

Readings – Six Sunday in Lent / Palm Sunday 13-04-2025

Sentence

At the name of Jesus, every knee shall bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. Philippians 2.10–11

Collect

Everlasting God,
in your tender love for the human race
you sent your Son to take our nature,
and to suffer death upon the cross:
in your mercy enable us to share in his obedience to your will
and in the glorious victory of his resurrection;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

Isaiah 50: 4-9a

Our first reading is taken from the book of the Prophet Isaiah, Chapter 50 beginning at Verse 4

⁴ The Lord God has given me the tongue of a teacher,
that I may know how to sustain the weary with a word.
Morning by morning he wakens— wakens my ear
to listen as those who are taught. ⁵ The Lord God has opened
my ear, and I was not rebellious, I did not turn backwards.
⁶ I gave my back to those who struck me, and my cheeks to
those who pulled out the beard; I did not hide my face
from insult and spitting. ⁷ The Lord God helps me;
therefore I have not been disgraced; therefore I have set my
face like flint, and I know that I shall not be put to shame;
⁸ he who vindicates me is near. Who will contend with me?
Let us stand up together. Who are my adversaries?
Let them confront me. ⁹ It is the Lord God who helps me;
who will declare me guilty? All of them will wear out like a
garment; the moth will eat them up.

Hear the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 31: 9-18

Our Psalm today comes from Psalm 31. I will read one verse, and I invite you to respond with the next verse,

⁹ Have mercy upon me, O Lord, for I am in trouble: my eye wastes away for grief, my throat also and my inward parts.

¹⁰ **For my life wears out in sorrow, and my years with sighing: my strength fails me in my affliction, and my bones are consumed.**

¹¹ I am become the scorn of all my enemies: and my neighbours wag their heads in derision.

¹² **I am a thing of horror to my friends: and those that see me in the street shrink from me.**

¹³ I am forgotten like one dead and out of mind: I have become like a broken vessel.

¹⁴ **For I hear the whispering of many: and fear is on every side;**

¹⁵ While they plot together against me: and scheme to take away my life.

¹⁶ **But in you, Lord, have I put my trust: I have said 'You are my God.'**

¹⁷ All my days are in your hand: O deliver me from the power of my enemies and from my persecutors.

¹⁸ **Make your face to shine upon your servant: and save me for your mercy's sake.**

Philippians 2: 5-11

Our second reading is taken from the Letter of Paul to the Philippians, Chapter 2, beginning at Verse 5

⁵ Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,
⁶ who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard
equality with God as something to be exploited, ⁷ but emptied
himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human
likeness. And being found in human form, ⁸ he humbled himself
and became obedient to the point of death— even death on a
cross. ⁹ Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him
the name that is above every name, ¹⁰ so that at the name of
Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and
under the earth, ¹¹ and every tongue should confess that Jesus
Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Hear the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Luke 23: 1-49

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke, Chapter 23, beginning at Verse 1, **Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

Then the assembly rose as a body and brought Jesus before Pilate. ² They began to accuse him, saying, 'We found this man perverting our nation, forbidding us to pay taxes to the emperor, and saying that he himself is the Messiah, a king.' ³ Then Pilate asked him, 'Are you the king of the Jews?' He answered, 'You say so.' ⁴ Then Pilate said to the chief priests and the crowds, 'I find no basis for an accusation against this man.' ⁵ But they were insistent and said, 'He stirs up the people by teaching throughout all Judea, from Galilee where he began even to this place.'

⁶ When Pilate heard this, he asked whether the man was a Galilean. ⁷ And when he learned that he was under Herod's jurisdiction, he sent him off to Herod, who was himself in Jerusalem at that time. ⁸ When Herod saw Jesus, he was very glad, for he had been wanting to see him for a long time, because he had heard about him and was hoping to see him perform some sign. ⁹ He questioned him at some length, but Jesus gave him no answer. ¹⁰ The chief priests and the scribes stood by, vehemently accusing him. ¹¹ Even Herod with his soldiers treated him with contempt and mocked him; then he put an elegant robe on him, and sent him back to Pilate. ¹² That same day Herod and Pilate became friends with each other; before this they had been enemies.

¹³ Pilate then called together the chief priests, the leaders, and the people, ¹⁴ and said to them, 'You brought me this man as one who was perverting the people; and here I have examined him in your presence and have not found this man guilty of any of your charges

against him. ¹⁵ Neither has Herod, for he sent him back to us. Indeed, he has done nothing to deserve death. ¹⁶ I will therefore have him flogged and release him.'

¹⁸ Then they all shouted out together, 'Away with this fellow! Release Barabbas for us!' ¹⁹ (This was a man who had been put in prison for an insurrection that had taken place in the city, and for murder.) ²⁰ Pilate, wanting to release Jesus, addressed them again; ²¹ but they kept shouting, 'Crucify, crucify him!' ²² A third time he said to them, 'Why, what evil has he done? I have found in him no ground for the sentence of death; I will therefore have him flogged and then release him.' ²³ But they kept urgently demanding with loud shouts that he should be crucified; and their voices prevailed. ²⁴ So Pilate gave his verdict that their demand should be granted. ²⁵ He released the man they asked for, the one who had been put in prison for insurrection and murder, and he handed Jesus over as they wished.

²⁶ As they led him away, they seized a man, Simon of Cyrene, who was coming from the country, and they laid the cross on him, and made him carry it behind Jesus. ²⁷ A great number of the people followed him, and among them were women who were beating their breasts and wailing for him. ²⁸ But Jesus turned to them and said, 'Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me, but weep for yourselves and for your children. ²⁹ For the days are surely coming when they will say, "Blessed are the barren, and the wombs that never bore, and the breasts that never nursed." ³⁰ Then they will begin to say to the mountains, "Fall on us"; and to the hills, "Cover us." ³¹ For if they do this when the wood is green, what will happen when it is dry?'

³² Two others also, who were criminals, were led away to be put to death with him. ³³ When they came to the place that is called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there with the criminals, one on his right

and one on his left. [[³⁴ Then Jesus said, 'Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing.']] And they cast lots to divide his clothing. ³⁵ And the people stood by, watching; but the leaders scoffed at him, saying, 'He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, his chosen one!' ³⁶ The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine, ³⁷ and saying, 'If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!' ³⁸ There was also an inscription over him, 'This is the King of the Jews.'

³⁹ One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying, 'Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!' ⁴⁰ But the other rebuked him, saying, 'Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation?' ⁴¹ And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong.' ⁴² Then he said, 'Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.' ⁴³ He replied, 'Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise.'

⁴⁴ It was now about noon, and darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon, ⁴⁵ while the sun's light failed; and the curtain of the temple was torn in two. ⁴⁶ Then Jesus, crying with a loud voice, said, 'Father, into your hands I commend my spirit.' Having said this, he breathed his last. ⁴⁷ When the centurion saw what had taken place, he praised God and said, 'Certainly this man was innocent.' ⁴⁸ And when all the crowds who had gathered there for this spectacle saw what had taken place, they returned home, beating their breasts. ⁴⁹ But all his acquaintances, including the women who had followed him from Galilee, stood at a distance, watching these things.

This is the Gospel of the Lord, **Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.**