

SANCTUARY SUNDAY WORSHIP:

Sunday, March 7, 2021

Second Sunday in Lent

Opening Scripture: Richard/Sharon Riley

Genesis 17: 1-7, 15-16

The Covenant of Circumcision

17 When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the LORD appeared to him and said, "I am God Almighty; walk before me faithfully and be blameless. **2** Then I will make my covenant between me and you and will greatly increase your numbers."

3 Abram fell facedown, and God said to him, **4** "As for me, this is my covenant with you: You will be the father of many nations. **5** No longer will you be called Abram; your name will be Abraham, for I have made you a father of many nations. **6** I will make you very fruitful; I will make nations of you, and kings will come from you. **7** I will establish my covenant as an everlasting covenant between me and you and your descendants after you for the generations to come, to be your God and the God of your descendants after you.

15 God also said to Abraham, "As for Sarai your wife, you are no longer to call her Sarai; her name will be Sarah. **16** I will bless her and will surely give you a son by her. I will bless her so that she will be the mother of nations; kings of peoples will come from her."

Opening Hymn: "Beneath the Cross of Jesus"

Beneath the cross of Jesus I fain would take my stand,
The shadow of a mighty rock within a weary land.
A home within the wilderness, a rest upon the way,
From the burning of the noontide heat, and the burden of the day.

Upon that cross of Jesus mine eye at times can see
The very dying form of One who suffered there for me;
And from my stricken heart, with tears, two wonders I confess:
The wonders of redeeming love and my own worthlessness.

I take, O cross, thy shadow, for my abiding place;
I ask no other sunshine than the sunshine of His face;
Content to let the world go by, to know no gain nor loss.
My sinful self my only shame, my glory all the cross.

Welcome: Pastor Scott Clawson

Prayer Of The Day: Richard/Sharon Riley

(based on Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16; Mark 8:31-38; Romans 4:13-25)

Though people may turn their backs on us, you do not hide your face from us.
Though others may try to take away our hope, you assure us of that future waiting for us.
You speak your name, Inscrutable Creator, and it is enough.
When we try to dictate our fears to you, you invite us to follow you into self-denial and service. As we struggle to shape our lifestyle to yours, you carry us with you wherever we go. You speak your good news, Teacher of open hearts, and it is enough.
Though we have done nothing to earn them, you pour out the gifts of grace and mercy upon us. When we stumble over our lack of trust, you set us back on our feet, to follow you into the kingdom. You speak your peace, Breath of Holiness, and it is enough.
God in Community, Holy in One, it is enough that you hear us even as we pray as we are taught,

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed by 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 forever. Amen

—both written by Thom Shuman and posted on his wonderful Lectionary Liturgies

blog. <http://lectionaryliturgies.blogspot.com/> Reposted: <https://re-worship.blogspot.com/2012/02/call-to-worship-prayer-lent-2-b.html>

Hymn: "The Church's One Foundation" (Verse 1-3)

The Church's one foundation is Jesus Christ her Lord.
She is His new creation by water and the Word:
From heav'n He came and sought her to be His holy Bride.
With His own blood He bought her, and for her life He died.

Elect from every nation, yet one o'er all the earth,
Her charter of salvation, one Lord, one faith, one birth.
One holy Name she blesses, partakes one holy food,
And to one hope she presses, with every grace endued.

Though with a scornful wonder we see her sore oppressed,
By schisms rent a sunder, by her-e-sies distressed,
Yet saints their watch are keeping; their cry goes up, "How Long?"
And soon the night of weeping shall be the morn of song.

Prayers of the People: Pastor Scott Clawson

Gospel Reading: Richard/Sharon Riley

Mark 8: 31-38

Jesus Predicts His Death

³¹ He then began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests and the teachers of the law, and that he must be killed and after three days rise again. ³² He spoke plainly about this, and Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him.

³³ But when Jesus turned and looked at his disciples, he rebuked Peter. "Get behind me, Satan!" he said. "You do not have in mind the concerns of God, but merely human concerns."

The Way of the Cross

³⁴ Then he called the crowd to him along with his disciples and said: "Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ³⁵ For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me and for the gospel will save it. ³⁶ What good is it for someone to gain the whole world, yet forfeit their soul? ³⁷ Or what can anyone give in exchange for their soul? ³⁸ If anyone is ashamed of me and my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, the Son of Man will be ashamed of them when he comes in his Father's glory with the holy angels."

The Word of God For The People of God

Thanks Be to God

Sermon: Pastor Scott Clawson
"Blood is Not Thicker Than Water"



Closing Hymn: "The Church's One Foundation" (Verse 4-5)

'Mid toil and tribulation, and tumult of her war,
She waits the consummation of peace for evermore;
Till, with the vision glorious, her longing eyes are blest,
And the great Church victorious shall be the Church at rest.

Yet she on earth hath union with God the Three in One,
And mystic sweet communion with those whose rest is won:
O happy ones and holy! Lord, give us grace that we,
Like them, the meek and lowly, in love may dwell with Thee.

Benediction: Pastor Scott Clawson