

Service of the Word - Lent 5A

Opening Responses

If the Spirit of God, who raised Jesus from death, lives in you,
then he who raised Christ from death
will also give life to your mortal bodies
by the presence of his Spirit in you. *(Rom 8:11 TEV)*

Hymn LHB 128 O Spirit of life

Confession and Absolution

Let us confess our sins in the presence of God and of each other.

**We confess to you, almighty God, before the whole company of heaven,
and to each other, that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed by our
own fault. Have mercy on us, for Jesus' sake, forgive us all our sins, and
bring us to eternal life. Amen.**

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy on us, and has given his only Son to die for us, and for his sake forgives us all our sins. To those who believe in his name he has given the right to become children of God, and has given them his Holy Spirit. Whoever believes and is baptised will be saved. Grant this, Lord, to us all.

Amen.

Apostles' Creed

As God's people through our baptism into Christ, let us confess our faith.

I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven, and sits at the right hand of God, the Father almighty, from thence he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen

Psalm 130

Out of the depths I cry to you, Lord;

Lord, hear my voice.

Let your ears be attentive

to my cry for mercy.

With the Lord is unfailing love and with him is full redemption.

If you, Lord, kept a record of sins,

Lord, who could stand?

But with you there is forgiveness,

so that we can, with reverence, serve you.

With the Lord is unfailing love and with him is full redemption.

I wait for the Lord, my whole being waits,

and in his word I put my hope.

I wait for the Lord

more than watchmen wait for the morning,

more than watchmen wait for the morning.

With the Lord is unfailing love and with him is full redemption.

Israel, put your hope in the Lord,

for with the Lord is unfailing love

and with him is full redemption.

He himself will redeem Israel

from all their sins.

With the Lord is unfailing love and with him is full redemption.

Prayer of the Day (Collect)

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Almighty God, look in mercy on your family. By your great goodness, guide and protect us forever in body and soul. We ask this through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Readings

First Reading: Ezekiel 37:1-14 Vision of the valley of dry bones

Second Reading: Romans 8:6-11 The Spirit of God lives in you

Gospel: John 11:1-45 The raising of Lazarus- Jesus' last sign

Hymn LHB 119 Come down O Love divine

Sermon

Hymn LHB 327 Jesus Thy blood and righteousness

Offering

Thank you, eternal God, for giving us new life. Help us to live according to your Spirit, and willingly serve you and our fellow human beings, with all that we are and all that we have.

Amen.

Prayer of the Church

Dear Father in Heaven: thank you for the gift of new life that you have given to us through the waters of our baptism. Help us, as your baptised people to daily die to sin and rise to new life with Christ in the power of the Spirit.

Lord in your mercy: **hear our prayer**

We pray for all those who are mourning the death of a loved one. Comfort them in the knowledge that Jesus has won a victory over death, so that everyone who dies in Christ may have eternal life. Keep us from fearing death, but at times of doubt, help us put our faith in Jesus.

Lord in your mercy: **hear our prayer**

We pray for hospices and for people who work with the dying. Keep them strong, and give them peace to do their difficult work with dignity and sensitivity. We pray for all those people who work with alcoholics and drug addicts. Use them to make a difference to people's lives, and to help them start their life anew.

Lord in your mercy: **hear our prayer**

As we move close to Easter, help us to live as Easter people who face death in the certain hope of resurrection. Remind us and comfort us everyday with your promise that we will be raised up together with all who have died in the faith of Christ.

Lord in your mercy: **hear our prayer**

(other petitions may be inserted here)

Heavenly Father, through the death and resurrection of your Son, you rescue us from death and the grave. Restore us to life, so that we may serve you in the world; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Lord's Prayer

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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

Hymn LHB 229 Revive Thy Word, O Lord

Blessing

Go in peace. God, who raised Christ from death, will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit.

Thanks be to God.