

## **Fifth Sunday in Lent**

### **The Sunday Collect:**

Almighty God, you alone can bring into order the unruly wills and affections of sinners: Grant your people grace to love what you command and desire what you promise; that, among the swift and varied changes of this world, our hearts may surely there be fixed where true joys are to be found; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

**First Lesson: Jeremiah 31:31-34**

“Behold, the days are coming, declares the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah, not like the covenant that I made with their fathers on the day when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt, my covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, declares the Lord.

For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, declares 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.

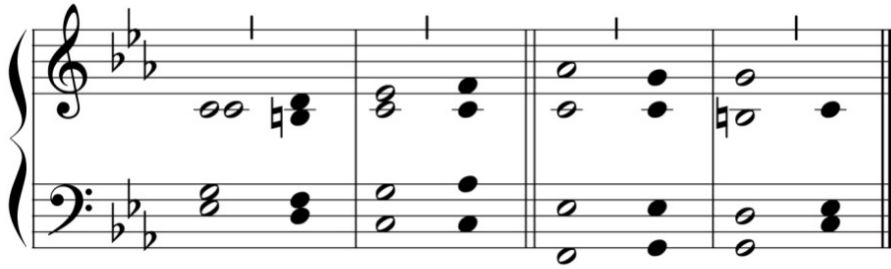
And no longer shall each one teach his neighbor and each his brother, saying, ‘Know the Lord,’ for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, declares the Lord. For I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more.”

*Reader:* The Word of the Lord.

*People:* Thanks be to God.

## Psalm 51: 1-12 (A Prayer of Contrition)

Robert Knox Kennedy (b. 1945)



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- 1 Have mercy upon me, O God, in your great / goodness; |  
according to the multitude of your mercies wipe away my of / fences. ||
- 2 Wash me thoroughly from my / wickedness |  
and cleanse me from my / sin. ††
- 3 For I acknowledge my / faults, |  
and my sin is ever be / fore me. ||
- 4 Against you only have I sinned, and done this evil in your / sight, |  
so that you are justified in your sentence; and blameless in your / judgment. ††
- 5 Behold, I was brought forth in / wickedness, |  
and in sin my mother con / ceived me. ||
- 6 But behold, you desire truth in the inward / parts |  
and shall make me understand wisdom / secretly. ††
- 7 You shall purge me with hyssop, and I shall be / clean; |  
you shall wash me, and I shall be whiter than / snow. ||
- 8 You shall make me hear of joy and / gladness, |  
that the bones which you have broken may re / joice. ††
- 9 Turn your face from my / sins, |  
and blot out all my mis / deeds. ||
- 10 Create in me a clean heart, O / God, |  
and renew a right spirit with / in me. ††

11 Cast me not away from your / presence, |  
and take not your holy Spirit from / me. | |

12 O give me the comfort of your help a / gain, |  
and sustain me with your willing / Spirit. ††

Glory be to the Father, and to the / Son |

And to the Holy / Spirit ||

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever / shall be, |

World without end, A / men. ††

## Second Lesson: Hebrews 5:1-10

For every high priest chosen from among men is appointed to act on behalf of men in relation to God, to offer gifts and sacrifices for sins. He can deal gently with the ignorant and wayward, since he himself is beset with weakness.

Because of this he is obligated to offer sacrifice for his own sins just as he does for those of the people. And no one takes this honor for himself, but only when called by God, just as Aaron was.

So also Christ did not exalt himself to be made a high priest, but was appointed by him who said to him,

“You are my Son,  
today I have begotten you”;

as he says also in another place,

“You are a priest forever,  
after the order of Melchizedek.”

In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to him who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverence. Although he was a son, he learned obedience through what he suffered.

And being made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation to all who obey him, being designated by God a high priest after the order of Melchizedek.

*Reader:* The Word of the Lord.

*People:* Thanks be to God.

*Deacon:* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

*People:* Glory to You, Lord Christ.

### **The Gospel: John 12:20-33**

Now among those who went up to worship at the feast were some Greeks. So these came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and asked him, "Sir, we wish to see Jesus." Philip went and told Andrew; Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus.

And Jesus answered them, "The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. Truly, truly, I say to you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains alone; but if it dies, it bears much fruit.

Whoever loves his life loses it, and whoever hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal life. If anyone serves me, he must follow me; and where I am, there will my servant be also. If anyone serves me, the Father will honor him.

"Now is my soul troubled. And what shall I say? 'Father, save me from this hour'? But for this purpose I have come to this hour. Father, glorify your name."

Then a voice came from heaven: "I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again." The crowd that stood there and heard it said that it had thundered. Others said, "An angel has spoken to him."

Jesus answered, "This voice has come for your sake, not mine.

Now is the judgment of this world; now will the ruler of this world be cast out. And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself." He said this to show by what kind of death he was going to die.

*Deacon:* The Gospel of the Lord.

*People:* Praise to you, Lord Christ