The THIRD SUNDAY of LENT

**At St Andrews , Gisborne**

**March 12th., 2023**

**\*\*WELCOME :: ( Duty Elder )**

**\*\*Invitation :: (comes from** [ Romans 5 ]

*L : Friends: We have been justified through our faith.*

*While we were still sinners, --Christ died for u*s. *!*

**\*\*Let us sung together:**

**\*\*1-PRAISE: CH-4 286 Tell out my soul,**

**Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord!**

**Unnumbered blessings, give my spirit voice;**

**tender to me the promise of his word;**

**in God my Saviour shall my heart rejoice.**

**Tell out, my soul, the greatness of God’s Name!**

**Make known God’s might, the deeds God’s arm has done;**

**God’s mercy sure, from age to age the same;**

**God’s holy Name – the Lord, the Mighty One.**

**Tell out, my soul, the greatness of God’s might!**

**Powers and dominions lay their glory by.**

**Proud hearts and stubborn wills are put to flight,**

**the hungry fed, the humble lifted high.**

**Tell out, my soul, the glories of God’s word!**

**Firm is God’s promise, and God’s mercy sure.**

**Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord**

**to children’s children and for evermore!**

**>>We PRAY TOGETHER [ Psalm 95, adapted (c) cbyates 2023]**

*L : Let us begin this day with songs praising our Father God.*

*Whether we feel like singing or not, breathe the actual thoughts;*

*shape the sounds we make; form the syllables;*

*speak the word***s: --** *praise --and honour our Creator***.**

**All : The fact is that God is always in His world;**

**journeying with us, and loving us despite ourselves.**

**Through Jesus Christ, He has adopted us as His children.**

**He makes us valid; worthwhile and truly significant;**

**despite our human feelings, and our critics.**

*L : We may not always be aware that these things are true,*

*He has made it this way despite contrary appearances.*

**All Let us begin the day with singing and thanksgiving.**

**Our God does not shrink from our doubts or from our anger:**

**for He has made us the object of His concern and love.**

**Blessed be the God of Abraham, Moses; Rachel; and Mary,**

**through His promise of children to them, He blesses us all.**

**God came in Jesus Christ! God is here now! AMEN.**

**Ministry of the Word :**

**READING (1) Book of Exodus, Ch. 17 : vs. 1 - 7.**

>>Intr**oducing Our 'Five-minute' Shared Ministry.**

**>>2 PRAISE: When the road runs out, [Columbus] WB 91**

**Where the road runs out and the signposts end,   
where we come to the edge of today,  
be the God of Abraham for us,  
send us out upon our way.**

**Chorus:  
Lord, you were our beginning,  
the faith that gave us birth.  
We look to you, our ending,  
our hope for heaven and earth.**

**When the coast is left and we journey on  
to the rim of the sky and the sea,  
be the sailor's friend, be the dolphin Christ  
lead us in to eternity. (Chorus)**

**When the clouds are low and the wind is strong,  
when tomorrow's storm draws near,  
be the spirit bird hovering overhead  
who will take away our fear. (Chorus)**

**>>PRAYER : Confessing our need of God's grace and help.**

*L : Let us confess our need of Your forgiveness and grace.*

*Let us pray: ::- Almighty and most loving creator God,*

*we have praised Your name and now in Your presence,*

*yet, we do not always make choices that please You.*

**All : Be merciful to me, O my God;**

**according to Your steadfast love and mercy.**

**Set aside those things that displease You;**

**remove those things which are not worthy of You**

*L : We are ever aware that You would be justified*

*in condemning everyone of us;*

*yet You mix justice with compassion,*

*and forgiveness with love.*

*Read and Hear the Good News! (from John 3.16-17)*

**All :** ***"God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son,***

***so that everyone who believes in him***

***may not perish but may have eternal life …”***

*L : God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world,*

*but in order that the world might be saved through him***."**

**All : What You want of us is truth in our inner selves.**

**We therefore pray “…Create in us**

**a clean heart and a new spirit; …”**

**filling our lives with joy, hope, and purpose**

**through our faith in Jesus Christ, Your Son. AMEN.**

**2-READING: Gospel of Matthew: Ch. 15 : ( 1 - 11 )**

**3-READING : Gospel of Matthew: Ch. 15 : ( 21 – 28. )**

**CHOIR Anthem** : **[ Jude . ] Take my life and let it be CH4 502**

1. **Take my life and let it be   
   Consecrated, Lord, to Thee.  
   \*Take my moments and my days,  
   Let them flow in endless praise.**
2. **Take my hands and let them move  
   At the impulse of Thy love.  
   Take my feet and let them be  
   Swift and beautiful for Thee.**
3. **Take my voice and let me sing,  
   Always, only for my King.  
   Take my lips and let them be  
   Filled with messages from Thee.**
4. **Take my silver and my gold,  
   Not a mite would I withhold.  
   Take my intellect and use  
   Every pow’r as Thou shalt choose.**
5. **Take my will and make it Thine,  
   It shall be no longer mine.  
   Take my heart, it is Thine own,  
   It shall be Thy royal throne.**
6. **Take my love, my Lord, I pour  
   At Thy feet its treasure store.  
   Take myself and I will be  
   Ever, only, all for Thee.**

**>>SHARING IN INTERPRETATION**

***“ You are ALL Theologians”***

**>>Offering and Dedication:**

*L : Let us pray together,*

*We thank you God for accepting us -*

*and for showering your love upon us***.**

**All : We ask you to receive our humble gifts in return,**

**Use them. Use us to live out your Gospel news**

**to our neighbours and all around us – to everyone**

**Amen.**

**>>4 PRAISE:CH4 540 [Vox Dilecti CH4 408] I heard the voice of Jesus say**

**I heard the voice of Jesus say,**

**‘Come unto me and rest;**

**lay down, thou weary one, lay down**

**thy head upon my breast’:**

**I came to Jesus as I was,**

**so weary, worn, and sad;**

**I found in him a resting-place,**

**and he has made me glad.**

**I heard the voice of Jesus say,**

**Behold, I freely give**

**the living water; thirsty one,**

**stoop down and drink, and live’:**

**I came to Jesus, and I drank**

**of that life-giving stream;**

**my thirst was quenched, my soul revived,**

**and now I live in him.**

**I heard the voice of Jesus say,**

**‘I am this dark world’s Light;**

**Look unto me, thy morn shall rise,**

**and all thy day be bright’:**

**I looked to Jesus, and I found**

**in him my Star, my sun;**

**and in that light of life I’ll walk,**

**till travelling days are done.**

**>>Prayers of the People.**

**Bidding:** Son of God.

**Response:** Transform us.

**\*\*FINAL PRAISE: CH-4 263 [ Picardy ] Words by Shirley Murray**

**God of freedom, God of Justice**

**God of freedom, God of justice,**

**God whose love is strong as death,**

**Christ who saw the dark of prison,**

**Christ who knew the price of faith --**

**touch our world of sad oppression**

**with your Spirit's healing breath.**

**Rid the earth of torture's terror,**

**you whose hands were nailed to wood;**

**hear the cries of pain and protest,**

**you who shed the tears and blood --**

**move in us the power of pity**

**restless for the common good.**

**Make in us a captive conscience**

**quick to hear, to act, to plead;**

**make us truly sisters, brothers**

**of whatever race or creed --**

**teach us to be fully human,**

**open to each other's needs.**

**\*\*OUR LENTEN BLESSING**

*L : May we share this journey together*

*as pilgrims on the same journey …*

**All : We humbly go our own way but in Christ’s company:**

**We humbly go confidently accepting Christ’s guidance;**

**We go joyfully awaiting being led by Christ’s leadership.**

**May we each go separately in Christ's world,**

**but journeying on together in Christ's name.**

***AMEN AMEN AMEN (sung.)***

Lectionary for services

During Lent and easter

**12 March Lent 3:**

Psalm 95; Exodus 17: 1-7; Matthew 15: 1-11; 21-28

**19 March Lent 4:**

Ephesians 5: 18-20; Psalm 23; 1 Samuel 16: 1-13; Matthew 12: 1-14

**26 March Lent 5: Harvest Thanksgiving**

Psalm 130; Ezekiel 17: 1-14; Romans 8: 6-11; Matthew 11: 1-16

**2 April Palm Sunday**

Psalm 118; Isaiah 50: 7-9; Matthew 21: 1-11; 11-17

**6 April Maundy Thursday**

Psalm 116; Matthew 26: 6-13; James 5

**7 April Good Friday**

Matthew 26: 57ff; Matthew 27: 1ff; 27ff; 57-end;

**9 April Easter Sunday**

Matthew 28 1ff; Jeremiah 31: 7-9; 1 Corinthians 3: 1-9