

Third Sunday after Epiphany

INTRODUCTION

INTROIT HYMN—**195** *Celebration 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 God, whose Son revealed in signs and miracles the wonder of your saving presence: renew your people with your heavenly grace, and in all our weakness sustain us by your mighty power; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, 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 C

FIRST READING *Neh 8.1–3,5–6,8–10*

A reading from the book of Nehemiah.

All the people gathered as one man into the square before the Water Gate. And they told Ezra the scribe to bring the Book of the Law of Moses that the Lord had commanded Israel. So Ezra the priest brought the Law before the assembly, both men and women and all who could understand what they heard, on the first day of the seventh month. And he read from it facing the square before the Water Gate from early morning until midday, in the presence of the men and the women and those who could understand. And the ears of all the people were attentive to the Book of the Law.

And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people, for he was above all the people, and as he opened it all the people stood. And Ezra blessed the Lord, the great God, and all the people answered, "Amen, Amen," lifting up their hands. And they bowed their heads and worshipped the Lord with their faces to the ground.

They read from the book, from the Law of God, clearly, and they gave the meaning, so that the people understood the reading. And Nehemiah, who was the governor, and Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people said to all the people,

“This day is holy to the Lord your God; do not mourn or weep.” For all the people wept as they heard the words of the Law. Then he said to them, “Go on your way. Eat the fat and drink sweet wine and send portions to anyone who has nothing ready, for this day is holy to our Lord. And do not be grieved, for the joy of the Lord is your strength.”

This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

RESPONSORIAL PSALM

from Ps 19

R. Your words are spirit, Lord, and they are life.
(All repeat)

The law of the Lord is perfect,
it revives the soul.

The testimony of the Lord is sure,
it gives wisdom to the simple. R.

The statutes of the Lord are just,
they make the heart rejoice.

The judgements of the Lord are true
and righteous altogether. R.

More to be desired are they than gold,
more than much fine gold;
sweeter by far than honey,
than honey from the comb. R.

By them also is your servant enlightened;
in keeping them there is great reward.
Keep your servant from presumptuous sins;
let them not get dominion over me. R.

So shall I be blameless,
and innocent of great offence.

Let my words and thoughts be acceptable in
your sight,
O Lord my strength and my redeemer. R.

SECOND READING

1 Cor 12.12–31a

A reading from the first letter of Paul to the Corinthians.

Just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body – Jews or Greeks, slaves or free – and all were made to drink of one Spirit.

For the body does not consist of one member

but of many. If the foot should say, “Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body”, that would not make it any less a part of the body. And if the ear should say, “Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body”, that would not make it any less a part of the body. If the whole body were an eye, where would be the sense of hearing? If the whole body were an ear, where would be the sense of smell? But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. If all were a single member, where would the body be? As it is, there are many parts, yet one body.

The eye cannot say to the hand, “I have no need of you”, nor again the head to the feet, “I have no need of you.” On the contrary, the parts of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, and on those parts of the body that we think less honourable we bestow the greater honour, and our unrepresentable parts are treated with greater modesty, which our more presentable parts do not require. But God has so composed the body, giving greater honour to the part that lacked it, that there may be no division in the body, but that the members may have the same care for one another. If one member suffers, all suffer together; if one member is honoured, all rejoice together.

Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then miracles, then gifts of healing, helping, administrating, and various kinds of tongues. Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak with tongues? Do all interpret? But earnestly desire the higher gifts.

This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

GRADUAL HYMN— **557**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

1 Tim 3.16

Alleluia. Christ was revealed in flesh, proclaimed among the nations:
and believed in throughout the world. **Alleluia.**

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**
Hear the Gospel ✠ of our Lord Jesus Christ
according to Luke. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Jesus returned in the power of the Spirit to Galilee, and a report about him went out through all the surrounding country. And he taught in their synagogues, being glorified by all. And he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up. And as was his custom, he went to the synagogue on the Sabbath day, and he stood up to read. And the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written, “The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favour.” And he rolled up the scroll and gave it back to the attendant and sat down. And the eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. And he began to say to them, “Today this Scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing.”

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— **559**

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.

Of your loving-kindness, Lord, receive and sanctify our offerings, and grant that they may be for us the means of salvation; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

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

**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.
Almighty Father, whose Son our Saviour Jesus
Christ is the light of the world: may your peo-
ple, illumined by your word and sacraments,
shine with the radiance of his glory, that he
may be known, worshipped, and obeyed to
the ends of the earth; for he is alive and reigns,
now and for ever. **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.**

RECESSIONAL HYMN—**608**

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.**