

# Sunday Worship for 21 March 2021

## The Fifth Sunday of Lent (Passiontide begins)

*The president says*

Welcome in the name of Christ.  
God's grace, mercy and peace be with you

*All*     **and also with you.**

*The president briefly introduces the service.*

*The president says*

God shows his love for us  
in that, while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.  
Let us then show our love for him  
by confessing our sins in penitence and faith.

*Silence is kept.*

God of mercy,  
*All*     **we acknowledge that we are all sinners.**  
**We turn from the wrong that we have thought and said and done,**  
**and are mindful of all that we have failed to do.**  
**For the sake of Jesus, who died for us,**  
**forgive us for all that is past,**  
**and help us to live each day**  
**in the light of Christ our Lord.**  
**Amen.**

May almighty God have mercy on *us*,  
forgive *us our* sins,  
and bring *us* to everlasting life,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

*All*     **Amen.**

*A reader says*

A reading from the book of the prophet Jeremiah. (31.31-34)

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.

This is the word of the Lord.

*All*     **Thanks be to God.**

**Verses from Psalm 51 may be said or sung.**

*The gospeller says*

A reading from the Gospel according to John. (12.20-33)

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.

This is the word of the Lord.

*All*     **Thanks be to God.**

**SERMON**

Let us declare our faith in God.

*All*     **I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.  
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,**

**he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting.  
Amen.**

## **PRAYERS**

*which may end with*

*All*      Merciful Father,  
**accept these prayers,  
for the sake of your Son  
our Saviour Jesus Christ.**

*The president prays*

Most merciful God,  
who by the death and resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ  
delivered and saved the world:  
grant that by faith in him who suffered on the cross  
we may triumph in the power of his victory;  
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.  
*All*      **Amen.**

**Our Father(, who art) in heaven...**

Christ crucified draw you to himself,  
to find in him a sure ground for faith,  
a firm support for hope,  
and the assurance of sins forgiven;  
and the blessing of God,  
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit,  
be with you now and for ever.  
*All*      **Amen.**