

SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT, Year C

Season of Lent

First Reading † Genesis 15:5-12.17-18

A reading from the book of Genesis

God made a covenant with Abraham, his faithful servant.

Then taking Abram outside, the Lord said,

‘Look up at the sky and count the stars if you can.
Just so will your descendants be,’ he told him.

Abram put his faith in the Lord and this was reckoned to him as righteousness.
He then said to him,

‘I am the Lord who brought you out of Ur of the Chaldeans
to give you this country as your possession.’

Abram replied,

‘Lord GOD, how can I know that I shall possess it?’

He said to him,

‘Bring me a three-year-old heifer, a three-year-old she-goat,
a three-year-old ram, a turtledove and a young pigeon.’

He brought him all these, split the animals down the middle and placed each half opposite the other;
but the birds he did not divide. And when birds of prey swooped down on the carcasses, Abram
drove them off.

Now, as the sun was on the point of setting, a deep sleep fell on Abram, and a deep, dark dread
descended on him.

When the sun had set and it was dark, there appeared a smoking firepot and a flaming torch passing
between the animals’ pieces. That day the Lord made a covenant with Abram in these terms:

‘To your descendants I give this country,
from the River of Egypt to the Great River.’

The word of the Lord.

Responsorial † Psalm 26:1.7-9.13-14

The Lord is my light and my salvation.

The Lord is my light and my salvation;
whom shall I fear?
The Lord is the stronghold of my life;
whom should I dread?

The Lord is my light and my salvation.

O Lord, hear my voice when I call;
have mercy and answer me.
Of you my heart has spoken,
‘Seek his face.’

The Lord is my light and my salvation.

It is your face, O Lord, that I seek;
hide not your face from me.
Dismiss not your servant in anger;
you have been my help.

The Lord is my light and my salvation.

I believe I shall see the Lord's goodness
in the land of the living.
Wait for the Lord; be strong;
be bold and wait for the Lord!

The Lord is my light and my salvation.

Second Reading [longer form] † Philippians 3:17-4:1

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians

Christ will transfigure these bodies of ours into copies of his glorious body.

Brothers and sisters, be united in imitating me. Look towards those who act according to the example you have from me. For there are many people of whom I have often warned you, and now I warn you again with tears, who behave as enemies of Christ's cross. Their end is destruction; their god is the stomach; their glory is in their shame, since their minds are set on earthly things.

But our citizenship is in heaven and from there we are expecting a Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ, who will transform this wretched body of ours into the mould of his glorious body, through the working of the power which he has, even to make all things subject to him.

So then, my brothers and sisters, dear friends whom I miss, my joy and my crown; hold firm in the Lord, dear friends, in this way.

The word of the Lord.

Second Reading [shorter form] † Philippians 3:20-4:1

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians

Christ will transfigure these bodies of ours into copies of his glorious body.

But our citizenship is in heaven and from there we are expecting a Saviour, the Lord Jesus Christ, who will transform this wretched body of ours into the mould of his glorious body, through the working of the power which he has, even to make all things subject to him.

So then, my brothers and sisters, dear friends whom I miss, my joy and my crown; hold firm in the Lord, dear friends, in this way.

The word of the Lord.

Gospel Acclamation † Matthew 17:5

Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!
From the shining cloud the Father's voice is heard:
this is my beloved Son, hear him.
Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

*As Jesus prayed, the aspect of his face was changed,
and his clothing became brilliant as lightning.*

Now about eight days after these sayings, taking Peter, John and James with him, Jesus went up the mountain to pray. And it happened that, as he was praying, the aspect of his face was changed and his clothing became dazzling white. And suddenly there were two men talking to him; they were Moses and Elijah appearing in glory, and they were speaking of his departure which he was to accomplish in Jerusalem.

Peter and his companions were heavy with sleep, but when they were fully awake they saw his glory and the two men standing with him. As these were leaving him, Peter said to Jesus,

‘Master, it is wonderful for us to be here; so let us make three shelters,
one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah,’

not knowing what he was saying. While he was saying this, a cloud came and covered them with shadow; and as they went into the cloud the disciples were afraid. And a voice came from the cloud saying,

‘This is my Son, the Chosen One. Listen to him.’

And after the voice had spoken, Jesus was found alone. They themselves kept silence and, in those days, told no one what they had seen.

The Gospel of the Lord.