



# Liturgical Resources

## Thursday 30 April 2020

### Sentence

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whose great mercy we have been born anew to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. **1 Peter 1:3**

### Collect

Risen Christ, you filled your disciples with boldness and fresh hope: strengthen us to proclaim your risen life and fill us with your peace, to the glory of God, with whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit you live and reign now and for ever. Amen.

### Psalm

73

Truly God is good to the upright,  
to those who are pure in heart.  
But as for me, my feet had almost stumbled;  
my steps had nearly slipped.  
For I was envious of the arrogant;  
I saw the prosperity of the wicked.  
For they have no pain;  
their bodies are sound and sleek.  
They are not in trouble as others are;  
they are not plagued like other people.  
Therefore pride is their necklace;  
violence covers them like a garment.  
Their eyes swell out with fatness;  
their hearts overflow with follies.  
They scoff and speak with malice;  
loftily they threaten oppression.  
They set their mouths against heaven,  
and their tongues range over the earth.  
Therefore the people turn and praise them,  
and find no fault in them.  
And they say, 'How can God know?  
Is there knowledge in the Most High?'  
Such are the wicked;  
always at ease, they increase in riches.  
All in vain I have kept my heart clean  
and washed my hands in innocence.  
For all day long I have been plagued,  
and am punished every morning.  
If I had said, 'I will talk on in this way',  
I would have been untrue to the circle of your children.

But when I thought how to understand this,  
it seemed to me a wearisome task,  
until I went into the sanctuary of God;  
then I perceived their end.  
Truly you set them in slippery places;  
you make them fall to ruin.  
How they are destroyed in a moment,  
swept away utterly by terrors!  
They are like a dream when one awakes;  
on awaking you despise their phantoms.  
When my soul was embittered,  
when I was pricked in heart,  
I was stupid and ignorant;  
I was like a brute beast towards you.  
Nevertheless I am continually with you;  
you hold my right hand.  
You guide me with your counsel,  
and afterwards you will receive me with honour.  
Whom have I in heaven but you?  
And there is nothing on earth that I desire other than you.  
My flesh and my heart may fail,  
but God is the strength of my heart and my portion for ever.  
Indeed, those who are far from you will perish;  
you put an end to those who are false to you.  
But for me it is good to be near God;  
I have made the Lord God my refuge,  
to tell of all your works.

## **Acts**

## **Acts 8:26-end**

Then an angel of the Lord said to Philip, 'Get up and go towards the south to the road that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.' (This is a wilderness road.) So he got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch, a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopians, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to Jerusalem to worship and was returning home; seated in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. Then the Spirit said to Philip, 'Go over to this chariot and join it.' So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah. He asked, 'Do you understand what you are reading?' He replied, 'How can I, unless someone guides me?' And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside him. Now the passage of the scripture that he was reading was this: 'Like a sheep he was led to the slaughter, and like a lamb silent before its shearer, so he does not open his mouth.

In his humiliation justice was denied him.

Who can describe his generation?

For his life is taken away from the earth.'

The eunuch asked Philip, 'About whom, may I ask you, does the prophet say this, about himself or about someone else?' Then Philip began to speak, and starting with this scripture, he proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, 'Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptised?' He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. But Philip found himself at Azotus, and as he was passing through the region, he proclaimed the good news to all the towns until he came to Caesarea.

**Gospel****John 6:44-51**

Jesus said to his disciples, 'No one can come to me unless drawn by the Father who sent me; and I will raise that person up on the last day. It is written in the prophets, "And they shall all be taught by God." Everyone who has heard and learned from the Father comes to me. Not that anyone has seen the Father except the one who is from God; he has seen the Father. Very truly, I tell you, whoever believes has eternal life. I am the bread of life. Your ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness, and they died. This is the bread that comes down from heaven, so that one may eat of it and not die. I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats of this bread will live for ever; and the bread that I will give for the life of the world is my flesh.'

