

Sunday next before Lent

INTRODUCTION

INTROIT HYMN— **234** *New English Hymnal*

In the name of the Father, and of ✠ the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

All respond: Amen.

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

The PRAYERS OF PENITENCE are introduced.

**Almighty God, our heavenly Father,
we have sinned against you,
through our own fault,
in thought, and word, and deed,
and in what we have left undone.
We are heartily sorry,
and repent of all our sins.
For your Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake,
forgive us all that is past;
and grant that we may serve you
in newness of life,
to the glory of your name. Amen.**

Almighty God, who forgives all who truly repent, have mercy upon you, pardon ✠ and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in life eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

KYRIE ELEÏSON is sung.

**Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy. Christ, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.**

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS is sung.

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father:

receive our prayer.

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory ✠ of God the Father. Amen.

All remain standing for the COLLECT.

Almighty Father, whose Son was revealed in majesty before he suffered death upon the cross: give us grace to perceive his glory, that we may be strengthened to suffer with him and be changed into his likeness, from glory to glory; who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

LITURGY OF THE WORD

Readings for Year A

FIRST READING

Exo 24.12–18

A reading from the book of Exodus.

The Lord said to Moses, “Come up to me on the mountain and wait there, that I may give you the tablets of stone, with the law and the commandment, which I have written for their instruction.” So Moses rose with his assistant Joshua, and Moses went up into the mountain of God. And he said to the elders, “Wait here for us until we return to you. And behold, Aaron and Hur are with you. Whoever has a dispute, let him go to them.”

Then Moses went up on the mountain, and the cloud covered the mountain. The glory of the Lord dwelt on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it for six days. And on the seventh day he called to Moses out of the midst of the cloud. Now the appearance of the glory of the Lord was like a devouring fire on the top of the mountain in the sight of the people of Israel. Moses entered the cloud and went up on the mountain. And Moses was on the mountain for forty days and forty nights.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

R/. Exalt the Lord our God, for he is holy.

(All repeat)

The Lord is king, let the peoples tremble;
he is enthroned upon the cherubim, let the
earth shake.

The Lord is great in Zion,
and high above all peoples. R/.

Let them extol his name, so great and awesome;
holy is the Lord our God.

Exalt the Lord our God, fall down before his
footstool,
for he the Lord is holy. R/.

Moses and Aaron his priests, and Samuel who
invoked him,
they called upon the Lord and he answered.
He spoke to them in the pillar of cloud;
they kept his testimonies and the law that he
gave them. R/.

You answered them O Lord our God;
you forgave them and pardoned their offences.
Exalt the Lord our God, worship him upon
his holy mountain,
for the Lord our God is holy. R/.

SECOND READING

2 Pet 1.16–21

A reading from the second letter of Peter.

We did not follow cleverly devised myths when we made known to you the power and coming of our Lord Jesus Christ, but we were eyewitnesses of his majesty. For when he received honour and glory from God the Father, and the voice was borne to him by the Majestic Glory, “This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased”, we ourselves heard this very voice borne from heaven, for we were with him on the holy mountain. And we have something more sure, the prophetic word, to which you will do well to pay attention as to a lamp shining in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts, knowing this first of all, that no prophecy of Scripture comes from someone’s own interpretation. For no prophecy was ever produced by the will of man, but men spoke

from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL HYMN

1. **God of eternal light,
your promises we claim;
as Abram’s heirs, we recognise
the honour of your name.
Our sacrifice accept,
our lives of faith inspire,
and every fearful heart transform
with purifying fire.**
2. **High on the mountain side
your glory was revealed;
and yet that great mysterious light
a deeper truth concealed.
What fearful shadows still
those sights and sounds portray:
a dreadful kind of majesty
that words cannot convey!**
3. **Christ, from the heavens descend,
eternal life make known,
and all our mortal bodies change
to copies of your own.
Your great and glorious light
creation then shall see,
when truth and peace are all around,
and justice flowing free.**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

cf Mt 17.5

Alleluia. From the bright cloud the Father’s
voice is heard:

“This is my beloved Son, listen to him.”

Alleluia.

GOSPEL READING

Mt 17.1–9

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Hear the Gospel ✠ of our Lord Jesus Christ
according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

After six days Jesus took with him Peter and James, and John his brother, and led them up a high mountain by themselves. And he was

transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became white as light. And behold, there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. And Peter said to Jesus, "Lord, it is good that we are here. If you wish, I will make three tents here, one for you and one for Moses and one for Elijah." He was still speaking when, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them, and a voice from the cloud said, "This is my beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to him." When the disciples heard this, they fell on their faces and were terrified. But Jesus came and touched them, saying, "Rise, and have no fear." And when they lifted up their eyes, they saw no-one but Jesus only.

And as they were coming down the mountain, Jesus commanded them, "Tell no-one the vision, until the Son of Man is raised from the dead."

This is the Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

A SERMON *may follow.*

All stand to recite the NICENE CREED.

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,

(all bow) **was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary, and was made man.**

(all rise) **For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.**

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshipped and glorified, who has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life ✠ of the world to come. Amen.

The INTERCESSIONS are introduced, and all kneel. One of these responses may be used:

∨. Lord, hear us. ℞. **Lord, graciously hear us.**
or ∨. Lord, in your mercy, ℞. **Hear our prayer.**

At the Commemoration of the Departed:

∨. Rest eternal ✠ grant unto them, O Lord;
℞. **And let light perpetual shine upon them.**

The Intercessions may end:

Merciful Father,
Accept these prayers, for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

LITURGY OF THE SACRAMENT

All stand as the priest introduces the PEACE.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.
And also with you.

OFFERTORY HYMN— **401**

The people unite their prayers with the priest, who says the PRAYER OVER THE OFFERINGS.

Pray, my brothers and sisters, that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.

May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands, for the praise and glory of his name, for our good, and the good of all his Church.

Trusting in your love, Lord, we gather to present our offerings upon your holy altar, so that we may be purified by your grace and cleansed by the holy mysteries which we serve; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**
Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give him thanks and praise.

The PREFACE follows.

All respond with the SANCTUS & BENEDICTUS.
**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and
might, heaven and earth are full of your
glory. Hosanna in the highest.**
**Blessed is he ✠ who comes in the name of
the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

All kneel. After the Consecration, all acclaim:
Great is the mystery of faith:
**Christ has died; Christ is risen;
Christ will come again.**

The Eucharistic Prayer continues, and ends:
... for ever and ever. **Amen.**

RITE OF COMMUNION

The priest introduces the LORD'S PRAYER.
**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed
be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will
be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give
us this day our daily bread. And forgive
us our trespasses, as we forgive those who
trespass against us. And lead us not into
temptation; but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom, the power and
the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.**

The priest breaks the Host; AGNUS DEI is sung.
**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the
world: have mercy on us. (x 2)**
**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the
world: grant us peace.**

The priest gives the COMMUNION INVITATION.
Behold the Lamb of God, who takes away the
sin of the world. Blessed are those who are
called to his supper.
**Lord, I am not worthy to receive you, but
only say the word, and I shall be healed.**

Holy Communion is distributed.

The priest says the POST-COMMUNION prayer.
Holy God, we see your glory in the face of
Jesus Christ: may we who are partakers at his
table reflect his life in word and deed, that all
the world may know his power to change and
save. This we ask through Jesus Christ our
Lord. **Amen.**

CONCLUSION

The priest gives the BLESSING and DISMISSAL.
The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**
... The blessing of God almighty, the Father,
the Son, ✠ and the Holy Spirit, be among
you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**
Go in the peace of Christ. **Thanks be to God.**

The service may be followed by the ANGELUS.
V. The angel of the Lord declared unto Mary:
R. **And she conceived by the Holy Spirit.**
Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with thee;
blessed art thou among women,
and blessed is the fruit of thy womb, Jesus.
**Holy Mary, Mother of God,
pray for us sinners, now,
and at the hour of our death. Amen.**

V. Behold the handmaid of the Lord:
R. **Be it unto me according to thy word.**
Hail Mary ...

V. And the Word was made flesh:
R. **And dwelt among us.**
Hail Mary ...

V. Pray for us, O holy Mother of God:
R. **That we may be made worthy of the
promises of Christ.**

Let us pray. Pour forth, we beseech you, O
Lord, your grace into our hearts; that we to
whom the Incarnation of Christ, your Son,
was made known by the message of an angel,
may by his Passion and Cross ✠ be brought
to the glory of his Resurrection; through the
same Christ our Lord. **Amen.**