

The Second Sunday in Lent February 25, 2024

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Hymns are found in the blue *Hymnal 1982* (the 'S' numbers are in the front!) or the red and black *Lift Every Voice and Sing II* which can be found in your pew.

The service begins in quiet and prayer.

Prelude: *O Man Bewail thy Grievous Sins* Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)
Alice Van Wambeke, Guest Organist

THE WORD OF GOD

Processional Hymn 401: *The God of Abraham Praise*

Celebrant Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

People **His mercy endures for ever.**

Celebrant If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.
1 John 1:8,9

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence *Please stand or kneel*

Most 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; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

Celebrant Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

Kyrie S-90 (10:00 am only): *Lord, Have Mercy Upon Us*

(8:00 am only)

Celebrant Lord, have mercy.

People **Christ, have mercy.**

Celebrant Lord, have mercy.

Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray. O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy: Be gracious to all who have gone astray from your ways, and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of your Word, Jesus Christ your Son; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The First Lesson: *Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16*

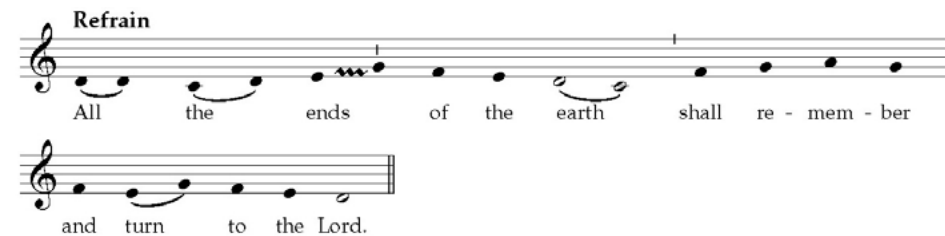
When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the Lord appeared to Abram, and said to him, "I am God Almighty; walk before me, and be blameless. And I will make my covenant between me and you, and will make you exceedingly numerous." Then Abram fell on his face; and God said to him, "As for me, this is my covenant with you: You shall be the ancestor of a multitude of nations. No longer shall your name be Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you the ancestor of a multitude of nations. I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you. I will establish my covenant between me and you, and your offspring after you throughout their generations, for an everlasting covenant, to be God to you and to your offspring after you.

God said to Abraham, "As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name. I will bless her, and moreover I will give you a son by her. I will bless her, and she shall give rise to nations; kings of peoples shall come from her."

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 22:22-30



Praise the LORD, you that fear him; *

stand in awe of him, O offspring of Israel;

all you of Jacob's line, give glory.

For he does not despise nor abhor the poor in their poverty;

neither does he hide his face from them; *

but when they cry to him he hears them.

All Sing Refrain

My praise is of him in the great assembly; *

I will perform my vows in the presence of those who worship him.

The poor shall eat and be satisfied,

and those who seek the LORD shall praise him: *

"May your heart live for ever!"

All Sing Refrain

All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD, *

and all the families of the nations shall bow before him.

For kingship belongs to the LORD; *

he rules over the nations.

To him alone all who sleep in the earth bow down in worship; *

all who go down to the dust fall before him.

All Sing Refrain

My soul shall live for him;

my descendants shall serve him; *

they shall be known as the LORD's for ever.

They shall come and make known to a people yet unborn *

the saving deeds that he has done.

All Sing Refrain

The Second Lesson: *Romans 4:13-25*

For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.

For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, as it is written, "I have made you the father of many nations") —in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist. Hoping against hope, he believed that he would become "the father of many nations," according to what was said, "So numerous shall your descendants be." He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was already as good as dead (for he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah's womb. No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, being fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. Therefore his faith "was reckoned to him as righteousness." Now the words, "it was reckoned to him," were written not for his sake alone, but for ours also. It will be reckoned to us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead, who was handed over to death for our trespasses and was raised for our justification.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Sequence Hymn 707: *Take My Life*

Reader The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

The Gospel: *Mark 8:31-38*

Jesus began to teach his disciples that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels."

Reader The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

The Sermon

The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he

suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

The Prayers of the People

Please stand or kneel

God of the covenant, you call us to be fruitful servants within creation, and to offer our lives as the foundation of your realm. We lay before you the desires of our hearts, that we may be transformed by their fulfillment. *Silence* Accept our thanks and praise for all that you have done for us. We thank you for the splendor of the whole creation, for the beauty of this world, for the wonder of life, and for the mystery of love.

People **Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.**

O Lord of truth and light, help us this Lent to examine our lives. May we come to see where we are stuck, where our assumptions and beliefs are keeping us from becoming fully who you would have us be. Provide for us opportunities to be borne anew in your kingdom. **Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.**

O God, give understanding and peace to the descendants of Abraham: Jews, Muslims, and Christians. Grant that we may live together in harmony and work on behalf of those who are suffering or in need. **Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.**

We pray for this congregation and all churches. Help us to welcome the lost and make known your forgiveness and steadfast love. Help us to shed the self-righteousness and self-centeredness which block us from loving you and our neighbor. **Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.**

God of the nations, guide the leaders of this land in the ways of justice and peace, that we may honor one another, serve the common good, and care for the most vulnerable. We pray for Joe, our president; Gretchen, our governor; Christopher, our mayor; and all leaders and policy makers. Give them the wisdom, courage, and endurance to serve your people. **Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.**

Be with those who suffer in mind, body, or spirit, remembering especially those on our prayer list, and those whose needs are known to you alone. *Pause* We pray for those who are out of work and those who are estranged from their families. We pray for those who have no one to love or care for them. O God, surround them with your healing presence, and restore them to fullness of life. **Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.**

In a moment of silence, let us pray for those who are dear to us. *Silence* Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours; grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us. **Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.**

We remember the sheerness of the veil separating life from death, and the suddenness with which it can be broken. Help us also to remember that on both sides of that divide we are surrounded by your love. We pray for those who have died and all who are dear to each of us, remembering especially Lavergne Powers, in whose memory the flowers are given this week. *Silence* May they rest in your loving care. **Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.**

Bring your word near to us, O God. May it rest not only on our lips, but also reside in our hearts. By the power of your Holy Spirit, help us to respond to your word with our whole lives until you become our dwelling place; through Jesus Christ, we pray. **Amen.**

The Peace

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

Offertory Anthem: Give Ear, O Lord Heinrich Schutz (1585-1672)
The St. Andrew's Adult Choir Women's Chorus

Give ear, O Lord, give ear to me when I call thee, O God of my righteousness. Thou givest comfort in fear, be thou gracious, and with favor hear my pray'r. Perceive my crying, my Monarch and my God.

Children's Entrance Hymn LEVAS 88: My Faith Looks Up to Thee

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING Eucharistic Prayer A

The image shows musical notation for the Great Thanksgiving Eucharistic Prayer A. It consists of four staves of music, each with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The first staff is for the Celebrant and the second for the People. The lyrics are: "The Lord be with you. And al-so with you." The third staff is for the Celebrant and the fourth for the People. The lyrics are: "Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord." The fifth staff is for the Celebrant and the sixth for the People. The lyrics are: "Let us give thanks to the Lord our God." The seventh staff is for the Celebrant and the eighth for the People. The lyrics are: "It is right to give him thanks and praise."

The Celebrant offers our thanks to God for the grace and mercy made available to us in Christ.

Sanctus S-113: Holy, Holy, Holy

The people stand or kneel as the Celebrant gives thanks for the reconciling work of Christ through his passion and resurrection and prays over the bread and wine.

Celebrant Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith.

People **Christ has died.**

Christ has risen.

Christ will come again.

The Celebrant continues with the Eucharistic prayer.

Celebrant By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit of all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and forever. **Amen.**

Celebrant As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray, **Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your Name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and for ever. Amen.**

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.

Fraction Anthem S-157: O Lamb of God

Please come forward and stand or kneel at the rail. The priest will place the bread in your outstretched palm (Consecrated rice wafers are available for those with wheat allergies - simply ask the priest). You may dip (intinct) the bread in the wine in the small cup held by the Eucharistic minister. Alternatively, you may indicate your desire to drink from the common chalice by consuming the bread and remaining at the rail after the Eucharistic minister passes; another Eucharistic minister will bring the large chalice over for you to drink from directly. Please know that Christ is fully present in both the bread and the wine - there is no requirement to receive both. If you do not wish to receive communion, you may come forward, cross your hands over your chest, and receive a blessing.

Communion Voluntary: What a Wondrous Love is This American melody, setting by Don Hu
Alice Van Wambeke, Guest Organist

Communion Hymn 337: And Now, O Father

When Lay Eucharistic Visitors are taking Holy Communion to those unable to be with us in person, we say the following

Celebrant In the name of this congregation, we send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that those to whom you go may share with us in the communion of Christ's body and blood.

People **We who are many are one body, because we all share one bread, one cup.**

Post-Communion Thanksgiving

Celebrant Let us pray.

People **Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

The Blessing

Closing Hymn 675: Take Up Your Cross

The young people are invited to come forward during the hymn to participate in the dismissal.

Young people Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude: Allegro in F Major George Frederick Handel (1685-1759)
Alice Van Wambeke, Guest Organist