

SERVICE OF THE WORD

Second Sunday of Lent

28 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

Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit,
returned from the Jordan
and was led by the Spirit into the wilderness,
where for forty days
he was tempted by the devil.

Let us confess our sins
remembering before God the times
when we have fallen from temptation into sin.

Wash me thoroughly from my wickedness
and cleanse me from my sin.

Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

Make me a clean heart, O God,
and renew a right spirit within me.

Christ, have mercy.

Christ, have mercy.

Cast me not away from your presence
and take not your holy spirit from me.
Lord, have mercy.

Lord, have mercy.

May almighty God,
who sent his Son into the world to save sinners,
bring you his pardon and peace,
now and for ever.

Amen.

COLLECT

Almighty God,
by the prayer and discipline of Lent
may we enter
into the mystery of Christ's sufferings,
and by following in his Way
come to share in his glory;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

READING Galatians 3.1-9,23-29

You foolish Galatians! Who has bewitched you? It was before your eyes that Jesus Christ was publicly exhibited as crucified!

The only thing I want to learn from you is this: Did you receive the Spirit by doing the works of the law or by believing what you heard? Are you so foolish? Having started with the Spirit, are you now ending with the flesh? Did you experience so much for nothing? – if it really was for nothing.

Well then, does God supply you with the Spirit and work miracles among you by your doing the works of the law, or by your believing what you heard?

Just as Abraham 'believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness', so, you see, those who believe are the descendants of Abraham. And the scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the Gentiles by faith, declared the gospel beforehand to Abraham, saying, 'All the Gentiles shall be blessed in you.'

For this reason, those who believe are blessed with Abraham who believed.

Now before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed. Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be justified by faith.

But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian, for in Christ Jesus you are all children of God through faith.

As many of you as were baptised into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ; there is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus. And if you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to the promise.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

HYMN

GOSPEL READING Mark 8.31-38

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

As our Saviour taught us, so we pray.

**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

Christ give you grace to grow in holiness,
to deny yourselves,
take up your cross, and follow him;
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.*

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