



The Second Sunday in Lent February 25th, 2024 ~ 10AM

Entrance Hymn

Will You Come and Follow Me - The Summons
(Scottish Hymn - insert includes music)

“Will you come and follow me if I but call your name?
Will you go where you don't know and never be the same?
Will you let my love be shown; will you let my name be known;
will you let my life be grown in you and you and me?”

“Will you leave yourself behind if I but call your name?
Will you care for cruel and kind and never be the same?
Will you risk the Hostile stair should your life attract or scare?
Will you let me answer prayer in you and you and me?”

“Will you let the blinded see if I but call your name?
Will you let the prisoners free and never be the same?
Will you kiss the leper clean, and do such as this unseen,
and admit to what I mean and you and you and you and me?”

“Will you love the you in you hide but if I but call your name?
Will you quell the fear inside and never be the same?
Will you use the faith you've found to reshape the world around,
through my sight and touch and sound in you and you and me?”

Lord, your summons echoes true when you but call my name.
Let me turn and follow you and never be the same.
In your company I'll go where your love and footsteps show.
Thus I'll move and live and grow in you and you and me.

A Penitential Order

Officiant Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.
People **His mercy endures for ever.**
Officiant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
People **And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

Jesus said, "The first commandment is this: Hear, O Israel, The Lord our God is the only Lord. Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength. The second is this; Love your neighbor as yourself. There are no two commandments greater than these." *Mark 12:29-31*

Dear friends in Christ, God is steadfast in love and infinite in mercy; he welcomes sinners and invites them to his table. Let us confess our sins confident in God's forgiveness.

Confession and Absolution

People **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.**

Officiant 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 96 ~ *Lord, Have Mercy*

Lord, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

The Collect of the Day

Officiant The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Officiant 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.

Psalm 116

Refrain: I will walk before the Lord, in the land of the living.

I believed even when I said, "I am greatly afflicted"
Precious in the eyes of the Lord is the death of his faithful ones.

O Lord, I am your servant; I am your handmaid; You have loosed my bonds.
To you I will offer sacrifice of thanksgiving, and I will call upon the name of the Lord.

My vows to the Lord I will pay in the presence of his people.
In the courts of the house of the Lord In your midst, O Jerusalem.

The Hebrew Scriptures

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."

Gospel Acclamation: **Praise you, Lord Jesus Christ, King of endless glory!**

From the shining cloud the Father's voice is heard: This is my Son, listen to him.

Praise you, Lord Jesus Christ, King of endless glory!

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."

The Sermon

The Rev. John Beach

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.

Prayers of the People

Trusting in God's Promises Let us pray for the world and our needs saying, Holy God, hear our prayer.

God, you blessed Abraham and Sarah and promised to make them the ancestors of many nations. In Jesus Christ you have opened your covenant to everyone who lives by faith in you. For all are descendants of Abraham and Sarah, both Jews and Christians, that they may trust in your promise, dwell together in peace, and be a sign of abiding love.

Holy God, **hear our prayer.**

God, Jesus your Son called disciples to follow his way of sacrificial love. For all pastors and teachers, that they may lead the church by humble example, take up their cross in faithful service, and live for the sake of the Gospel.

Holy God, **hear our prayer.**

God your reign encompasses all the earth, though many do not remember your gracious sovereignty. For peace among nations and for integrity within governments, that your will be done as in heaven. Holy God, **hear our prayer.**

God, you hear the cry of the poor, and you satisfy the hungry with good things. For the poor and the oppressed, that they might find deliverance, and for all who voluntarily take up the cross of self-denial to serve the poor and alleviate human misery.

Holy God, **hear our prayer.**

God, you know the needs of the afflicted and you hear their cries. For those who suffer illness of mind or body, especially Elin Babin, David Bell, Ron, Paul Brophy, Maureen Burke, Norma Cahill, Marie Connors, Barbara Cox, Don DiGiacomo, Beth (Manoogian) DuPlessie, Jim & Tim Eldridge, Joanne Felci, Paul Felci, Ruth Garrett, Peggy Gibbs, Allison Gray, Patti Greene-Botticeli, Will Hare, Carolyn Hashem, Tom Hashem, Bruce Higgins, Louis Hoelzl, Doris Kelly, Jeanne Kelly-Smith, Phyllis Laidlaw, Dennis Lancaster, Janet Lancaster, Rachel Lesch, Robert Long, Melissa McSheffery, Matt, Lori, Mary & Dante, Harriet Miraglia, Erica Moore, Gisela Moore, Jeanine Morris, Fran Muise, Sara Murray, Kathy Pothier, Sandy St. Clair, David St. Clair, Nancy Scarry, Terrie Sevier, Ray Shaw, Malcolm Silva, Gail Smith, Nancy White, Marjorie Beach, Dave LeBaron, Walter, Baby Viviana, and Rachel, that they might find relief from suffering and be restored to wholeness.

Holy God, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for the departed, in particular Ralph Selvitella; comfort loved ones in knowing you have received them into your peaceful heaven.

Holy God, **hear our prayer.**

Grant these prayers Holy God, by your grace. Stir up within us the will to seek out your kingdom with the dedication of our lives in ministry to the world, for the sake of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, through whom we pray. Amen.

The Peace

Officiant The peace of the Lord be always with you.
People **And also with you.**

Communion Anthem

The Holy Communion

Prayer over the Gifts

God our refuge and our strength, receive all we offer you this day, and through the death and resurrection of your Son transform us to his likeness. We ask this in his name.

The Great Thanksgiving

Officiant The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Officiant Lift up your hearts.
People **We lift them up unto the Lord.**
Officiant Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.
People **It is meet and right to do so.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord; who on the first day of the week overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Sanctus

S 129

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

The people stand or kneel.

Officiant Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

Officiant We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. *AMEN.*

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

The Lord's Prayer

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.**

The Breaking of the Bread

The Officiant breaks the consecrated Bread.

A period of silence is kept.

Behold the gifts prepared by the Teacher who ate with sinners: Draw near to the banquet of mercy, partake of the feast of forgiveness.

The Invitation to Holy Communion

The Officiant invites the following prayer to be said by all.

My Jesus, I believe that you are truly present in the Blessed Sacrament of the Altar. I love you above all things, and long for you in my soul. Since I cannot receive you in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood, come spiritually into my heart. Cleanse and strengthen me with your grace, Lord Jesus, and let me never be separated from you. May I live in you and you in me, in this life and in the life to come. Amen.

Behold the living bread come down from heaven: Those who eat of it will never die.

Anthem during Communion

Prayer after Communion

Faithful God, in this holy bread you increase our faith and hope and love. Lead us in the path of Christ who is your Word of life. We ask this in his name.

Glory to God, whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine. Glory to God from generation to generation, in the Church and in Christ Jesus, for ever and ever. Amen.

The Blessing

Officiant Eager to proclaim and share God's reconciling love, go in peace to love and
Serve the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Recessional Hymn

#48 ~ *O Day of Radiant Gladness*

O day of radiant gladness, O day of joy and light,
O balm of care and sadness, most beautiful, most bright;
this day the high and lowly, through ages joined in tune,
sing "Holy, holy, holy" to the great God Triune.

This day at the creation, the light first had its birth;
this day for our salvation Christ rose from depths of earth;
this day our Lord, victorious the Spirit sent from heaven,
and thus this day most glorious a triple light was given.

This day, God's people meeting, his Holy Scripture hear;
his living presence greeting, through Bread and Wine made near.
We journey on, believing, renewed with heavenly might,
from grace more grace receiving on this blest day of light.

That light our hope sustaining, we walk the pilgrim way,
at length our rest attaining, our endless Sabbath day.
We sing to thee our praises, O Father, Spirit, Son;
the Church her voice upraises to thee, blest Three in One.

Announcement(s)

Agape Meal Sign-up

Reminder: For all who plan to attend our Agape meal on Maundy Thursday, March 28th, the sign-up sheet is posted in Ashworth Hall.

Looking ahead – Holy Week Schedule

Maundy Thursday, March 28th – Agape meal at 6pm and Worship at 7pm

Good Friday, March 29th – Services at Noon & 7pm

Easter Sunday, March 31st

Sunrise service at 6am in our Memorial Garden (weather permitting)

Holy Eucharist at 10am

Participants in this Service:

The Rev. John Beach, Priest-in-Charge

Stephen Sikorski, Music Director

Bill Pothier, Worship Leader ~ Stephen Belyea, Verger & L.E.M.

Kristina Palazzo, L.E.M.

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