

St. Luke’s Gondola Point

**MORNING PRAYER**

Service for the Second Sunday of Lent – March 5, 2023

[Un-bolded words are said by one, **Bolded words** can be said by all.]

**PENITENTIAL RITE**

The Son of man must be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life. *John 3.14–15*

Dear friends in Christ, as we prepare to worship almighty God, let us with penitent and obedient hearts confess our sins, that we may obtain forgiveness by his infinite goodness and mercy.

Silence is kept.

**Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us, that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your name. Amen.**

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

Opening All-Ages Song: *Jesus Saviour*

**MORNING PRAYER**

Lord, open our lips,

**And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

O God, make speed to save us.

**O Lord, make haste to help us.**

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:

**as it was in the beginning, is now,** **and will be for ever. Amen.**

The Lord is full of compassion and mercy: **O come, let us worship.**

**Venite** *- Psalm 95:1–7*

Come, let us sing to the Lord; \*

**let us shout for joy to the rock of our salvation.**

Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving \*

**and raise a loud shout to him with psalms.**

For the Lord is a great God, \*

**and a great king above all gods.**

In his hand are the caverns of the earth, \*

**and the heights of the hills are his also.**

The sea is his for he made it, \*

**and his hands have moulded the dry land.**

Come, let us bow down, and bend the knee, \*

**and kneel before the Lord our maker.**

For he is our God,

and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand. \*

**Oh, that today you would hearken to his voice!**

The Lord is full of compassion and mercy: **O come, let us worship.**

**PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD**

A reading from the book of Genesis 12:1-4a.

Now the Lord said to Abram, “Go from your country and your kindred and your father’s house to the land that I will show you. I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.”

So Abram went, as the Lord had told him; and Lot went with him.

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

Psalm 121

I lift up my eyes to the hills; \*

**from where is my help to come?**

My help comes from the Lord, \*

**the maker of heaven and earth.**

He will not let your foot be moved \*

**and he who watches over you will not fall asleep.**

Behold, he who keeps watch over Israel \*

**shall neither slumber nor sleep;**

The Lord himself watches over you; \*

**the Lord is your shade at your right hand,**

So that the sun shall not strike you by day, \*

**nor the moon by night.**

The Lord shall preserve you from all evil; \*

**it is he who shall keep you safe.**

The Lord shall watch over your going out and your coming in, \*

**from this time forth for evermore.**

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:

**As it was in the beginning, is now and will be for ever. Amen.**

A reading from the letter to the Romans 4:1–5, 13–17.

What then are we to say was gained by Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh? For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. For what does the scripture say? “Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness.” Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due. But to one who without works trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness.

For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.

For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, as it is written, “I have made you the father of many nations”)—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

The word of the Lord: **Thanks be to God.**

Hymn: *Be Thou My Vision* (CP #505)

Canticle 17: **The Beatitudes** - *Matthew 5.3–12*

Blessed are the poor in spirit, \*

**for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.**

Blessed are those who mourn, \*

**for they shall be comforted.**

Blessed are the gentle, \*

**for they shall inherit the earth.**

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for what is right, \*

**for they shall be satisfied.**

Blessed are the merciful, \*

**for mercy shall be shown to them.**

Blessed are the pure in heart, \*

**for they shall see God.**

Blessed are the peacemakers, \*

**for they shall be called children of God.**

Blessed are those who are persecuted in the cause of right, \*

**for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.**

Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you \*

**and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely for my sake.**

Rejoice and be glad, \*

**for your reward is great in heaven.**

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit:

**As it was in the beginning, is now and will be for ever. Amen.**

The Lord be with you: **And also with you.** The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to John (3:1–17). **Glory to You, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. He came to Jesus by night and said to him, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God.” Jesus answered him, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.” Nicodemus said to him, “How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother’s womb and be born?” Jesus answered, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not be astonished that I said to you, ‘You must be born from above.’ The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.”

Nicodemus said to him, “How can these things be?” Jesus answered him, “Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?

“Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. 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.”

The Gospel of Christ: **Praise be to You, O Christ.**

Sermon

The Apostles’ Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.**

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He 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, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again 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.**

**INTERCESSIONS**

With confidence and trust let us pray to the Lord, saying, “Lord, have mercy.”

For the one holy catholic and apostolic Church throughout the world, we pray to you, Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For the mission of the Church, that in faithful witness it may preach the gospel to the ends of the earth, we pray to you, Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For those preparing for baptism and for their teachers and sponsors, we pray to you, Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For peace in the world, that a spirit of respect and reconciliation may grow among nations and peoples, we pray to you, Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For the poor, the persecuted, the sick, and all who suffer; for refugees, prisoners, and all in danger; [***Take a moment of silence to offer up prayers and intercessions, for yourself and for others. Our weekly prayer list can be found in this week’s bulletin.***] that they may be relieved and protected, we pray to you, Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

For all whom we have injured or offended, we pray to you, Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For grace to amend our lives and to further the reign of God, we pray to you, Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

Almighty God, Father of all mercies,

we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks

for all your goodness and loving-kindness to us and all whom you have made.

**We bless you for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life;**

**but above all for your immeasurable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ; for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.**

**And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies,**

**that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise,**

**not only with our lips, but in our lives,**

**by giving up ourselves to your service,**

**and by walking before you in holiness and righteousness all our days;**

**through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom with you and the Holy Spirit,**

**be honour and glory throughout all ages. Amen.**

Collect

*Almighty God,*

*whose Son was revealed in majesty before he suffered death upon the cross,*

*give us faith to perceive his glory, that being strengthened by his grace we may be changed into his likeness, from glory to glory; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.* **Amen.**

The Lord’s Prayer

And now, as our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.**

Let us bless the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Closing Hymn: *In Christ Alone* (MP #1072)

Dismissal

May the God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing through the power of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**