



FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT

Year C

FIRST READING: Isaiah 43:16-21

A reading from Isaiah.

¹⁶Thus says the LORD,
 who makes a way in the sea,
 a path in the mighty waters,
¹⁷who brings out chariot and horse,
 army and warrior;
they lie down; they cannot rise;
 they are extinguished, quenched like a wick:
¹⁸Do not remember the former things
 or consider the things of old.
¹⁹I 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.
²⁰The wild animals will honor me,
 the jackals and the ostriches,
for I give water in the wilderness,
 rivers in the desert,
to give drink to my chosen people,
 ²¹the people whom I formed for myself
so that they might declare my praise.

Word of God, word of life. *or* The word of the Lord.

PSALMODY: Psalm 126

SECOND READING: Philippians 3:4b-14

A reading from Philippians.

「Paul writes:」

^{4b}If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more:

⁵circumcised 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;

⁶as to zeal, a persecutor of the church;

as to righteousness under the law, blameless.

⁷Yet whatever gains I had,

these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ.

⁸More 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 ⁹and 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.

¹⁰I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection

and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death,

¹¹if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

¹²Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal,

but I press on to lay hold of that for which Christ has laid hold of me.

¹³Beloved, I do not consider that I have laid hold of it,

but one thing I have laid hold of:

forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead,

¹⁴I press on toward the goal,

toward the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

Word of God, word of life. *or* The word of the Lord.

GOSPEL: John 12:1-8

The holy gospel according to John.

¹Six days before the Passover Jesus came to Bethany,
the home of Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead.

²There they gave a dinner for Jesus.

Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those reclining with him.

³Mary took a pound of costly perfume made of pure nard,
anointed Jesus' feet, and wiped them with her hair.

The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume.

⁴But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples
(the one who was about to betray him), said,

⁵"Why was this perfume not sold for three hundred denarii
and the money given to the poor?"

⁶(He said this not because he cared about the poor
but because he was a thief;

he kept the common purse and used to steal what was put into it.)

⁷Jesus said, "Leave her alone.

She bought it so that she might keep it for the day of my burial.

⁸You always have the poor with you,
but you do not always have me."

The gospel of the Lord.