



March 13, 2016

**THE FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT**  
**8:00 a.m. HOLY EUCHARIST Rite I**  
**10:00 a.m. HOLY EUCHARIST Rite II**

Saint Peter's Episcopal Church  
Hebron, Connecticut  
The Rev. Everett C. Perine, Rector  
(860-228-3244)

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**THE FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT**

**8:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite I**

**A PENITENTIAL ORDER**

***We Prepare Ourselves with Reflection and Confession to Observe a Holy Lent***

*Celebrant* Bless the Lord who forgiveth all our sins

*People* ***His mercy endureth forever.***

The Decalogue and Summary of the Law

BCP page 317

The Confession and Absolution

BCP page 320

Lord, have mercy upon us

BCP page 324

**THE WORD OF GOD**

***We Listen to God's Word***

The Collect for the Day and Readings from the Lectionary (*Readings may be found on the last page of the bulletin*)

The Sermon

The Reverend Everett Perine

***We Proclaim Our Belief***

The Nicene Creed

BCP page 326

***We Offer Prayers of Intercession, and Thanksgiving***

The Prayers of the People

BCP page 329

***We Are Reconciled to One Another through God's Love and Forgiveness***

The Peace

**THE HOLY COMMUNION**

***We Offer Our Gifts to God***

*Bread and wine for our Eucharistic meal are brought to the altar on behalf of the gathered body.*

*The ushers collect the offering of gifts from the people and present them at the altar as an offering to God*

***We Proclaim Our Faith***

The Eucharistic Prayer I

BCP page 333

The Lord's Prayer

BCP page 336

***We Come Together to Share Communion***

The Breaking of the Bread and Invitation to Communion

BCP page 337

O Lamb of God

BCP page 337

Prayer of Humble Access

BCP page 337

*The people come forward to receive the bread and the wine*

The Communion

***We Are Sent Out Into the World***

The Post Communion Prayer

BCP page 339

The Lenten Blessing: Holy eternal Majesty,

Holy incarnate Word,

Holy abiding Spirit,

Bless you for evermore. ***Amen.***

The Dismissal

*Let us bless the Lord.*

***People***

**Thanks be to God.**

10:00 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite II

A PENITENTIAL ORDER

*We Prepare Ourselves with Reflection and Confession to Observe a Holy Lent*

**Opening Hymn # 441 “In the cross of Christ I glory” ( vs. 1-4)**

*Celebrant* Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins

*People* ***His mercy endures forever.***

The Decalogue and Summary of the Law

The Confession and Absolution

**Kyrie: WLP #840 “Kyrie”**

*Rathbun*

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BCP page 352

*Pulkingham*

THE WORD OF GOD

*We Listen to God’s Word*

The Collect for the Day and Readings from the Lectionary (*Readings may be found on the last page of the bulletin*)

The Sermon

The Reverend Everett Perine

*We Proclaim Our Belief*

The Nicene Creed

BCP page 358

*We Offer Prayers of Intercession, and Thanksgiving*

The Prayers of the People Form IV

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*We Are Reconciled to One Another through God’s Love and Forgiveness*

The Peace

# THE HOLY COMMUNION

## *We Offer Our Gifts to God*

**Offertory Hymn #474 “When I survey the wondrous cross”**

*Rockingham*

*Bread and wine for our Eucharistic meal are brought to the altar on behalf of the gathered body.*

*The ushers collect the offering of gifts and present them at the altar as an offering to God*

## *We Proclaim Our Faith*

The Eucharistic Prayer A

BCP page 361

**The Sanctus: #S-130 “Holy, holy, holy Lord”**

*Schubert*

The Lord’s Prayer

BCP page 364

## *We Come Together to Share Communion*

The Breaking of the Bread: **WLP #825 “Bless the Lord my soul”** (*Sung 3 times*)

*Taize*

Musical score for the hymn "Bless the Lord my soul" in 4/4 time. The score consists of two systems, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The lyrics are: "Bless the Lord my soul - and bless God's ho - ly name." and "Bless the Lord my soul, Who leads me in - to life."

The Invitation to Communion (*The people come forward to receive the bread and the wine*)

The Communion

Communion Hymn: **“Jesus, remember me”** (*Sung 3 times*)

*Taize*

Musical score for the hymn "Jesus Remember Me" in 3/4 time. The score is an ostinato refrain with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The lyrics are: "Je - sus, re - mem - ber me when you come in - to your King - dom." and "Je - sus, re - mem - ber me when you come in - to your King - dom." The score includes copyright information: "Text: Luke 23:42; Taize Community, 1981. Tune: Jacques Berthier, 1923-1994. © 1981, Les Presses de Taizé, GIA Publications, Inc., agent. Used with permission. © Copyright 1981 Les Presses de Taizé, GIA Publishing OneLicense.net #A-700319 All rights reserved."

## *We Are Sent Out Into the World*

The Post Communion Prayer

BCP page

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The Lenten Blessing: Holy eternal Majesty,  
Holy incarnate Word,  
Holy abiding Spirit,  
Bless you for evermore. *Amen.*

**Closing Hymn #398 “I sing the almighty power of God”**

*Forest Green*

The Dismissal

*Let us bless the Lord.*

*People*

**Thanks be to God.**

*During Lent, a Service for Healing will follow the conclusion of the Holy Eucharist. After the dismissal, anyone who wishes to participate in this service is invited to gather at the altar rail for a time of silent prayer and meditation.*

## A SERVICE FOR HEALING

### *A Word about the Ministry of Healing*

*The ministry of healing is part of the sacramental life of the Episcopal Church and all people, whether baptized or not, are welcome to come and receive this sacrament.*

*This sacrament emerges from our belief that the love of God through the presence of the Holy Spirit has the power to heal our emotional, physical and spiritual suffering.*

*Although we may ask for a specific healing, we realize that it is God who decides how this healing is to occur. Healing may come to us in the form of physical recovery, emotional well-being or spiritual wholeness.*

***The power of the healing service lies not with our expectation of results, but rather with our desire to allow the Spirit of God who dwells within us to transform our lives and help us to accept the healing power of God's love.***

*Celebrant* O God, be in our hearts and on our lips as we come before you seeking your healing love.

*Silence is kept*

*Celebrant* Brothers and sisters in Christ, if you wish to seek prayer, for yourself, on behalf of someone or for a crisis in the world, you are invited to receive the laying on of hands. Jesus says, "Come to me all you who are troubled and I will give you rest." So come, we who are burdened by regrets and anxieties, we who are broken in body or in spirit, we who feel deeply within ourselves the divisions and injustices of our world. Come, for Jesus invites us to bring him our brokenness.

*Those who wish for laying-on of hands and anointing for healing may come forward.  
When all have received the sacrament of healing, the celebrant continues.*

*Celebrant* God of compassion and love,  
*People* **We offer you all of our suffering and pain. Give us strength to bear our weakness, healing even when there is no cure, peace in the midst of turmoil and love to fill the spaces of our lives. Glory to God, from whom all love flows, glory to Jesus, who showed his love through suffering, and glory to the Holy Spirit, who brings light to the darkest places. Amen.**

*Celebrant* God love you and have mercy upon you; through the cross of Christ, pardon you and set you free. Know that you are forgiven and be at peace. God forgives you. Forgive others. Forgive yourself. In the name of the Lover of Souls, the Beloved, and the Love that exists between them,  
may the peace of God be always with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Celebrant* Go in peace, giving thanks for the healing power of God's love.

**Wednesday Evening Lenten Service:** If you are looking to find some quiet time or time devoted to a simple Lenten discipline, please consider joining us during Lent for our Wednesday evening service. It begins at 7 p.m. with the Way of the Cross - a prayerful procession around the church, stopping at various "stations at crosses" to reflect on aspects of Jesus walk to the cross, death and burial. This is followed by our normal evening Communion service which includes a service of laying-on of hands and anointing with oil for healing. Periods of silence will be maintained throughout the service for those wishing to make "Being Silent with God" part of their Lenten discipline (please see last page of bulletin).

Feel free to contact Father Perry for more information.



## **St. Peter's Holy Week and Easter Schedule 2016**

**(For more information, see our website or call the parish office at 860-228-3244)**

### **March 20: Palm Sunday: Sunday of the Passion: Liturgy of the Palms & Eucharist 8 & 10**

Both services begin with a gathering in Phelps Hall for a Palm Sunday liturgy recalling Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem. Following the blessing of the palms the congregation walks in procession into the church for Holy Eucharist which features the reading in parts of the Passion of Jesus. At the 10 a.m. service younger children return to Phelps Hall after the procession for church school before joining their families for Communion.

### **March 21 & 22: Monday and Tuesday in Holy Week: Come, Rest and Pray**

The church building will remain open during office hours (9 a.m. to 12 noon) and from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. for private devotion and prayer. Copies of "Walking the Way of the Cross" and other devotional aids will be available. In addition our website will have links to various sites including "The Lectionary Page" which provides Scripture readings for each day in Holy Week.

### **March 23: Wednesday in Holy Week: Tenebrae Service at 7:30 p.m.**

Based on the ancient monastic services in Holy Week "Tenebrae" (the Latin word for "darkness or shadows") offers an extended meditation upon, and a prelude to, the events in our Lord's life between the Last Supper and the Resurrection. The service features a recitation of the Old Testament book of Lamentations and the gradual extinguishing of candles symbolizing the growing presence of the forces of evil as Jesus approaches death. The service ends with a single candle burning, the Light of Christ, as an affirmation of the triumph of life over death.

### **March 24: Maundy Thursday: A Commemoration of the Last Supper**

#### **Agape Meal at 6:30 p.m.**

A simple meatless "potluck" meal of soup, cheese, olives, dried fruit, raw vegetables, bread and wine. During the meal, held in Phelps Hall, a reflection on the Last Supper is offered as a prelude to the Maundy Thursday Liturgy.

#### **Foot-washing Ceremony and Maundy Thursday Liturgy at 7:30 p.m.**

Following the Agape Meal, people gather for the traditional Foot-washing ceremony, this year held in Phelps Hall. At the conclusion of the ceremony people process into the church for the Maundy Thursday Liturgy and Holy Communion. The service concludes with the Stripping of the Altar in preparation for Good Friday. **Note:** Those attending are asked to bring food donations as an offering for distribution to a local food bank.

### **March 25: Good Friday liturgy at 12 Noon and 7:30 p.m.**

This meditative service will include the reading of the Passion of our Lord According to John, sermon and reading of The Solemn Collects. Devotional music will be offered at the 7:30 p.m. service.

### **March 27: Easter Day**

#### **Easter Sunrise Service at 6:30 a.m.**

This ecumenical service is held at Gilead Congregational Church (Route 85 north of Hebron center – just past Gilead School) with clergy representing Church of the Holy Family, Gilead Congregational Church, St. Peter's Episcopal Church and The Worship Center participating.

#### **Easter Celebrations of Holy Eucharist at St. Peter's**

8:00 a.m. Rite 1 Traditional language service

10:00 a.m. Rite 2 Contemporary language service with Music featuring Brass Quintet

### **April 3: Second Sunday of Easter**

#### **8 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite 1**

#### **10 a.m. Holy Eucharist Rite 2 with Easter Pageant**

Children and youth will join their families for a celebration of the Easter story featuring the building of the Cross of Flowers and followed by Communion.

#### **Pot Luck Easter Brunch beginning at 11:15 a.m.**

**PARISH FAMILY REMEMBRANCES AND THANKSGIVINGS March 13, 2016**

*The Sanctuary Candle is given to the glory of God by Barbara Parkyn in celebration of  
Ashlee Marie Perkins' 10<sup>th</sup> birthday on March 24th*

**We pray for our clergy:** Justin, the Archbishop of Canterbury; Michael, the Presiding Bishop; Ian and Laura, the Bishops of Connecticut; and Perry our Priest;

**In St Peter's Cycle of Prayer** we pray for our parish family, remembering especially those who celebrate their birthdays this week: Stephen Fisk (3/19), Bob Winter (3/18), Kim Sullivan (3/13), Matthew Alexander (3/16), Megan Sulzinski (3/16).

**In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer** we pray for Grace & St. Peter's, Hamden; Christ Church Cathedral, Hartford; Good Shepherd, Hartford; Bishops, ECCT staff, and parish employees, and their families.

**Current Prayer List**

**Prayers added the week of March 13:** Chris; John & Sue; Claire; Lauren, Jeni, Kile, Lianie, Dana; Gina; Eva & Bill; The Gentino Family, Priscilla Bronke, Jane Donnelly and family; Justin, Stephanie; Grace, Phil Patros; Cathy Gerke; Peter, the Kell family; Janet Kay; Sam Downey;

**Prayers added the week of March 6:** Joe, Cee-Cee; Dan and Francesco, The Davis & Carino families; the Kraemer family; Sharon, Christina; Douglas Pimm; Marge Caton, Marion and Family; Anne Marie Henderson; John Hickleton, Laurie Finn; Luke; Luz, Johanna, Dorothy; Dick Sage, Aceynath Porter; Kathy; Julia, Dave; a Dear Friend; Emil; Ms. Kamins; Barbara Potterton;

**Prayers added the week of February 28:** The MacDonough Family; Alberta; Rod & Janice Lambeth; Charles; The Conrad families, especially Garland; Deanne & John Bowen; Danielle, Chantelle and Kayleigh; Jim Vicevich, Bob & Bev Winter, Bonnie Eells, Flo Columbe, Bob & Ginny Wanagel, Gina, Priscilla, Connie Rich, Rita Mae, Carol & Bing; Aly, Steffi; Susan; Elizabeth, Kim, Andrée, Gail & Ed Stanko, Dianna Tedesco; Bossi and Liska families, Barbara and Family; Maidey and Ken, Everette; Jeanne, Sam; Karen Sandahl; Karen Ostly; Helen and Family; Karen Emmons;

**We pray for those who are preparing for Confirmation:** Megan Alexander, Allison Bradley, John Bradley, Josh Kowinsky, Emma O'Shea, Tim O'Shea, Chris Paggioli, Jonathan Roper.

**We pray for all caregivers** who selflessly give of themselves to care for loved-ones;

**We pray for all people suffering hunger, fear & displacement** due to war and natural disaster, especially those currently seeking refuge in Europe.

**We pray for all with financial problems;** those who have lost their jobs and homes; for the well-being of our families during life's changes; all who have suffered trauma; those who are ill, lonely or grieving; our veterans; all who travel; all those suffering with cancer; anyone who is hospitalized or disabled; those affected by natural disasters; and all abused, neglected and missing children.

**We pray for our whole nation:** for peace, non-violence, and healing.

**We pray for our service men and women** throughout the world.

**We pray for all who have died.**

**We give thanks for the many blessings of our lives** and the joy we experience in our relationship with God.

**Youth Confirmation Classes have begun:** The first meeting of the youth confirmation classes was held on Sunday February 21 with 9 youth participating. A schedule of classes is now available. It is not too late to join! Any youth in high school who would like to join the class is welcome and should contact Father Perry as soon as possible. For more information feel free to contact either Father Perry or Judi Babin.

**Attention any adults desiring to be baptized or interested in Confirmation:** Father Perry will be scheduling Adult Inquiry Classes soon for anyone interested in exploring matters of faith including knowing more about the traditions of the Episcopal Church. These classes are advised for people wishing to be baptized or becoming members of the Episcopal Church (by Reception or Confirmation). If you are interested or want more information, please contact him.

## Easter Flower signup - *Altar Flowers for Easter*



There is now a sign-up sheet at the back of the church for the purchase of Easter Flowers to be used to decorate the church on Easter morning as Memorials or Thanksgivings for special blessings, please write your information clearly on the sign-up form so it can be put in the Easter flower booklet with no mistakes. Lilies, tulips, daffodils, hydrangeas and pansies will all be available, as usual. Checks should be made out to St. Peters Church, and put in the envelope in church or given to Claire in the office (not placed in the offertory box, please).

If you have any questions please contact the office or speak with Marcia or Chuck Eaton.

**The Polish Dinner** – The new season of Community Dinners kicks-off **this Saturday March 19**, with the Polish Dinner (4:00 p.m. until sold out). \$14 per adult, \$6 children. Sign-up sheet is in the church. Please join in with supplies or help with set-up, clean-up etc. **and come to eat!** Menu: Pirogies, cabbage rolls, sauerkraut, kielbasa, polish bread, pickled beets, applesauce and sour cream, beverages and the dessert table. For any questions, please call Chuck & Marcia Eaton.

### **Spring Cleanup & Parish Breakfast – Saturday, April 9th**

Buildings & Grounds is planning a major Spring cleanup of not only the church and hall grounds, but of the building interiors. Exterior work will include the usual raking and sweeping up of the leaves and branches that have come down over the winter. Interior cleanup will include cleaning all easily reachable surfaces (e.g., pew seats, pew book holders), vacuuming carpets, cleaning light fixtures (including the chandelier), just to name a few. Bring buckets, sponges, clean rags/towels, swiffer mops, and any other materials you can think of for a good spring cleaning. This will be a major undertaking, the likes of which we have not seen for many a years, and we really need the full support of the Parish.

In appreciation of the Parish's support, members of B&G will prepare and serve breakfast (NO CHARGE – we will have a donation jar and all donations will go directly to the Kitchen Fund). This is the same breakfast served at the Men's Breakfast, AND THEN SOME. Breakfast will include your choice of beverage (coffee, tea, orange juice, milk, hot chocolate), eggs (any basic style – no omelets or eggs benedict), pancakes with syrup (including blueberry syrup), bacon, sausage, home fries, corned beef hash, toast (white, rye or whole wheat), bagels (assorted, and/or with cream cheese), variety of flavored instant oatmeal, and fresh fruit.

Saturday April 9<sup>th</sup> - Breakfast will be served from 7 am to 9 am; cleanup will begin promptly at 8:30 am.

It's time for every parish member to take some ownership in St. Peters, so let's make this a cleanup that the kids will talk about when they're retired.

**Sewing Machine for sale** – A pre-owned sewing machine with advanced capabilities regarding embroidery stitching is for sale in Phelps Hall. Anyone interested in examining it or purchasing it may see it on Sunday or call the office. It may be purchased for a donation (the amount to be determined by the purchaser) to Father Perry's "Rector's Discretionary Fund." Any questions regarding the machine's history may be addressed to Stephanie Wheeler.

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### **Lenten Wine Ingathering**

Lent is the time the Altar Guild holds the annual "Wine Ingathering," a time during which we collect wine to be blessed and used at our celebrations of the Holy Eucharist. Please consider giving a donation of Cream Sherry during Lent to be used throughout the year for Holy Communion. You may leave the wine on the back table in the church anytime during Lent. If you are unsure about which wine to buy, please speak with Fr. Perry or call the office.



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### **Help us to brighten up Phelps Hall!**

The vestry recently voted to support a project put forth by Buildings & Grounds to install new ceiling tiles in Phelps Hall and to replace our fluorescent lighting with new, energy efficient LED bulbs. Our aim would be to create a brighter, cheerier atmosphere for our community dinners and fundraising events. We are providing an opportunity for parishioners to support this project by “funding” the cost of one or more boxes of tiles at \$40 each. 30 boxes of tiles will be needed to complete the work. Please submit any donation of cash or check to the office or treasurer (to insure proper credit) and designate it as “Ceiling & Lighting Project.” We would love your support! Questions? Please contact Rick Marks, Jack Gasper or any other member of the vestry.

### **Here’s what you can find on St. Peter’s new website**

**The website** ([www.stpetershebron.com](http://www.stpetershebron.com)) offers an always up to date calendar, upcoming events listed with details, news from Sue, the bulletin, the latest happenings, an updated photo gallery, and more!

- **Fr. Perry’s sermons can be listened to on St. Peter’s website?** If you missed Father Perry's sermon, or want to hear it again, feel free to listen from the website. Sermons may be found at: Services > Sunday Audio Sermons
- **Church School schedule on the website** - Weren't able to attend church one Sunday? Want to cover a church school topic more at home? The website has a schedule of church school topics including Bible verses, upcoming events and additional information. Just go to: About Us > Church School > Church School Schedule.
- **Easter Flower** sign-up under “Events”

**From Monday March 14<sup>th</sup> through the end of April  
the Office will be open from 9-12, Monday through Friday (instead of 8-11)**

**MARCH/APRIL 2016 CALENDAR**

| SUNDAY   | MONDAY  | TUESDAY  | WEDNESDAY   | THURSDAY  | FRIDAY  | SATURDAY  |
|--|---|--|---|---|---|---|
| <b>March 13</b><br><b>Lent 5</b><br><b>Holy Eucharist</b><br><b>8 &amp; 10 a.m.</b><br><b>Church School 9:55</b>   | <b>March 14</b><br><br>Vestry 7 p.m.  | <b>March 15</b><br><br>Choir 6:30-8 PM   | <b>March 16</b><br><br><b>Way of the Cross,</b><br><b>Communion with</b><br><b>Healing 7 pm</b>                         | <b>March 17</b><br><br><b>Nursing Home</b><br><b>visits</b>   | <b>March 18</b><br><br>Fr. Perry Day<br>off   | <b>March 19</b><br><br>Polish Dinner<br><br>Scouts (MC) |
| <b>March 20</b><br><b>Palm Sunday</b><br><b>Holy Eucharist</b><br><b>8 &amp; 10</b><br><b>Church School 9:55</b><br>Confirmation 11:30   | <b>March 21</b><br><br><b>Church open</b><br><b>for private</b><br><b>devotions 9-</b><br><b>12 am &amp; 6-9</b><br><b>pm</b> | <b>March 22</b><br><br><b>Church open</b><br><b>for private</b><br><b>devotions 9-12</b><br><b>am &amp; 6-9 pm</b> | <b>March 23</b><br><br><b>Tenebrae Service</b><br><b>7:30 pm</b>  | <b>March 24</b><br><br><b>Agape Meal</b><br><b>6:30 p.m.</b><br><b>Footwashing</b><br><b>ceremony &amp;</b><br><b>Maundy</b><br><b>Thursday</b><br><b>Liturgy</b><br><b>7:30 pm</b> | <b>March 25</b><br><br><b>Good Friday</b><br><b>Liturgy</b><br><b>12 Noon &amp;</b><br><b>7:30 pm</b> | <b>March 26</b><br><br><b>Holy</b><br><b>Saturday</b>   |
| <b>March 27</b><br><b>EASTER DAY</b><br><b>Sunrise Service</b><br><b>6:30 am @ Gilead</b><br><b>Congregational</b><br><b>Holy Eucharist at</b><br><b>8 &amp; 10</b><br><b>No Church School</b>       | <b>March 28</b>   | <b>March 29</b><br><br>Choir 6:30-8 PM   | <b>March 30</b><br><br><b>Communion with</b><br><b>Healing 7 pm</b>   | <b>March 31</b>   | <b>April 1</b>  | <b>April 2</b>  |
| <b>April 3</b><br><b>2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Easter</b><br><b>Holy Eucharist</b><br><b>8 &amp; 10 with Easter</b><br><b>Pageant</b><br><b>Church School 9:55</b><br>Easter Pot luck<br>brunch 11:15 | <b>April 4</b>  | <b>April 5</b><br><br>Choir 6:30-8 PM  | <b>April 6</b><br><br><b>Buildings and</b><br><b>Grounds 7 p.m.</b><br><br><b>Communion with</b><br><b>Healing 7 pm</b> | <b>April 7</b>  | <b>April 8</b>  | <b>April 9</b><br><br>Scouts (MC)                       |
| <b>April 10</b><br><b>3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Easter</b><br><b>Holy Eucharist</b><br><b>8 &amp; 10</b><br><b>Church School 9:55</b>   | <b>April 11</b><br><br>Vestry 7 p.m.  | <b>April 12</b><br><br>Choir 6:30-8 PM   | <b>April 13</b><br><br><b>Communion with</b><br><b>Healing 7 pm</b>   | <b>April 14</b>   | <b>April 15</b>   | <b>April 16</b><br><br>Community<br>Dinner              |



## **The Readings for the Fifth Sunday in Lent**

### **The Collect**

Almighty God, you alone can bring into order the unruly wills and affections of sinners: Grant your people grace to love what you command and desire what you promise; that, among the swift and varied changes of the world, our hearts may surely there be fixed where true joys are to be found; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

### **The First Lesson: Isaiah 43:16-21**

Thus says the LORD, who makes a way in the sea, a path in the mighty waters, who brings out chariot and horse, army and warrior; they lie down, they cannot rise, they are extinguished, quenched like a wick: Do not remember the former things, nor consider the things of old. I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert. The wild animals will honour me, the jackals and the ostriches; for I give water in the wilderness, rivers in the desert, to give drink to my chosen people, the people whom I formed for myself so that they might declare my praise.

### **The Psalm: Psalm 126**

- 1 When the LORD restored the fortunes of Zion, \*  
then were we like those who dream.
- 2 Then was our mouth filled with laughter, \*  
and our tongue with shouts of joy.
- 3 Then they said among the nations, \*  
"The LORD has done great things for them."
- 4 The LORD has done great things for us, \*  
and we are glad indeed.
- 5 Restore our fortunes, O LORD, \*  
like the watercourses of the Negev.
- 6 Those who sowed with tears \*  
will reap with songs of joy.
- 7 Those who go out weeping, carrying the seed, \*  
will come again with joy, shouldering their sheaves.

## **The Second Lesson: Philippians 3:4b-14**

If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless.

Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

## **The Holy Gospel: John 12:1-8**

Six days before the Passover Jesus came to Bethany, the home of Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. There they gave a dinner for him. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those at the table with him. Mary took a pound of costly perfume made of pure nard, anointed Jesus' feet, and wiped them with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (the one who was about to betray him), said, "Why was this perfume not sold for three hundred denarii and the money given to the poor?" (He said this not because he cared about the poor, but because he was a thief; he kept the common purse and used to steal what was put into it.) Jesus said, "Leave her alone. She bought it so that she might keep it for the day of my burial. You always have the poor with you, but you do not always have me."

Optional parts of the readings are set off in square brackets.