

**THE FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT**  
**29<sup>th</sup> March 2009**

**First Reading**

**Jer. 31:31-34**

**A reading from the book of the prophet Jeremiah**

*The days are coming when I will make a new covenant with Israel  
and I will forgive their iniquity.*

The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt — a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the Lord. But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says 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. No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, “Know the Lord,” for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the Lord; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

Hear the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Responsorial Psalm**

**Ps. 50 (51)**

**Response:** *Create a clean heart in me, O God.*

Have mercy on me, God, in your kindness.  
In your compassion blot out my offence.  
O wash me more and more from my guilt  
and cleanse me from my sin.

**R.**

A pure heart create for me, O God,  
put a steadfast spirit within me.  
Do not cast me away from your presence,  
nor deprive me of your holy spirit.

**R.**

Give me again the joy of your help;  
with a spirit of fervour sustain me,  
that I may teach transgressors your ways  
and sinners may return to you.

**R.**

**Second Reading**

**Heb. 5:7-9**

**A reading from the letter to the Hebrews**

*He learned to obey and became for all the source of eternal salvation.*

In the days of his flesh, Jesus offered up prayers and supplications, with

loud cries and tears, to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered; and having been made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him.

Hear the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Gospel Acclamation**

**Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!**

Whoever serves me must follow me,  
and where I am, there will my servant be also.

**Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!**

**GOSPEL**

**Jn. 12:20-33**

✠ A reading from the holy gospel according to John

℟: **Glory to you Lord Christ.**

*If a grain of wheat falls on the ground and dies, it yields a rich harvest.*

Among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, “Sir, we wish to see Jesus.”

Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. Jesus answered them, “The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honour.

“Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say — ‘Father, save me from this hour’? No, it is for this reason that 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 standing there heard it and said that it was thunder. Others said, “An angel has spoken to him.”

Jesus answered, “This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.” He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die.

For the Gospel of the Lord

**Praise to you Lord Christ.**

*The Scripture quotations are from the New Revised Standard Version of the Bible, copyrighted, 1989,  
by the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United  
States of America, and are used by permission. All rights reserved.  
Printed at the Anglican Benedictine Abbey, Camperdown. 3260.*