

Narrative Lectionary  
March 18, 2018  
Fifth Sunday of Lent

## John 19: 1-16a

<sup>1</sup> Then Pilate took Jesus and had him flogged. <sup>2</sup> And the soldiers wove a crown of thorns and put it on his head, and they dressed him in a purple robe. <sup>3</sup> They kept coming up to him, saying, "Hail, King of the Jews!" and striking him on the face. <sup>4</sup> Pilate went out again and said to them, "Look, I am bringing him out to you to let you know that I find no case against him." <sup>5</sup> So Jesus came out, wearing the crown of thorns and the purple robe. Pilate said to them, "Here is the man!" <sup>6</sup> When the chief priests and the police saw him, they shouted, "Crucify him! Crucify him!" Pilate said to them, "Take him yourselves and crucify him; I find no case against him." <sup>7</sup> The Jews answered him, "We have a law, and according to that law he ought to die because he has claimed to be the Son of God."

<sup>8</sup> Now when Pilate heard this, he was more afraid than ever. <sup>9</sup> He entered his headquarters again and asked Jesus, "Where are you from?" But Jesus gave him no answer. <sup>10</sup> Pilate therefore said to him, "Do you refuse to speak to me? Do you not know that I have power to release you, and power to crucify you?" <sup>11</sup> Jesus answered him, "You would have no power over me unless it had been given you from above; therefore the one who handed me over to you is guilty of a greater sin." <sup>12</sup> From then on Pilate tried to release him, but the Jews cried out, "If you release this man, you are no friend of the emperor. Everyone who claims to be a king sets himself against the emperor."

<sup>13</sup> When Pilate heard these words, he brought Jesus outside and sat on the judge's bench at a place called The Stone Pavement, or in Hebrew Gabbatha. <sup>14</sup> Now it was the day of Preparation for the Passover; and it was about noon. He said to the Jews, "Here is your King!" <sup>15</sup> They cried out, "Away with him! Away with him! Crucify him!" Pilate asked them, "Shall I crucify your King?" The chief priests answered, "We have no king but the emperor." <sup>16</sup> Then he handed him over to them to be crucified.



### Psalm 146

<sup>1</sup> Praise the LORD!

*Praise the LORD, O my soul!*

<sup>2</sup> I will praise the LORD as long  
as I live;

*I will sing praises to my God  
all my life long.*

<sup>3</sup> Do not put your trust in princes,  
in mortals, in whom there  
is no help.

<sup>4</sup> When their breath departs, they  
return to the earth;  
on that very day their plans perish.

<sup>5</sup> Happy are those whose help is  
the God of Jacob,  
whose hope is the LORD their God,

<sup>6</sup> who made heaven and earth,  
the sea, and all that is in them;  
who keeps faith forever;

<sup>7</sup> who executes justice for the  
oppressed;

*who gives food to the hungry  
The LORD sets the prisoners free;*

<sup>8</sup> the LORD opens the eyes of the  
blind.

*The LORD lifts up those who are  
bowed down;  
the LORD loves the righteous.*

<sup>9</sup> The LORD watches over the strangers;  
he upholds the orphan and the widow,  
but the way of the wicked he brings to  
ruin.

<sup>10</sup> The LORD will reign forever,  
your God, O Zion for all generations.  
Praise the LORD!

