

Lectionary

You are invited to follow the first two readings while seated, and as is the custom, to just listen, standing if possible, as the Holy Gospel is proclaimed.

Midweek 4th March 2026 Lent 2

The Collect

Almighty God,
you show to those who are in error the light of
your truth, that they may return to the way of right-
eousness:

grant to all those who are admitted into the fellow-
ship of Christ's religion, that they may reject those
things that are contrary to their profession, and fol-
low all such things as are agreeable to the same;
through our Lord Jesus Christ, who is alive and
reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

First reading: Jeremiah 18:18-20

A reading from the book of Jeremiah.

Then they said, 'Come, let us make plots against Jere-
miah—for instruction shall not perish from the priest,
nor counsel from the wise, nor the word from the
prophet. Come, let us bring charges against him, and
let us not heed any of his words.'

Give heed to me, O Lord, and listen to what my ad-
versaries say!

Is evil a recompense for good? Yet they have dug a pit
for my life. Remember how I stood before you to
speak good for them, to turn away your wrath from
them.

This is the word of the Lord,
All: Thanks be to God.

Second Reading: Psalm 31:4-5, 14-18

4. Take me out of the net that they have laid secretly
for me, • for you are my strength.
5. Into your hands I commend my spirit, • for you have
redeemed me, O Lord God of truth.
14. But my trust is in you, O Lord. • I have said, 'You
are my God.
15. 'My times are in your hand; • deliver me from the
hand of my enemies, and from those who persecute
me.
16. 'Make your face to shine upon your servant, • and
save me for your mercy's sake.'
17. Lord, let me not be confounded for I have called
upon you; • but let the wicked be put to shame; let
them be silent in the grave.
18. Let the lying lips be put to silence • that speak
against the righteous with arrogance, disdain and con-
tempt.

This is the word of the Lord,
All: Thanks be to God.

The Holy Gospel: Matthew 20:17-28

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ

according to Matthew.

While Jesus was going up to Jerusalem, he took the
twelve disciples aside by themselves, and said to them
on the way, 'See, we are going up to Jerusalem, and
the Son of Man will be handed over to the chief priests
and scribes, and they will condemn him to death; then
they will hand him over to the Gentiles to be mocked
and flogged and crucified; and on the third day he will
be raised.'

Then the mother of the sons of Zebedee came to him
with her sons, and kneeling before him, she asked a
favour of him. And he said to her, 'What do you want?'
She said to him, 'Declare that these two sons of mine
will sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in
your kingdom.' But Jesus answered, 'You do not know
what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup
that I am about to drink?' They said to him, 'We are
able.' He said to them, 'You will indeed drink my cup,
but to sit at my right hand and at my left, this is not
mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been
prepared by my Father.'

When the ten heard it, they were angry with the two
brothers. But Jesus called them to him and said, 'You
know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them,
and their great ones are tyrants over them. It will not
be so among you; but whoever wishes to be great
among you must be your servant, and whoever wishes
to be first among you must be your slave; just as the
Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to
give his life a ransom for many.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, O Christ.

Post Communion Prayer

Almighty God,
you see that we have no power of ourselves to help
ourselves:
keep us both outwardly in our bodies, and inwardly in
our souls; that we may be defended from all adversi-
ties which may happen to the body, and from all evil
thoughts which may assault and hurt the soul;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**