

First Sunday in Lent

09 March 2025

Sentence

Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him. Luke 4.8

Collect

O saving God,
who led your people through the wilderness
and brought them to the promised land:
so guide us that, following our Saviour,
we may walk through the wilderness of this world
and be brought to the glory of the world which is to come;
through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

1st Reading

Deuteronomy 26.1-11

¹ When you have come into the land that the Lord your God is giving you as an inheritance to possess, and you possess it, and settle in it, ² you shall take some of the first of all the fruit of the ground, which you harvest from the land that the Lord your God is giving you, and you shall put it in a basket and go to the place that the Lord your God will choose as a dwelling for his name. ³ You shall go to the priest who is in office at that time, and say to him, 'Today I declare to the Lord your God that I have come into the land that the Lord swore to our ancestors to give us.' ⁴ When the priest takes the basket from your hand and sets it down before the altar of the Lord your God, ⁵ you shall make this response before the Lord your God: 'A wandering Aramean was my ancestor; he went down into Egypt and lived there as an alien, few in number, and there he became a great nation, mighty and populous. ⁶ When the Egyptians treated us harshly and afflicted us, by imposing hard labour on us, ⁷ we cried to the Lord, the God of our ancestors; the Lord heard our voice and saw our affliction, our toil, and our

oppression. ⁸ The Lord brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with a terrifying display of power, and with signs and wonders; ⁹ and he brought us into this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey. ¹⁰ So now I bring the first of the fruit of the ground that you, O Lord, have given me.' You shall set it down before the Lord your God and bow down before the Lord your God. ¹¹ Then you, together with the Levites and the aliens who reside among you, shall celebrate with all the bounty that the Lord your God has given to you and to your house.

Psalm

Psalm 91.1-2; 91.9-16

- ¹ Those who dwell in the shelter of the Most High:
 who abide under the shadow of the Almighty,
² They will say to the Lord
 'You are my refuge and my stronghold:
 my God in whom I trust.'
⁹ The Lord himself is your refuge:
 you have made the Most High your stronghold.
¹⁰ Therefore no harm will befall you:
 nor will any scourge come near your tent.
¹¹ For he will command his angels:
 to keep you in all your ways.
¹² They will bear you up in their hands:
 lest you dash your foot against a stone.
¹³ You will tread on the lion and the adder:
 the young lion and the serpent
 you will trample under foot.
¹⁴ 'You have set your love upon me,' says the Lord,
 'and therefore I will deliver you:
 I will lift you out of danger,
 because you have known my name.
¹⁵ 'When you call upon me I will answer you:
 I will be with you in trouble,
 I will rescue you and bring you to honour.
¹⁶ 'With long life I will satisfy you:

and fill you with my salvation.'

2nd Reading

Romans 10.4-13

⁴ For Christ is the end of the law so that there may be righteousness for everyone who believes.

⁵ Moses writes concerning the righteousness that comes from the law, that 'the person who does these things will live by them.'

⁶ But the righteousness that comes from faith says, 'Do not say in your heart, "Who will ascend into heaven?" ' (that is, to bring Christ down)

⁷ 'or "Who will descend into the abyss?" ' (that is, to bring Christ up from the dead).

⁸ But what does it say?

'The word is near you,

on your lips and in your heart'(that is, the word of faith that we proclaim);

⁹ because if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.

¹⁰ For one believes with the heart and so is justified, and one confesses with the mouth and so is saved.

¹¹ The scripture says, 'No one who believes in him will be put to shame.'

¹² For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; the same Lord is Lord of all and is generous to all who call on him.

¹³ For, 'Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.'

Gospel

Luke 9:51-62

51 As the time approached for him to be taken up to heaven, Jesus resolutely set out for Jerusalem.

52 And he sent messengers on ahead, who went into a Samaritan village to get things ready for him;

53 but the people there did not welcome him, because he was heading for Jerusalem.

54 When the disciples James and John saw this, they asked, “Lord, do you want us to call fire down from heaven to destroy them ?”

55 But Jesus turned and rebuked them.

56 Then he and his disciples went to another village.

57 As they were walking along the road, a man said to him, “I will follow you wherever you go.”

58 Jesus replied, “Foxes have dens and birds have nests, but the Son of Man has no place to lay his head.”

59 He said to another man, “Follow me.” But he replied, “Lord, first let me go and bury my father.”

60 Jesus said to him, “Let the dead bury their own dead, but you go and proclaim the kingdom of God.”

61 Still another said, “I will follow you, Lord; but first let me go back and say goodbye to my family.”

62 Jesus replied, “No one who puts a hand to the plow and looks back is fit for service in the kingdom of God.”