



Today's Readings

Fifth Sunday in Lent

March 18, 2018

Prayer of the Day

O God, with steadfast love you draw us to yourself, and in mercy you receive our prayers. Strengthen us to bring forth the fruits of the Spirit, that through life and death we may live in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

First Reading

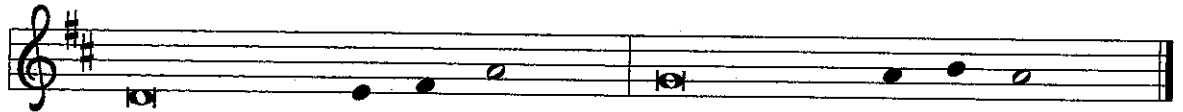
Jeremiah 31:31-34

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. ³²It 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. ³³But 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. ³⁴No 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.

Psalm

Psalm 51:1-12; tone 4



Have mercy on me, O God,
according to your ¹steadfast love;
in your great compassion
blot out ¹my offenses.
²Wash me through and through
¹from my wickedness,
and cleanse me ¹from my sin.
³For I know ¹my offenses,
and my sin is ev- ¹er before me.
⁴Against you only have I sinned
and done what is evil ¹in your sight;
so you are justified
when you speak
and right ¹in your judgment.
⁵Indeed, I was born
¹steeped in wickedness,
a sinner from my ¹mother's womb.

⁶Indeed, you delight in truth
¹deep within me,
and would have me know wisdom
¹deep within.
⁷Remove my sins with hyssop,
and I ¹shall be clean;
wash me,
and I shall be pur- ¹er than snow.
⁸Let me hear ¹joy and gladness;
that the body you have broken
¹may rejoice.
⁹Hide your face ¹from my sins,
and blot out ¹all my wickedness.
¹⁰Create in me a clean ¹heart, O God,
and renew a right spir- ¹it
within me.

continued

¹¹Cast me not away
from your presence,
and take not your Holy Spirit from me.

¹²Restore to me the joy of
your salvation
and sustain me
with your bountiful Spirit.

or Psalm 119:9-16 [not printed]

Second Reading

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”;
⁶as he says also in another place,
“You are a priest forever,
according to the order of
Melchizedek.”

⁷In 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. ⁸Although 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, ¹⁰having been designated by God a high priest according to the order of Melchizedek.

Gospel

John 12:20-33

Now among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. ²¹They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, “Sir, we wish to see Jesus.” ²²Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. ²³Jesus answered them, “The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. ²⁴Very 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. ²⁵Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. ²⁶Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honor.

²⁷“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. ²⁸Father, glorify your name.” Then a voice came from heaven, “I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.” ²⁹The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder. Others said, “An angel has spoken to him.” ³⁰Jesus answered, “This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. ³¹Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. ³²And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.” ³³He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die.

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Next Sunday's Readings: Isaiah 50:4-9a; Psalm 31:9-16; Philipians 2:5-11; Mark 14:1-15:47 or Mark 15:1-39 [40-47].

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