

08 February 2015

Second Sunday before Lent

Collect of the Day

Almighty God,
you have created the heavens and the earth and
made us in your own image:
teach us to discern your hand in all your works
and your likeness in all your children;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who with you and the Holy Spirit reigns supreme
over all things,
now and for ever.

First Reading

Proverbs 8.1,22-31

¹Does not wisdom call, and does not
understanding raise her voice?
²²The LORD created me at the beginning of his
work, the first of his acts of long ago.
²³Ages ago I was set up, at the first, before the
beginning of the earth.
²⁴When there were no depths I was brought
forth, when there were no springs abounding
with water.
²⁵Before the mountains had been shaped, before
the hills, I was brought forth –
²⁶when he had not yet made earth and fields, or
the world's first bits of soil.
²⁷When he established the heavens, I was there,
when he drew a circle on the face of the deep,
²⁸when he made firm the skies above, when he
established the fountains of the deep,
²⁹when he assigned to the sea its limit, so that the
waters might not transgress his command, when
he marked out the foundations of the earth,
³⁰then I was beside him, like a master worker;
and I was daily his delight, rejoicing before him
always,
³¹rejoicing in his inhabited world and delighting in
the human race. (NRSV)

Second Reading

Colossians 1.15-20

¹⁵Christ is the image of the invisible God, the
firstborn of all creation; ¹⁶for in him all things in
heaven and on earth were created, things visible
and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or

rulers or powers – all things have been created
through him and for him. ¹⁷He himself is before all
things, and in him all things hold together. ¹⁸He is
the head of the body, the church; he is the
beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he
might come to have first place in everything. ¹⁹For
in him all the fullness of God was pleased to
dwell, ²⁰and through him God was pleased to
reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth
or in heaven, by making peace through the blood
of his cross. (NRSV)

Gospel

John 1.1-14

¹In the beginning was the Word, and the Word
was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was
in the beginning with God. ³All things came into
being through him, and without him not one thing
came into being. ⁴What has come into being in
him was life, and the life was the light of all
people. ⁵The light shines in the darkness, and the
darkness did not overcome it.

⁶There was a man sent from God, whose name
was John. ⁷He came as a witness to testify to the
light, so that all might believe through him. ⁸He
himself was not the light, but he came to testify
to the light. ⁹The true light, which enlightens
everyone, was coming into the world.

¹⁰He was in the world, and the world came into
being through him; yet the world did not know
him. ¹¹He came to what was his own, and his own
people did not accept him. ¹²But to all who
received him, who believed in his name, he gave
power to become children of God, ¹³who were
born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of
the will of man, but of God.

¹⁴And the Word became flesh and lived among us,
and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a
father's only son, full of grace and truth. (NRSV)

Post Communion Prayer

God our creator,
by your gift the tree of life was set at the heart of
the earthly paradise,
and the bread of life at the heart of your Church:
may we who have been nourished at your table
on earth be transformed by the glory of the
Saviour's cross and enjoy the delights of eternity;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.