

THE WORD OF THE LORD : TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

*At the Liturgy at Nine Thirty - SEXAGESIMA*

COLLECT OF THE DAY

*Presider:* Almighty God, who alone can bring order to the unruly wills and passions of sinful humanity: give your people grace so to love what you command and to desire what you promise, that, among the many changes of this world, our hearts may surely there be fixed where true joys are to be found; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

**People:** Amen.

First Lesson: Genesis 3.9-19

The Lord God called to the man, and said to him, 'Where are you?' He said, 'I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself.' He said, 'Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?' The man said, 'The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit from the tree, and I ate.' Then the Lord God said to the woman, 'What is this that you have done?' The woman said, 'The serpent tricked me, and I ate.' The Lord God said to the serpent, 'Because you have done this, cursed are you among all animals and among all wild creatures; upon your belly you shall go, and dust you shall eat all the days of your life. I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; he will strike your head, and you will strike his heel.' To the woman he said, 'I will greatly increase your pangs in childbearing; in pain you shall bring forth children, yet your desire shall be for your husband, and he shall rule over you.' And to the man he said, 'Because you have listened to the voice of your wife, and have eaten of the tree about which I commanded you, "You shall not eat of it", cursed is the ground because of you; in toil you shall eat of it all the days of your life; thorns and thistles it shall bring forth for you; and you shall eat the plants of the field. By the sweat of your face you shall eat bread until you return to the ground, for out of it you were taken; you are dust, and to dust you shall return.'

The word of the Lord

*R/. Thanks be to God*

Psalm 83.1-2,13-18



- 1 O GOD, do **not** be si-lent :  
do not keep still nor **hold** your peace, O Gōd;
- 2 For your enemies **are** in tu-mult :  
and those who hate you have **lift**-ed up their hēads.
- 13 O my God, make them like **whirl**-ing dust :  
and **like** chaff be-fore the wind.
- 14 Like fire that burns **down** a for-est :  
like the flame that **sets** moun-tains a-blāze.
- 15 Drive them **with** your tem-pest :  
and **ter-ri**-fy them with your štōrm.
- 16 Cover their faces with **shame**, O Lord :  
**that** they may seek your nāme.
- 17 Let them be disgraced and **terri-fied** for ev-er :  
let them be put to **con-fu**-sion and pe-rīsh.
- 18 Let them know that you, whose **Name** is Yah-wēh :  
you alone are the Most **High** ov-er all the ěarth.

Second Lesson: 2 Corinthians 11.21b-31

Whatever anyone dares to boast of—I am speaking as a fool—I also dare to boast of that. Are they Hebrews? So am I. Are they Israelites? So am I. Are they descendants of Abraham? So am I. Are they ministers of Christ? I am talking like a madman—I am a better one: with far greater labours, far more imprisonments, with countless floggings, and often near death. Five times I have received from the Jews the forty lashes minus one. Three times I was beaten with rods. Once I received a stoning. Three times I was

