

THE HOLY GOSPEL

Deacon: The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ, according to St. Matthew.

People: **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Matthew 4:1-11

Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil.

² And after fasting forty days and forty nights, he was hungry. ³ And the tempter came and said to him, “If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread.” ⁴ But he answered, “It is written,

“Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.”

⁵ Then the devil took him to the holy city and set him on the pinnacle of the temple ⁶ and said to him, “If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down, for it is written,

“He will command his angels concerning you,” and

“On their hands they will bear you up, lest you strike your foot against a stone.”

⁷ Jesus said to him, “Again it is written, ‘You shall not put the Lord your God to the test.’” ⁸ Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory. ⁹ And he said to him, “All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me.” ¹⁰ Then Jesus said to him, “Be gone, Satan! For it is written,

“You shall worship the Lord your God and him only shall you serve.”

¹¹ Then the devil left him, and behold, angels came and were ministering to him.

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

OFFERTORY AND POST-COMMUNION SENTENCES

(Drawn from verses of Holy Scripture, these sentences are chosen by the celebrant or preacher to reinforce the lessons or teaching of the day.)

PROPER PREFACE

Lent

You bid your faithful people cleanse their hearts, and prepare with joy for the Paschal feast; that, fervent in prayer and in works of mercy, and renewed by your Word and Sacraments, they may come to the fullness of grace which you have prepared for those who love you.

Sources: The Collect of the Day is taken from the Book of Common Prayer 2019. The Psalm verses are taken from the New Coverdale Psalter of the BCP 2019. Scripture quotations are taken from The ESV® Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®), copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.



SEASONAL GREETING

Celebrant Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

People **His mercy endures for ever.**

COLLECT OF THE DAY

Almighty God, whose blessed Son was led by the Spirit to be tempted by Satan: Come quickly to help us who are assaulted by many temptations, and, as you know the weaknesses of each of us, let each one find you mighty to save; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Genesis 2:4-9, 15-17, 25-3:7

These are the generations of the heavens and the earth when they were created, in the day that the LORD God made the earth and the heavens.

⁵ When no bush of the field was yet in the land and no small plant of the field had yet sprung up—for the LORD God had not caused it to rain on the land, and there was no man to work the ground, ⁶ and a mist was going up from the land and was watering the whole face of the ground—⁷ then the LORD God formed the man of dust from the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living creature. ⁸ And the LORD God planted a garden in Eden, in the east, and there he put the man whom he had formed. ⁹ And out of the ground the LORD God made to spring up every tree that is pleasant to the sight and good for food. The tree of life was in the midst of the garden, and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

¹⁵ The LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to work it and keep it. ¹⁶ And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, “You may surely eat of every tree of the garden, ¹⁷ but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die.”

²⁵ And the man and his wife were both naked and were not ashamed.

³ Now the serpent was more crafty than any other beast of the field that the LORD God had made.

He said to the woman, “Did God actually say, ‘You shall not eat of any tree in the garden?’” ² And the woman said to the serpent, “We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden, ³ but God said, ‘You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that

is in the midst of the garden, neither shall you touch it, lest you die.”⁴ But the serpent said to the woman, “You will not surely die. ⁵ For God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil.”⁶ So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband who was with her, and he ate.⁷ Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked. And they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves loincloths.

Reader: The word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

PSALTER VERSES

(In said services, the psalm verses may be placed between the Epistle and the Gospel, with the congregation standing in preparation for the Gospel. At services where there is a hymn or canticle before the Gospel, the psalm might be said between the Old Testament and Epistle, the people seated.)

Psalm 51 or Ps 51:1-12

- ¹ Have mercy upon me, O God, in your great goodness; *
according to the multitude of your mercies wipe away my offences.
- ² Wash me thoroughly from my wickedness *
and cleanse me from my sin.
- ³ For I acknowledge my faults, *
and my sin is ever before 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 conceived 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 rejoice.
- ⁹ Turn your face from my sins, *
and blot out all my misdeeds.
- ¹⁰ Create in me a clean heart, O God, *
and renew a right spirit within 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 again, *

and sustain me with your willing Spirit.

- (¹³ Then shall I teach your ways unto the wicked, *
and sinners shall return unto you.
- ¹⁴ Deliver me from blood-guilt, O God, the God of my salvation, *
and my tongue shall sing of your righteousness.
- ¹⁵ O Lord, open my lips, *
and my mouth shall show forth your praise.
- ¹⁶ For you desire no sacrifice, or else I would give it to you; *
but you delight not in burnt-offerings.
- ¹⁷ The sacrifice of God is a troubled spirit; *
a broken and contrite heart, O God, you shall not despise.
- ¹⁸ O be favorable and gracious unto Zion; *
may you build up the walls of Jerusalem.
- ¹⁹ Then you shall be pleased with the sacrifice of righteousness, with the
burnt-offerings and oblations; *
then shall they offer young bullocks upon your altar.)

EPISTLE READING

Romans 5:12-21

Therefore, just as sin came into the world through one man, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men because all sinned—¹³ for sin indeed was in the world before the law was given, but sin is not counted where there is no law.¹⁴ Yet death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over those whose sinning was not like the transgression of Adam, who was a type of the one who was to come.¹⁵ But the free gift is not like the trespass. For if many died through one man's trespass, much more have the grace of God and the free gift by the grace of that one man Jesus Christ abounded for many. ¹⁶ And the free gift is not like the result of that one man's sin. For the judgment following one trespass brought condemnation, but the free gift following many trespasses brought justification. ¹⁷ For if, because of one man's trespass, death reigned through that one man, much more will those who receive the abundance of grace and the free gift of righteousness reign in life through the one man Jesus Christ.

¹⁸ Therefore, as one trespass led to condemnation for all men, so one act of righteousness leads to justification and life for all men. ¹⁹ For as by the one man's disobedience the many were made sinners, so by the one man's obedience the many will be made righteous. ²⁰ Now the law came in to increase the trespass, but where sin increased, grace abounded all the more, ²¹ so that, as sin reigned in death, grace also might reign through righteousness leading to eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Reader: The word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.