

# Fifth Sunday in Lent

06 April 2025

## Sentence

Those who go out weeping, bearing the seed for sowing, shall come home with shouts of joy, carrying their sheaves. Psalm 126.6

## Collect

O God,  
the Redeemer of all who trust in you:  
heed the cry of your people,  
and deliver us from the bondage of sin,  
that we may serve you in perfect freedom  
and rejoice in your unfailing love;  
through Jesus Christ our Saviour,  
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,  
one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

## 1st Reading

### Isaiah 43.16-21

- <sup>16</sup> Thus says the Lord ,  
    who makes a way in the sea,  
    a path in the mighty waters,  
<sup>17</sup> who brings out chariot and horse,  
    army and warrior;  
they lie down, they cannot rise,  
    they are extinguished, quenched like a wick:  
<sup>18</sup> Do not remember the former things,  
    or consider the things of old.  
<sup>19</sup> I am about to do a new thing;  
    now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?  
I will make a way in the wilderness  
    and rivers in the desert.  
<sup>20</sup> The wild animals will honour me,  
    the jackals and the ostriches;

for I give water in the wilderness,  
rivers in the desert,  
to give drink to my chosen people,  
<sup>21</sup> the people whom I formed for myself  
so that they might declare my praise.

## **Psalm**

### **Psalm 126**

- <sup>1</sup> When the Lord turned again the fortunes of Zion:  
then were we like those restored to life.  
<sup>2</sup> Then was our mouth filled with laughter:  
and our tongue with singing.  
<sup>3</sup> Then said they among the heathen:  
'The Lord has done great things for them.'  
<sup>4</sup> Truly the Lord has done great things for us:  
and therefore we rejoiced.  
<sup>5</sup> Turn again our fortunes, O Lord:  
as the streams return to the dry south.  
<sup>6</sup> Those who sow in tears:  
shall reap with songs of joy.  
<sup>7</sup> They that go out weeping, bearing the seed:  
shall come again in gladness,  
bringing their sheaves with them.

## **2nd Reading**

### **Philippians 3.3-14**

- <sup>3</sup> For it is we who are the circumcision, who worship in the Spirit of God and boast in Christ Jesus and have no confidence in the flesh—  
<sup>4</sup> even though I, too, have reason for confidence in the flesh. If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more:  
<sup>5</sup> circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; <sup>6</sup> as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless. <sup>7</sup> Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. <sup>8</sup> More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of

knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ <sup>9</sup> and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. <sup>10</sup> I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, <sup>11</sup> if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead. <sup>12</sup> Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. <sup>13</sup> Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, <sup>14</sup> I press on towards the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

## **Gospel**

### **Luke 19:1-10**

**1** Jesus entered Jericho and was passing through.

**2** A man was there by the name of Zacchaeus; he was a chief tax collector and was wealthy.

**3** He wanted to see who Jesus was, but because he was short he could not see over the crowd.

**4** So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore-fig tree to see him, since Jesus was coming that way.

**5** When Jesus reached the spot, he looked up and said to him, "Zacchaeus, come down immediately. I must stay at your house today."

**6** So he came down at once and welcomed him gladly.

**7** All the people saw this and began to mutter, "He has gone to be the guest of a sinner."

**8** But Zacchaeus stood up and said to the Lord, "Look, Lord! Here and now I give half of my possessions to the poor, and if I have cheated anybody out of anything, I will pay back four times the amount."

**9** Jesus said to him, "Today salvation has come to this house, because this man, too, is a son of Abraham."

**10** For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost.”