FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT

Year C

ENTRANCE HYMN

Yes, I shall arise and return to my Father!

- To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul In you, O my God, I place all my trust.
- Look down on me, have mercy, O Lord, Forgive me my sins, behold all my grief.
- My heart and soul yearn for your face, Be gracious to me and answer my pleat

he has entrusted to us the news that they are reconciled. So we are ambassadors for Christ; it is as though God were appearing through us, and the appeal that we make in Christ's name is: be reconciled to God. For our sake God made the sinless one into sin, so that in him we might become the goodness of God.

The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Lk 15:18

Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus!

FIRST READING

A reading from the book of Joshua 5: 9-12

The People of God keep the Passover on their entry into the promised land.

The Lord said to Joshua, 'Today I have taken the shame of Egypt away from you.'

The Israelites pitched their camp at Gilgal and kept the Passover there on the fourteenth day of the month, at evening in the plain of Jericho. On the morrow of the Passover they tasted the produce of that country, unleavened bread and roasted ears of corn, that same day. From that time, from their first eating of the produce of that country, the manna stopped falling. And having manna no longer, the Israelites fed from that year onwards on what the land of Canaan yielded.

The word of the Lord.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM Ps 33: 2-7. R) v. 9

R. Taste and see that the Lord is good.

- I will bless the Lord at all times, his praise always on my lips; in the Lord my soul shall make its boast. The humble shall hear and be glad. (R.)
- Glorify the Lord with me.
 Together let us praise his name.
 I sought the Lord and he answered me; from all my terrors he set me free. (R.)
- Look towards him and be radiant; let your faces not be abashed.
 This poor man called; the Lord heard him and rescued him from all his distress. (R.)

SECOND READING

A reading from the second letter of St Paul to the Corinthians 5:17-21

God reconciled us to himself through Christ.

For anyone who is in Christ, there is a new creation; the old creation has gone, and now the new one is here. It is all God's work. It was God who reconciled us to himself through Christ and gave us the work of handing on his reconciliation. In other words, God in Christ was reconciling the world to himself, not holding men's faults against them, and

GOSPEL

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke 15:1-3. 11-32

Your brother here was dead and has come to life.

The tax collectors and the sinners were all seeking the company of Jesus to hear what he had to say, and the Pharisees and the scribes complained. 'This man' they said 'welcomes sinners and eats with them.' So he spoke this parable to them:

'A man had two sons. The younger said to his father, "Father, let me have the share of the estate that would come to me." So the father divided the property between them. A few days later, the younger son got together everything he had and left for a distant country where he squandered his money on a life of debauchery.

'When he had spent it all, that country experienced a severe famine, and now he began to feel the pinch, so he hired himself out to one of the local inhabitants who put him on his farm to feed the pigs. And he would willingly have filled his belly with the husks the pigs were eating but no one offered him anything. Then he came to his senses and said, "How many of my father's paid servants have more food than they want, and here am I dying of hunger! I will leave this place and go to my father and say: Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you; I no longer deserve to be called your son; treat me as one of your paid servants." So he left the place and went back to his father.

'While he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was moved with pity. He ran to the boy, clasped him in his arms and kissed him tenderly. Then his son said, "Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I no longer deserve to be called your son." But the father said to his servants, "Quick! Bring out the best robe and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. Bring the calf we have been fattening, and kill it; we are going to have a feast, a celebration, because this son of mine was dead and has come back to life; he was lost and is found." And they began to celebrate.

'Now the elder son was out in the fields, and on his way back, as he drew near the house, he could hear music and dancing. Calling one of the servants he asked what it was all about. "Your brother has come" replied the servant "and your father has killed the calf we had fattened because he has got him back safe and sound." He was angry then and refused to go in, and his father came out to plead with him; but he answered his father, "Look, all these years I have slaved for you and never once disobeved your orders, vet you never offered me so much as a kid for me to celebrate with my friends. But for this son of yours, when he comes back after swallowing up your property - he and his women - you kill the calf we had been fattening."

'The father said, "My son, you are with me always and all I have is yours. But it is only right we should celebrate and rejoice, because your brother here was dead and has come to life; he was lost and is found."

The Gospel of the Lord.

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
(All bow)
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried;
he descended into hell;

on the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of God the Father

almighty; from there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

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

OFFERTORY HYMN

Take our bread, we ask you, take our hearts, we love you, take our lives, oh Father, we are yours, we are yours.

1. Yours as we stand at the table you set, yours as we eat the bread our hearts can't forget. We are the signs of your life with us yet; we are yours, we are yours.

 Your holy people stand washed in your blood, Spirit-filled, yet hungry, we await your food. Poor though we are, we have brought ourselves to you:

we are yours, we are yours.

COMMUNION HYMNS

Our hearts we made for you, Lord, Our hearts were made for you. They'll never find, never find, never find rest Until they find their rest in you.

- When you call me I will answer, When you seek me you will find. I will lead you back from exile And reveal to you my mind.
- 2. I will take you from the nations And will bring you to your land From your idols I will cleanse you And you'll cherish my command.
- 3. I will put my law within you, I will write it on, your heart I will be your God and Savior You, my people set apart.

O Lord, my God, when I in awesome wonder, consider all the worlds thy hand has made, I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder, thy pow'r throughout the universe displayed.

Then sings my soul, my Saviour God, to thee How great thou art, how great thou art.

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 And when I think that God, his Son not sparing, sent him to die, I scarce can take it in that on the cross, my burden gladly bearing, he bled and died to take away my sin.

RECESSIONAL HYMN

1. Hail, Redeemer, King divine!
Priest and Lamb, the throne is thine,
King, whose reign shall never cease,
Prince of everlasting peace.

Angels, saints and nations sing: 'Praised be Jesus Christ, our King; Lord of life, earth, sky and sea, King of love on Calvary."

 King whose name creation thrills, rule our minds, our hearts, our wills, till in peace each nation rings with thy praises, King of kings.