion, perfect in beauty, God shines forth; our God comes and will not keep silence.
- 3 Consuming fire goes out before him and a mighty tempest stirs about him.

- 4 He calls the heaven above, and the earth,  
that he may judge his people:
- 5 'Gather to me my faithful,  
who have sealed my covenant with sacrifice.'
- 6 Let the heavens declare his righteousness,  
for God himself is judge.

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **READING** 2 Corinthians 4.3-6

Even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing.

In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.

For we do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus' sake.

For it is the God who said, 'Let light shine out of darkness,' who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

# HYMN

## **GOSPEL READING** Mark 9.2-9

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ  
according to Mark.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*At the end:*

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**HOMILY**

---

# **AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

Let us declare our faith in God.

**We believe in God the Father,  
from whom every family  
in heaven and on earth is named.**

**We believe in God the Son,  
who lives in our hearts through faith,  
and fills us with his love.**

**We believe in God the Holy Spirit,  
who strengthens us  
with power from on high.**

**We believe in one God;  
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.  
Amen.**

*cf Ephesians 3*

# INTERCESSIONS

Let us pray to the Lord.

*At the end this response may be included:*

Merciful Father,

**accept these prayers**

**for the sake of your Son,**

**our Saviour, Jesus Christ.**

**Amen.**

## **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,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom,  
the power, and the glory  
for ever and ever. Amen.**

# HYMN

# BLESSING

The God of hope fill you  
with all joy and peace in believing;  
and the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
be among you  
and remain with you always.

**Amen.**

*Stay with us  
for tea, coffee and chat.*

*Some material in this service is copyright:*

*© 1989 National Council of the Churches of Christ, USA*

*© The Archbishops' Council 2000*

*© The Archbishops' Council 2002*

*Collect (Sunday next before Lent, Additional) © The Archbishops' Council 2004*