

## Lenten Midday Prayer – March 24, 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*

**2<sup>nd</sup> Corinthians 5:16-21**

From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new! All this is from God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation; that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting the message of reconciliation to us. So we are ambassadors for Christ, since God is making his appeal through us; we entreat you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

L: The Word of the Lord

**C: Thanks be to God**

### *Gospel Reading*

**Luke 19:1-10**

L: The Holy Gospel according to Luke

**C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

He entered Jericho and was passing through it. A man was there named Zacchaeus; he was a chief tax-collector and was rich. He was trying to see who Jesus was, but on account of the crowd he could not, because he was short in stature. So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore tree to see him, because he was going to pass that way. When Jesus came to the place, he looked up and said to him, 'Zacchaeus, hurry and come down; for I must stay at your house today.' So he hurried down and was happy to welcome him. All who saw it began to grumble and said, 'He has gone to be the guest of one who is a sinner.' Zacchaeus stood there and said to the Lord, 'Look, half of my possessions, Lord, I will give to the poor; and if I have defrauded anyone of anything, I will pay back four times as much.' Then Jesus said to him, 'Today salvation has come to this house, because he too is a son of Abraham. For the Son of Man came to seek out and to save the lost.'

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.**