

Sunday Prayers for the Fifth Sunday in Lent

21 March 2021

*The Gathering*¹

O Lord, open our lips
and our mouth shall proclaim your praise.

Hear our voice according to your faithful love;
according to your judgement, give us life.

Blessed are you, God of compassion and mercy,
to you be praise and glory for ever.

In the darkness of our sin,
your light breaks forth like the dawn
and your healing springs up for deliverance.

As we rejoice in the gift of your saving help,
sustain us with your bountiful Spirit
and open our lips to sing your praise.

Blessed be God, Source, Word, and Spirit.

Blessed be God for ever.

The night has passed, and the day lies open before us;
let us pray with one heart and mind.

As we rejoice in the gift of this new day,
so may the light of your presence, O God,
set our hearts on fire with love for you;
now and for ever.

Amen.

The Psalm

Have mercy on me, O God, in your great kindness; •
in the fullness of your mercy, blot out my offences.

**Wash away all my guilt, •
and cleanse me from my sin.**

For I acknowledge my faults, •
and my sin is always before me.
**Against you only have I sinned, •
and done evil in your sight.**

So that you are justified in your sentence •
and blameless in your judging.
**Evil have I been from my birth, •
a sinner I am from the time of my conception.**

But you desire truth in our inward being:
therefore teach me wisdom in my secret heart.
**Take hyssop, sprinkle me with water and I shall be clean; •
wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.**

Let me hear the sounds of joy and gladness, •
that the bones you have broken may rejoice.
**Turn away your face from my sins, •
and blot out all my misdeeds.**

Create in me a clean heart, O God, •
and renew a right spirit within me.
**Do not cast me away from your presence; •
do not take your holy Spirit from me.**

Give me the joy of your help again, •
and strengthen me with a willing spirit.

Psalm 51.1—12

**Glory to God,
Source of all being, Eternal Word and Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever.
Amen.**

The First Reading

A reading from the prophet Jeremiah.

The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the LORD. But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, ‘Know the LORD, for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the LORD; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

Jeremiah 31.31—34

Listen for the leading of the Spirit.

Thanks be to God.

The Gospel

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

The holy gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Saint John.

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Now among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, ‘Sir, we wish to see Jesus.’ Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. Jesus answered them, ‘The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honour.

‘Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say—“Father, save me from this hour”? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour. Father, glorify your name.’ Then a voice came from heaven, ‘I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.’ The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder. Others said, ‘An angel has spoken to him.’ Jesus answered, ‘This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. Now is the judgement of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.’ He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die.

John 12.20—33

The gospel of Christ.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

The Reflection

The Prayers of the People

Versicle and Response:

V Hear us, O God.

R Your mercy is great.

We entrust ourselves and all our prayers to you,
O faithful God, through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

As Jesus teaches us, so we pray:

**Our Father
in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin
against us.
Save us from the time of trial,
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and for ever.
Amen.**

**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.**

The Collect²

God of suffering and glory,
in Jesus Christ you reveal the way of life
through the path of obedience.
Inscribe your law in our hearts,
that in life we may not stray from you,
but may be your people;
through the same Jesus the Christ
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.
Amen.

The Solemn Prayer over the People³

Let us bow down before the Lord.

Look with compassion, O Lord, upon this your people;
that, rightly observing this holy season,
they may learn to know you more fully,
and to serve you with a more perfect will;
through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

The Dismissal

Let us bless the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

¹ *Common Praise: Daily Prayer*. Church of England. “Morning Prayer. Lent.” 238—39.

² *Revised Common Lectionary Prayers*. Consultation on Common Texts.

³ *The Book of Occasional Services* 2018. The Episcopal Church of the United States.