

# CHURCH OF TE HEPARA PAI

Sunday 08 March 2015

Te Rātapu Tuatoru o Rēneti / 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Lent  
**JESUS, THE WISDOM OF GOD**

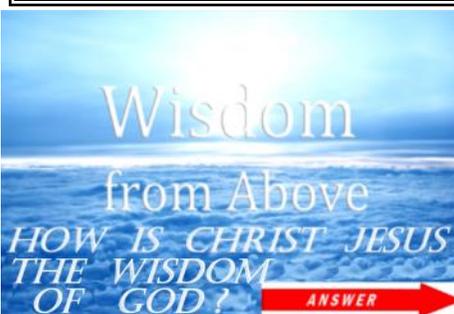


## SENTENCE OF THE DAY:

Here are all the words God spoke. He said, "I am the LORD your God. I brought you out of Egypt. That is the land where you were slaves. "Do not put any other gods in place of me." (Exodus 20:1-3)

## COLLECT OF THE DAY – Let us pray:

Holy One, creator of the stars and seas, your steadfast love is shown to every living thing: your word calls forth countless worlds and souls; your law revives and refreshes. Forgive our misuse of your gifts, that we may be transformed by your wisdom to manifest for others the mercy of our crucified and risen Lord. **Amen.**



**THE DEATH OF CHRIST**  
IS THE WISDOM OF GOD BY WHICH  
**THE LOVE OF GOD SAVES SINNERS**  
FROM THE WRATH OF GOD,  
AND ALL THE WHILE UPHOLDS  
AND DEMONSTRATES THE  
RIGHTEOUSNESS OF GOD.

## Some Prayers For Observing Lent

During the **40 days** of **Lent** from 18<sup>th</sup> February to 04 April, 2015 (not counting the Sundays) prayers of confession [ prayers for admitting of having committed a particular sin or some sins ] and prayers of lament [ prayers for expressing extreme sadness such as at the death of someone or when something has gone seriously wrong ] become even more important to our **daily devotions**. You may wish to pray the same prayer every day. Or perhaps you might choose a new prayer for each week of **Lent**, or pray through a different Psalm of Confession or Psalm of Lament each day. [Please remember to take Service Sheet with you]

### Psalm 139

LORD, you have seen what is in my heart. You know all about me. You know when I sit down and when I get up. You know what I'm thinking even though you are far away. You know when I go out to work and when I come back home. You know exactly how I live. LORD, even before I speak a word, you know all about it .....

### Psalm 51

God, show me your favour in keeping with your faithful love. Because your love is so tender and kind, wipe out my lawless acts. Wash away all of the evil things I've done. Make me pure from my sin. God, create a pure heart in me. Give me a new spirit that is faithful to you. Don't send me away from you. Don't take your Holy Spirit away from me. Give me back the joy that comes from being saved by you. Give me a spirit that obeys you. That will keep me going .....

### Psalm 130

LORD, I cry out to you deeply. Lord, listen to cry for your favour. record of sins. Lord, who guilty? But you forgive. for you .....



because I'm suffering so me. Pay attention to my LORD, suppose you kept a then wouldn't be found So people have respect

### Psalm 22

My God, my God, why have you deserted me? Why do you seem to be so far away when I need you to save me? My God, I cry out in the daytime. But you don't answer. I cry out at night. I can't keep quiet. But you rule from your throne as the Holy One. You are the God Israel praises .....

### Prayer of Confession

Merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart and mind and strength. We have not loved our neighbours as ourselves. In your mercy forgive what we have been, help us amend what we are, and direct what we shall be, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

[ PLEASE NOTE THE URGENT PRAYER REQUESTS ON BACK PAGE AS WELL ]



*A reading from Exodus chapter 20 beginning at verse 1.*

**God Gives His People the Ten Commandments**

<sup>1</sup> *Here are all the words God spoke. He said,* <sup>2</sup> *“I am the LORD your God. I brought you out of Egypt. That is the land where you were slaves.*

<sup>3</sup> *“Do not put any other gods in place of me.*

<sup>4</sup> *“Do not make for yourself statues of gods that look like anything in the sky. They may not look like anything on the earth or in the waters either. <sup>5</sup> Do not bow down to them or worship them. I, the LORD your God, am a jealous God. I cause the sins of the parents to affect their children. I will cause the sins of those who hate me to affect even their grandchildren and great-grandchildren. <sup>6</sup> But for all time to come I show love to all those who love me and keep my commandments.*

<sup>7</sup> *“Do not misuse the name of the LORD your God. The LORD will find guilty anyone who misuses his name.*

<sup>8</sup> *“Remember to keep the Sabbath day holy. <sup>9</sup> Do all your work in six days. <sup>10</sup> But the seventh day is a Sabbath to honour the LORD your God. Do not do any work on that day. The same command applies to your sons and daughters, your male and female servants, and your animals. It also applies to any outsiders who live in your towns. <sup>11</sup> In six days the LORD made the heavens, the earth, the sea and everything in them. But he rested on the seventh day. So the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy.*

<sup>12</sup> *“Honour your father and mother. Then you will live a long time in the land the LORD your God is giving you.*

<sup>13</sup> *“Do not murder.*

<sup>14</sup> *“Do not commit adultery.*

<sup>15</sup> *“Do not steal.*

<sup>16</sup> *“Do not be a false witness against your neighbour.*

<sup>17</sup> *“Do not want to have anything your neighbour owns. Do not want to have your neighbour’s house, wife, male or female servant, ox or donkey.”*

*Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church. Thanks be to God.*



*A reading from 1 Corinthians chapter 1 beginning at verse 18.*

**Christ Is God’s Power and Wisdom**

<sup>18</sup> The message of the cross seems foolish to those who are lost and dying. But it is God’s power to us who are being saved. <sup>19</sup> It is written, “I will destroy the wisdom of those who are wise. I will do away with the cleverness of those who think they are so smart.” (Isaiah 29:14)

<sup>20</sup> Where is the wise person? Where is the teacher of the law? Where are the great thinkers of our time? Hasn’t God made the wisdom of the world foolish?

[ CONTINUED OVER PAGE ]

<sup>21</sup> God wisely planned that the world would not know him through its own wisdom. It pleased God to use the foolish things we preach to save those who believe.

<sup>22</sup> Jews require signs. Greeks look for wisdom. <sup>23</sup> *But we preach about Christ and his death on the cross. That is very hard for Jews to accept. And everyone else thinks it's foolish.* <sup>24</sup> *But there are those God has chosen, both Jews and Greeks. To them Christ is God's power and God's wisdom.* <sup>25</sup> The foolish things of God are wiser than human wisdom. The weakness of God is stronger than human strength.

*Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church. Thanks be to God.*

Lent  
2015

## The Gospel Reading: John 2:13-22

*The Holy Gospel according to John chapter 2 beginning at verse 13.  
Praise and Glory to God.*

### Jesus Clears Out the Temple Courtyard

<sup>13</sup> It was almost time for the Jewish Passover Feast. So Jesus went up to Jerusalem.

<sup>14</sup> In the temple courtyard he found people selling cattle, sheep and doves. Others were sitting at tables exchanging money. <sup>15</sup> So Jesus made a whip out of ropes. He chased all the sheep and cattle from the temple courtyard. He scattered the coins of the people exchanging money. And he turned over their tables. <sup>16</sup> *He told those who were selling doves, "Get these out of here. Stop turning my Father's house into a market!"*

<sup>17</sup> His disciples remembered what had been written. It says, "My great love for your house will destroy me." (Psalm 69:9)

<sup>18</sup> Then the Jewish leaders asked him, "What sign can you show us to prove your authority to do this?"

<sup>19</sup> Jesus answered them, "When you destroy this temple, I will raise it up again in three days."

<sup>20</sup> They replied, "It has taken 46 years to build this temple. Are you going to raise it up in three days?" <sup>21</sup> But the temple Jesus had spoken about was his body.

<sup>22</sup> His disciples later remembered what he had said. That was after he had been raised from the dead. Then they believed the Scripture. They also believed the words that Jesus had spoken.

*This is the Gospel of Christ. Praise to Christ, the Word.*

**URGENT PRAYER NEEDED**

### URGENT PRAYER REQUESTS:

1. PLEASE SPEND SOME TIME EACH DAY PRAYING FOR **THE BISHOP**, INCLUDING PRAISING AND THANKING GOD THAT HE IS IN CONTROL OF ALL CIRCUMSTANCES AND WILL SHOW HIS LOVE TO THE BISHOP IN HIS TIME.

2. PLEASE CONTINUE TO PRAY INTENSELY FOR **ANGELA**, WHOSE HEALTH CONDITION HAS WORSENERD EVEN THOUGH SHE HAS RECEIVED PRAYER AND MEDICAL TREATMENT.