



*We acknowledge Jesus Christ as our Lord and Savior, upholding Scripture as the unchanging Word of God. We seek to be led by the Holy Spirit. We will endeavor to live life in fellowship and service in His name and to lead others into a relationship with Him through Biblical teaching and concern for their lives. We will be a community that reflects His teaching and love to the world around us.*

*4th Sunday in Lent 3-15-2015*

### **The Acclamation**

*The People standing, the Celebrant says this or a seasonal greeting as found in the general rubrics.*

*From Ash Wednesday to the Eve of Palm Sunday or penitential occasions:*

Celebrant: Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

People: God's mercy endures forever.

### **The Collect for Purity**

*The Celebrant and People then say*

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your Holy Name; through Christ our Lord.  
Amen.

### **The Decalogue**

*Celebrant* God spoke these words and said: I am the Lord your God, you shall have no other gods but me.

*People* Lord have mercy upon us, and give us grace to keep this law.

*Celebrant* You shall not make for yourself any image or likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or in the earth beneath, or in the waters under the earth; you shall not bow down to them or worship them.

*People* Lord have mercy upon us, and give us grace to keep this law.

*Celebrant* You shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain.

*People* Lord have mercy upon us, and give us grace to keep this law.

*Celebrant* Remember the Sabbath day and keep it holy.

*People* Lord have mercy upon us, and give us grace to keep this law.

*Celebrant* Honor your father and your mother.

*People* Lord have mercy upon us, and give us grace to keep this law.

*Celebrant* You shall not murder.

*People* Lord have mercy upon us, and give us grace to keep this law.

*Celebrant* You shall not commit adultery.

*People* Lord have mercy upon us, and give us grace to keep this law

*Celebrant* You shall not steal.

*People* Lord have mercy upon us, and give us grace to keep this law.

*Celebrant* You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

*People* Lord have mercy upon us, and give us grace to keep this law.

*Celebrant* You shall not covet.

*People* Lord have mercy upon us, and give us grace to keep these laws and to write them upon our hearts.

## **Kyrie**

*The Celebrant and people sing or say together once or three times:*

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Kyrie eleison

*Christ, have mercy upon us. or*

*Christe eleison*

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Kyrie eleison

## **The Collect of the Day**

*The Celebrant says to the People*

The Lord be with you.

*People* And with your spirit.

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

## **Collect**

Gracious Father, whose blessed Son Jesus Christ came down from heaven to be the true bread which gives life to the world: Evermore give us this bread, that he may live in us, and we in him; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

### **Numbers 21: 4-9**

From Mount Hor they set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom; but the people became impatient on the way. The people spoke against God and against Moses, "Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we detest this miserable food." Then the LORD sent poisonous serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many Israelites died. The people came to Moses and said, "We have sinned by speaking against the LORD and against you; pray to the LORD to take away the serpents from us." So Moses prayed for the people. And the LORD said to Moses, "Make a poisonous serpent, and set it on a pole; and everyone who is bitten shall look at it and live." So Moses made a serpent of bronze, and put it upon a pole; and whenever a serpent bit someone, that person would look at the serpent of bronze and live.

**The Word of the Lord**    *Thanks be to God.*

### **Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22**

- 1    Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good, \*  
      and his mercy endures for ever.
- 2    Let all those whom the LORD has redeemed proclaim \*  
      that he redeemed them from the hand of the foe.
- 3    He gathered them out of the lands; \*  
      from the east and from the west, from the north and from the south.
- 17    Some were fools and took to rebellious ways; \*  
      they were afflicted because of their sins.
- 18    They abhorred all manner of food \*  
      and drew near to death's door.
- 19    Then they cried to the LORD in their trouble, \*  
      and he delivered them from their distress.
- 20    He sent forth his word and healed them \*  
      and saved them from the grave.
- 21    Let them give thanks to the LORD for his mercy \*  
      and the wonders he does for his children.
- 22    Let them offer a sacrifice of thanksgiving \*  
      and tell of his acts with shouts of joy.

*Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: \*  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen*

### **Ephesians 2: 1-10**

You were dead through the trespasses and sins in which you once lived, following the course of this world, following the ruler of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work among those who are disobedient. All of us once lived among them in the passions of our flesh, following the desires of flesh and senses, and we were by nature children of wrath, like everyone else. But God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ--by grace you have been saved-- and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, so that in the ages to come he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God-- not the result of works, so that no one may boast. For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.

**The Word of the Lord**    *Thanks be to God.*

### **John 3:14-21**

**The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to St. John**    *Glory to you, O Lord*

And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. "Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. Those who believe in him are not condemned; but those who do not believe are condemned already, because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God. And this is the judgment, that the light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God."

**The Gospel of the Lord**    *Praise to you, O Christ.*