

THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, C  
(SUNDAY OF THE WORD OF GOD)



St. Erconwald's Church  
Wembley - Preston Road

## ORDER OF SERVICE

### Entrance Hymn: "God's Spirit is in My Heart"

H. J. Richards, based on Scripture

1. God's spirit is in my heart.

He has called me and set me apart.

This is what I have to do, what I have to do.

*He sent me to give the Good News to the poor,  
tell prisoners that they are prisoners no more,  
tell blind people that they can see,  
and set the downtrodden free,  
and go tell ev'ryone  
the news that the Kingdom of God has come,  
and go tell ev'ryone  
the news that God's kingdom has come.*

2. Just as the Father sent me,

so I'm sending you out to be

my witnesses throughout the world, the whole of the world.

3. Don't carry a load in your pack,

you don't need two shirts on your back.

A workman can earn his own keep, can earn his own keep.

4. By dying, I'm going away,

but I'll be with you ev'ry day

as the Spirit of love in your heart, the love in your heart.

### Greeting and Welcome

Fr. Anthony:

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**ALL: And with your spirit**

### Introduction

## Penitential Rite

I confess to almighty God and to you, my brothers and sisters, that I have greatly sinned in my thoughts and in my words, in what I have done and in what I have failed to do, through my fault, through my fault, through my most grievous fault; therefore I ask blessed Mary ever-Virgin, all the Angels and Saints, and you, my brothers and sisters, to pray for me to the Lord our God.

Fr. Anthony: May almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to everlasting life.

**ALL: Amen.**

***Lord, have mercy, Christ, have mercy, Lord, have mercy.***

## Glory to God .....

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to people of good will. We praise you, we bless you, we adore you, we glorify you, we give you thanks for your great glory, Lord God, heavenly King, O God, almighty Father. Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son, Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us; you take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer; you are seated at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

## Opening Prayer



Almighty ever-living God,  
direct our actions according to your good pleasure,  
that in the name of your beloved Son we may  
abound in good works. Through our Lord Jesus  
Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the  
unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever. .

**ALL: Amen.**

**First Reading:** [Nehemiah 8. 2-6, 8-10]

Ezra the priest brought the Law before the assembly, consisting of men, women, and children old enough to understand. This was the first day of the seventh month. On the square before the Water Gate, in the presence of the men and women, and children old enough to understand, he read from the book from early morning till noon: all the people listened attentively to the Book of the Law.

Ezra the scribe stood on a wooden dais erected for the purpose. In full view of all the people - since he stood higher than all the people - Ezra opened the book; and when he opened it all the people stood up. Then Ezra blessed the Lord, the great God, and all the people raised their hands and answered, 'Amen! Amen'; then they bowed down and, face to the ground, prostrated themselves before the Lord. And Ezra read from the Law of God translating and giving the sense, so that the people understood what was read.

Then Nehemiah - His Excellency - an Ezra, priest and scribe (and the Levites who were instructing the people) said to all the people, 'This day is sacred to the Lord your God. Do not be mournful, do not weep.' For the people were all in tear as they listened to the words of the Law.

He then said, 'Go, eat the fat, drink the sweet wine, and send a portion to the man who has nothing prepared ready. For this day is sacred to our Lord. Do not be sad the joy of the Lord is your stronghold.'

The word of the Lord.

***ALL: Thanks be to God.***

**Responsorial Psalm:** [Psalm 18]

**R: Your words are spirit, Lord, and they are life.**

1 The law of the Lord is perfect,  
it revives the soul.

The rule of the Lord is to be trusted,  
it gives wisdom to the simple.

**R: Your words are spirit, Lord, and they are life.**

2 The precepts of the lord are right, they gladden the heart.  
The command of the Lord is clear, it gives light to the eyes.

**R: Your words are spirit, Lord, and they are life.**

3 The fear of the Lord is holy, abiding for ever.  
The decrees of the Lord are truth and all of them just.

**R: Your words are spirit, Lord, and they are life.**

4 May the spoken words of my mouth,  
the thoughts of my heart,  
win favour in your sight, O Lord,  
my rescuer, my rock!

**R: Your words are spirit, Lord, and they are life.**

### **Second Reading** [1 Corinthians 12. 2-14, 27]

Just as a human body, though it is made up of many parts, is a single unit because all these parts, though many, make one body, so it is with Christ. In the one Spirit we were all baptised. Jews as well Greeks, slaves as well as citizens, and one Spirit was given to us all to drink.

Nor is the body to be identified with any one of its parts. Now you together are Christ's body; but each of you is a different part of it.

The word of the Lord.

**ALL: Thanks be to God.**

### **Gospel Acclamation**



Alleluia, alleluia!

The Lord has sent me to bring the good news to the poor,  
to proclaim liberty to captives.

Alleluia!

## Gospel Reading: [Luke 1.1-4, 4.14-21]

The Lord be with you. **R: And with your spirit**

A reading from the holy Gospel according to John.

**R: Glory to you, Lord.**

Seeing that many others have undertaken to draw up accounts of the events that have taken place among us, exactly as these were handed down to us by those who from the outset were eyewitnesses and ministers of the word, I in my turn, after carefully going over the whole story from the beginning, have decided to write an ordered account for you, Theophilus, so that your Excellency may learn how well founded the teaching is that you have received.

Jesus, with the power of the Spirit in him, returned to Galilee; and his reputation spread throughout the countryside. He taught in their synagogues and everyone praised him.

He came to Nazara, where he had been brought up, and went into the synagogue on the Sabbath day as he usually did. He stood up to read, and they handed him the scroll of the prophet Isaiah. Unrolling the scroll he found the place where it is written:

The Spirit of the Lord has been given to me, for he has anointed me. He has sent me to bring the good news to the poor, to proclaim liberty to captives and to the blind new sight, to set the downtrodden free, to proclaim the Lord's year of favour.

He then rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the assistant and sat down. And all eyes in the synagogue were fixed on him. Then he began to speak to them, 'This text is being fulfilled today even as you listen.'

The Gospel of the Lord.

**R: Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

## Homily



**Bidding Prayers:** The response to “Lord, in your mercy” is  
**“hear our prayer”**



*At the Last Supper, before Jesus shared the bread with his friends, he gave thanks to God, the creator of the universe.*

*We do the same thing at our Eucharist.*

## OFFERTORY

### Preparation of the Gifts

Fr. Anthony: *Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation, for through your goodness we have received the bread we offer you: fruit of the earth and work of human hands, it will become for us the bread of life.*

**ALL:** ***Blessed be God for ever.***

Fr. Anthony: *Blessed are you, Lord God of all creation, for through your goodness we have received the wine we offer you: fruit of the vine and work of human hands, it will become our spiritual drink.*

**ALL:** ***Blessed be God for ever.***

Fr. Anthony: Pray my brothers and sisters, that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God, the almighty Father.

**ALL:** ***May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands for the praise and glory of his name, for our good and the good of all his holy Church.***

### Prayer over the Offerings



Accept our offerings, O Lord, we pray,  
and in sanctifying them  
grant that they may profit us for salvation.  
Through Christ our Lord.

**ALL: Amen.**

## Preface Dialogue

Fr. Anthony    The Lord be with you.

**ALL:**            ***And with your spirit***

Fr. Anthony    Lift up your hearts.

**ALL:**            ***We lift them up to the Lord.***

Fr. Anthony    Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**ALL:**            ***It is right and just.***

It is truly right and just, our duty and our salvation,  
always and everywhere to give you thanks,  
Lord, holy Father, almighty and eternal God,  
through Christ our Lord.

For through his Paschal Mystery,  
he accomplished the marvellous deed,  
by which he has freed us from the yoke of sin and death,  
summoning us to the glory of being now called  
a chosen race, a royal priesthood,  
a holy nation, a people for your own-possession,  
to proclaim everywhere your mighty works,  
for you have called us out of darkness into your own wonderful light.  
And so, with Angels and Archangels,  
with Thrones and Dominions,  
and with all the hosts and Powers of heaven,  
we sing the hymn of your glory,  
as without end we acclaim:

**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts.**

**Heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes  
in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

**[The Mass continues with Eucharistic Prayer II]**

Fr. Anthony At the Saviour's command and formed by divine teaching, we dare to say:

**ALL:** **Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.**

Fr. Anthony: Deliver us, Lord, we pray, from every evil, graciously grant peace in our days, that, by the help of your mercy, we may be always free from sin and safe from all distress, as we await the blessed hope and the coming of our Saviour, Jesus Christ.

**ALL:** ***For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours now and for ever.***

Fr. Anthony Lord Jesus Christ, who said to your Apostles, Peace I leave you, my peace I give you, look not on our sins, but on the faith of your Church, and graciously grant her peace and unity in accordance with your will. Who live and reign for ever and ever.

**ALL:** ***Amen.***

Fr. Anthony The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**ALL:** ***And with your spirit.***

Fr. Anthony Let us offer each other peace.

## ***THE GIFT OF PEACE***

*Before we go forward for Communion  
we share the Sign of Peace.*

*Jesus wants us to live in peace,  
and also wants us to help other people do the same.*



## Breaking of Bread

**ALL: Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,  
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,  
have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world,  
grant us peace.**

Fr. Anthony: Behold the Lamb of God, behold him who takes away the sins of the world. Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.

**ALL: Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my  
roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be  
healed.**



*Communion is given in the hand only, with the communicant standing, and avoiding any physical contact. When the priest / Eucharistic Minister approaches, they should do so with arms at “full stretch” so that there is a good distance between the priest and the communicant. Their hands, palms upwards, one on top of the other, should be extended as flatly as possible.*

### **SPIRITUAL COMMUNION**

My Jesus, I believe that you are present in this Holy Sacrament of the altar. I love you above all things and I passionately desire to receive you into my soul. Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, come spiritually into my soul so that I may unite myself wholly to you now and forever. Amen.

*[based on a prayer of St Alphonsus Liguori]*

## Prayer after Communion



Grant, we pray, almighty God, that, receiving the grace by which you bring us to new life, we may always glory in your gift.

Through Christ our Lord.

**ALL: Amen.**

## Final Blessing

On September 30<sup>th</sup> 2019, on the liturgical memorial of St. Jerome, Pope Francis announced that the Third Sunday in Ordinary Time would be celebrated as the Sunday of the Word of God.

In the Introduction to the Lectionary for Mass, we are reminded of the role of the Word of God in the life of the Church:

*In the hearing of God's word the Church is built up and grows, and in the signs of the liturgical celebration God's wonderful, past works in the history of salvation are presented anew as mysterious realities. God in turn makes use of the congregation of the faithful that celebrates the Liturgy in order that his word may speed on and be glorified and that his name be exalted among the nations.*

### PRAYER OF BLESSING

*Everlasting God,  
when he read in the synagogue at Nazareth,  
your Son proclaimed the good news of salvation  
for which he would give up his life.*

*Bless all who will read from these sacred texts.*

*As they read, listen and reflect  
on your words of life, strengthen their faith  
so that what they read in hope,  
they may live in love and charity.*

*We ask this through Christ our Lord.*

*Amen.*

## Final Hymn: "Follow me, Follow Me" [Michael Cockett]

*Follow me, follow me,  
leave your home and family,  
leave your fishing nets and boats upon the shore.  
Leave the seed that you have sown,  
leave the crops that you've grown,  
leave the people you have known and  
follow me.*

1. The foxes have their holes  
and the swallows have their nests,  
but the Son of man has no place to lay down.  
I do not offer comfort, I do not offer wealth,  
but in me will all happiness be found.

2. If you would follow me,  
you must leave old ways behind.  
You must take my cross and follow on my path.  
You may be far from loved ones,  
you may be far from home  
but my Father will welcome you at last.

3 Although I go away you will never be alone,  
for the Spirit will be there to comfort you  
Though all of you may scatter,  
each follow his own path,  
still the Spirit of love will lead you home.

