

Mark, Evangelist and Martyr

Year B

26th April 2021

Red

Prayer of the Day

Almighty God,
by the inspired witness of Mark the evangelist
you have given to your Church to gospel
of Jesus Christ your Son:
strengthen us by this saving message
that we may not be carried away
with every changing wind of doctrine
but firmly grounded in the truth of your word;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

A reading from the Prophet Isaiah,

Chapter 62 beginning at Verse 6

⁶Upon your walls, O Jerusalem, I have posted sentinels; all day and all night they shall never be silent. You who remind the Lord, take no rest, ⁷and give him no rest until he establishes Jerusalem and makes it renowned throughout the earth. ⁸The Lord has sworn by his right hand and by his mighty arm: I will not again give your grain to be food for your enemies, and foreigners shall not drink the wine for which you have labored; ⁹but those who garner it shall eat it and praise the Lord, and those who gather it shall drink it in my holy courts.

¹⁰Go through, go through the gates, prepare the way for the people; build up, build up the highway, clear it of stones, lift up an ensign over the peoples. ¹¹The Lord has proclaimed to the end of the earth: Say to daughter Zion, "See, your salvation comes; his reward is with him, and his recompense before him." ¹²They shall be called, "The Holy People, The Redeemed of the Lord"; and you shall be called, "Sought Out, A City Not Forsaken."
[NRSV Isaiah 62:6-12]

Hear the word of the Lord,

thanks be to God

Psalm 89:1-9

- 1 Lord, I will sing for ever of your loving-kindnesses:
my mouth shall proclaim your faithfulness
throughout all generations.
- 2 I have said of your living-kindness
that it is built for ever:
you have established your faithfulness in the heavens.
- 3 The Lord said 'I have made a covenant with my chosen:
I have sworn an oath to my servant David.
- 4 'I will establish your line for ever:
and build up your throne for all generations.'
- 5 Let the heavens praise your wonders, O Lord:
and let your faithfulness be sung
in the assembly of the holy ones.
- 6 For who amidst the clouds can be compared to the Lord:
or who is like the Lord amongst the gods?
- 7 A God to be feared in the council of the holy ones:
great and terrible above all that are around him.
- 8 O Lord God of hosts, who is like you?:
your power and your faithfulness are all about you.
- 9 You rule the raging of the sea:
when its waves surge, you still them.

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Ephesians,

Chapter 4 beginning at Verse 7

⁷But each of us was given grace according to the measure of Christ's gift.
⁸Therefore it is said, "When he ascended on high he made captivity itself a captive; he gave gifts to his people."

⁹(When it says, "He ascended," what does it mean but that he had also descended into the lower parts of the earth? ¹⁰He who descended is the same one who ascended far above all the heavens, so that he might fill all things.) ¹¹The gifts he gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, ¹²to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, ¹³until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ. ¹⁴We must no longer be children, tossed to and fro and blown about by every wind of doctrine, by people's trickery, by their craftiness in deceitful scheming. ¹⁵But speaking the truth in love, we must grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, ¹⁶from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by every

ligament with which it is equipped, as each part is working properly, promotes the body's growth in building itself up in love. [NRSV Ephesians 4:7-16]

Hear the word of the Lord, ***thanks be to God.***

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark,

Chapter 16 beginning at verse 1

Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.

¹When the sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him. ²And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. ³They had been saying to one another, "Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?" ⁴When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back. ⁵As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man, dressed in a white robe, sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed. ⁶But he said to them, "Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the place they laid him. ⁷But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you." ⁸So they went out and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

[[And all that had been commanded them they told briefly to those around Peter. And afterward Jesus himself sent out through them, from east to west, the sacred and imperishable proclamation of eternal salvation.]]

⁹[[Now after he rose early on the first day of the week, he appeared first to Mary Magdalene, from whom he had cast out seven demons. ¹⁰She went out and told those who had been with him, while they were mourning and weeping. ¹¹But when they heard that he was alive and had been seen by her, they would not believe it.

¹²After this he appeared in another form to two of them, as they were walking into the country. ¹³And they went back and told the rest, but they did not believe them.

¹⁴Later he appeared to the eleven themselves as they were sitting at the table; and he upbraided them for their lack of faith and stubbornness, because they had not believed those who saw him after he had risen. ¹⁵And he said to them, "Go into all the world and proclaim the good news to the whole creation. [NRSV Mark 16:1-15]

This is the Gospel of the Lord, ***praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.***

Sentence

Go into all the world and proclaim the good news to the whole creation.