

5th Sunday in Lent

21 March 2021

Opening prayers

We come from scattered lives to meet with God.
Let us recognize his presence with us.

Silence is kept.

As God's people we have gathered:
let us worship him together.

Prayers of penitence

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

We have not held out the word of life
in a dark and twisted world:
Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

We have failed to share our bread with the hungry:
Christ, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.

We have closed our hearts to the love of God:
Lord, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

Almighty God,
who forgives all who truly repent,
have mercy upon us,
pardon and deliver us from all your sins,
confirm and strengthen us in all goodness,
and keep us in life eternal;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

Collect

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.
Amen.

Readings

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.

From the Letter to the Hebrews 5.5-10

Christ did not glorify himself in becoming a high priest, but was appointed by the one who said to him, ‘You are my Son, today I have begotten you’; as he says also in another place, ‘You are a priest for ever, according to the order of Melchizedek.’ In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he

suffered; and having been made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him, having been designated by God a high priest according to the order of Melchizedek.

Hymn

It is a thing most wonderful,
almost too wonderful to be,
that God's own Son should come from heav'n,
and die to save a child like me.

And yet I know that it is true:
He chose a poor and humble lot,
and wept and toiled and mourned and died
for love of those who loved Him not.

But even could I see Him die,
I could but see a little part
of that great love which, like a fire,
is always burning in His heart.

It is most wonderful to know
His love for me so free and sure;
but 'tis more wonderful to see
my love for Him so faint and poor.

And yet I want to love Thee, Lord;
O light the flame within my heart,
and I will love Thee more and more,
until I see Thee as Thou art.

Watch a recording:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C8ImUe_UxHQ&tab_channel=AlbertGeorge

The Gospel

John 12.20-33

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.

Sermon by Amanda Bart-Plange

Prayers for the church and the world

The response to each petition

**Lord, in the silence
Hear our prayer**

The Lords Prayer

**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.
Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours
now and for ever.
Amen.**

Thanksgiving

Let us give thanks and praise for all God's gifts

Silence is kept

For birth and life and strength of body,
for safety and shelter and food,
we give you thanks:

we praise your holy name.

For sight and hearing and the beauty of nature,
for words and music and the power of thought,
we give you thanks:

we praise your holy name.

For work and leisure and the joy of achieving,
for conscience and will and depth of feeling,
we give you thanks:

we praise your holy name.

For grace and truth in Jesus Christ,
for the gifts of the Spirit and the hope of heaven,
we give you thanks:

we praise your holy name.

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.**

The Peace

God has reconciled us to himself through Christ
and given us the ministry of reconciliation.
The peace of the Lord be always with you.

Here follows the Commissioning of the Parish Representatives Amanda Bart-Plange, Stephen King and Rosie Wesemann who will lead the appointment of a new Vicar for our congregation.

Let us pray

silence

Listen to our prayer, O Lord, and confirm Amanda, Rosie and Stephen with your heavenly blessing; that with sincere devotion of mind and body they may offer you a service that is acceptable to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Closing Prayers

Most merciful God,
by the death and resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ
you 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.

Amen.

Let us go in peace to love and serve the Lord
We go in peace. Amen