

January 21, 2018

3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

Repent and believe in the gospel!

Jonah 3:1-5, 10

Psalm 25:4-9

1 Corinthians 7:29-31

Mark 1:14-20

The Lord directed Jonah to Nineveh where he preached the direct message: "...forty days and Nineveh will be destroyed." The people believed and proclaimed a fast; all of them, great and small, repented and so the Lord did not carry out the punishment.

The psalmist pleads with the Lord to be shown the true way, the true path, and to be guided by truth. He acknowledges the kindness of the Lord and the fact that he shows sinners the way. The humble are guided to justice and are guided on right paths.

Paul speaks to his brothers and sisters in Corinth and emphasizes in both the first and last verses that time is running out, and that the world in its present form is passing away so "from now on" do not be deceived by the ways of the world, but concentrate on living a good and holy life.



Jesus preaches that this is the time of fulfillment and the Kingdom of God is at hand. "Repent," he says, "and believe" in the good news. Simon and Andrew are called to be fishers of men and so are James and John, and all of them respond immediately.

Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth,
Set up your Kingdom in our midst.
Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the Most High God,
Have mercy on us sinners.
Holy Spirit, Breath of the Living God,
Renew us in body, mind, and spirit.

The words of Jonah remind us to place our hope in God alone. The humble repentant receives forgiveness of sins; the eyes and ears are opened to seeing and hearing, enabling one to keep careful watch over self. Time passes so very quickly so listen carefully to the readings of Holy Scripture and allow yourself adequate prayer time each day. Guard your lips from harmful gossip, do not harbor jealousy, be not quarrelsome or arrogant, love simplicity and purity, pray for your enemies and constantly remind yourself that God's Kingdom is at hand. You have much good in yourself so give thanks to the Lord for the graces you have received.

Lord Jesus, you alone are my

Rock...+....stronghold...+.....fortress...+....hope
Rest...+...safety....+.....strength...+...refuge.

Guide me that I may always stand firm!

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