

Lenten Midday Prayer – March 10, 2021

Preparation

L: We cast our burdens upon you, O Lord,

C: and you will sustain us.

L: Create in us clean hearts, O God,

C: and renew a right spirit within us.

L: Cast us not away from your presence

C: and take not your Holy Spirit from us.

L: Give us the joy of your saving help again

C: and sustain us with your bountiful Spirit.

L: Blessed are you, O Lord, day by day,

C: the God of our salvation who bears our burdens.

L: 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.

C: Amen.

First Reading

Philippians 4:4-9

‘Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you.

L: The Word of the Lord

C: Thanks be to God

Gospel Reading

Luke 16:1-13

L: The Holy Gospel according to Luke

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

Then Jesus said to the disciples, ‘There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was squandering his property. So he summoned him and said to him, “What is this that I hear about you? Give me an account of your management, because you cannot be my manager any longer.” Then the manager said to himself, “What will I do, now that my master is taking the position away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. I have decided what to do so that, when I am dismissed as manager, people may welcome me into their homes.” So, summoning his master’s debtors one by one, he asked the first, “How much do you owe my master?” He answered, “A hundred jugs of olive oil.” He said to him, “Take your bill, sit down quickly, and make it fifty.” Then he asked another, “And how much do you owe?” He replied, “A hundred containers of wheat.” He said to him, “Take your bill and make it eighty.” And his master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly; for the children of this age are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than are the children of light. And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of dishonest wealth so that when it is gone, they may welcome you into the eternal homes. ‘Whoever is faithful in a very little is faithful also in much; and whoever is dishonest in a very little is dishonest also in much. If then you have not been faithful with the

dishonest wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? And if you have not been faithful with what belongs to another, who will give you what is your own? No slave can serve two masters; for a slave will either hate the one and love the other, or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth.'

L: The Gospel of the Lord

C: Praise to You, O Christ

Sermon

Prayers

L: With confidence and trust let us pray to the God of the prodigal, saying, "God of mercy, hear our prayer."

For the one holy catholic and apostolic Church throughout the world, God of mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For the mission of the Church, that in faithful witness it may preach the gospel to the ends of the earth, God of mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For those preparing for baptism and for their teachers and sponsors, God of mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For peace in the world, that a spirit of respect and reconciliation may grow among nations and peoples, God of mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For the poor, the persecuted, the sick and all who suffer; for refugees, prisoners and all in danger; that they may be relieved and protected, God of mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For all whom we have injured or offended, God of mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For grace to amend our lives and to further the reign of God, God of mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Lord's Prayer

Gathering our prayers and praises into one, let us pray as our Saviour taught us,

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial,
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.**

Closing Prayer

L: Let us pray. God of power and love look kindly on the tasks we have begun,
and at this midday hour renew your grace within us: make good our defects,
and bring our work to that fulfilment which accords with your will.

Through Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

The Peace

L: The peace of the Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

L: Please share a wave of peace with each other.

Benediction

L: May the Lord keep us in the light and truth and love of Christ Jesus.

C: Amen.