

Second Sunday in Lent

February 28, 2021

Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church
Deerfield Beach, Florida

The second covenant in this year's Lenten readings is the one made with Abraham and Sarah: God's promise to make them the ancestors of many, with whom God will remain in everlasting covenant. Paul says this promise comes to all who share Abraham's faith in the God who brings life into being where there was no life. We receive this baptismal promise of resurrection life in faith. Sarah and Abraham receive new names as a sign of the covenant, and we too get new identities in baptism, as we put on Christ.

We Gather

CALL TO WORSHIP

"Bless the Lord, My Soul"

Musical score for "Bless the Lord, My Soul" in 4/4 time, key of B-flat major. The score consists of two systems of vocal melody and piano accompaniment. The lyrics are: "Bless the Lord, my soul, and bless God's ho - ly name. Bless the Lord, my soul, who leads me in - to life." The piano accompaniment features a steady bass line and chords that support the vocal melody.

WELCOME & CONFESSION

In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen**

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

If we say 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.

Most merciful God, sometimes we stride through this life arrogantly, believing that our achievements come solely by our own brilliance, our own perseverance. **Forgive us, Lord.**

Sometimes we tiptoe through this life fearfully, worried that we will be shortchanged of what we need and of what we want. **Forgive us, Lord.**

Sometimes we meander through this life inattentively, unsuspecting that our words may harm or our actions may injure. **Forgive us, Lord.**

Sometimes we slip through this life spitefully, supposing that grudges should be kept and forgiveness should be withheld. **Forgive us, Lord.**

Sometimes we wander through this life obliviously, unaware that small and large miracles surround us. **Forgive us, Lord.**

Sometimes we stomp through this life noisily, forgetting that God just may be waiting to meet us in the silence. **Forgive us for treading so gracelessly on this journey.**

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for you, and for his sake God forgives you all your sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ he gives the power to become the children of God and bestows on them the Holy Spirit. **Amen**

GATHERING SONG

“Blessed Be Your Name”

Blessed be your name in the land that is plentiful;
where your streams of abundance flow, blessed be your name.
Blessed be your name when I'm found in the desert place,
though I walk through the wilderness, blessed be Your name.

Ev'ry blessing you pour out I'll turn back to praise
when the darkness closes in, Lord, still I will say

Chorus

***Blessed be the name of the Lord, blessed be your name,
Blessed be the name of the Lord, blessed be your glorious name!***

Blessed be your name when the sun's shining down on me,
when the world's all as it should be, blessed be your name.
Blessed be Your name on the road marked with suffering,
though there's pain in the offering, blessed be your name.

Ev'ry blessing you pour out I'll turn back to praise
when the darkness closes in, Lord, still I will say

Chorus

You give and take away, you give and take away.
My heart will choose to say, Lord, blessed be Your name! *(Repeat)*

Chorus *(sung twice)*

APOSTOLIC GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

KYRIE

The phrase "Kyrie eleison" is Greek for "Lord, have mercy." The Cantor will sing the verses. This Refrain follows the verses three times before the final Amen.

Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

A - men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray...O God, by the passion of your blessed Son you made an instrument of shameful death to be for us the means of life. Grant us so to glory in the cross of Christ that we may gladly suffer shame and loss for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

We Hear & Respond to God's Word

FIRST READING: GENESIS 17:1-7, 15-16

¹When 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. ²And I will make my covenant between me and you, and will make you exceedingly numerous." ³Then Abram fell on his face; and God said to him, ⁴"As for me, this is my covenant with you: You shall be the ancestor of a multitude of nations. ⁵No longer shall your name be Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you the ancestor of a multitude of nations. ⁶I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you. ⁷I 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."

¹⁵God said to Abraham, "As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name. ¹⁶I 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."

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

RESPONSIVE PSALM: PSALM 22:23-31

²³You who fear the Lord, give praise! All you of Jacob's line, give glory. Stand in awe of the Lord, all you offspring of Israel.

²⁴**For the Lord does not despise nor abhor the poor in their poverty; neither is the Lord's face hidden from them; but when they cry out, the Lord hears them.**

²⁵From you comes my praise in the great assembly; I will perform my vows in the sight of those who fear the Lord.

²⁶**The poor shall eat and be satisfied, Let those who seek the Lord give praise! May your hearts live forever!**

²⁷All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord; all the families of nations shall bow before God.

²⁸**For dominion belongs to the Lord, who rules over the nations.**

²⁹Indeed, all who sleep in the earth shall bow down in worship; all who go down to the dust, though they be dead, shall kneel before the Lord.

³⁰**Their descendants shall serve the Lord, whom they shall proclaim to generations to come.**

³¹They shall proclaim God's deliverance to a people yet unborn, saying to them, "The Lord has acted!"

SECOND READING: ROMANS 4:13-25

¹³The 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. ¹⁴If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. ¹⁵For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.

¹⁶For 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, ¹⁷as 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. ¹⁸Hoping against hope, he believed that he would become "the father of many nations," according to what was said, "So numerous shall your descendants be." ¹⁹He 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. ²⁰No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, ²¹being fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. ²²Therefore his faith "was reckoned to him as righteousness." ²³Now the words, "it was reckoned to him," were written not for his sake alone, ²⁴but for ours also. It will be reckoned to us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead, ²⁵who was handed over to death for our trespasses and was raised for our justification.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

The musical notation is set in G major (one sharp) and 2/4 time. It is divided into three parts: Cantor, Assembly, and All. The melody consists of eighth and quarter notes, with rests indicated by 'z'.

Cantor: Come let us re - turn to the Lord, come, let us re - turn to the Lord;

Assembly: Come, let us re -

All: -turn to the Lord, let us re - turn _ to the Lord. _____

GOSPEL: MARK 8:31-38

The Holy Gospel according to Mark, the eighth chapter...**Glory to you, O Lord!**

³¹[Jesus] began to teach them 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.³²He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke

him. ³³But 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."

³⁴He 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. ³⁵For 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. ³⁶For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? ³⁷Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? ³⁸Those 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 Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ!**

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY

"Whom Shall I Fear"

You hear me when I call. You are my morning song.
Though darkness fills the night it cannot hide the light. Whom shall I fear?

You crush the enemy underneath my feet.
You are my sword and shield though troubles linger still. Whom shall I fear?

Chorus

I know who goes before me; I know Who stands behind.

The God of angel armies is always by my side.

The One who reigns forever; he is a friend of mine.

The God of angel armies is always by my side.

My strength is in your name for you alone can save.
You will deliver me; yours is the victory.
Whom shall I fear? Whom shall I fear?

Chorus

And nothing formed against me shall stand.
You hold the whole world in your hands.
I'm holding on to your promises. You are faithful; you are faithful. *(Repeat Bridge)*

Chorus

CREED

Together with Christians of every time, place, and space, let us confess our faith using the words of the Apostles Creed:

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born

of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended into hell. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

After each petition: ...Lord, in your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**

PEACE

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

OFFERING

This is the time in our worship to give thanks to God for your blessings. How is God blessing you and calling you to bless others? We invite your support of ongoing and growing ministries at Zion.

We Feast on the Body & Blood of Christ

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

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

Lift up your hearts! **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God. You are most holy, and great is the majesty of your glory. You so loved the world that you gave your only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but have eternal life.

We give you thanks for his coming into the world to fulfill for us your holy will and to accomplish all things for our salvation.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes. **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

Remembering, therefore, his salutary command, his life-giving passion and death, his glorious resurrection and ascension, and the promise of his coming again, we give thanks to you, O Lord God Almighty, not as we ought but as we are able; we ask you mercifully to accept our praise and thanksgiving and with your Word and Holy Spirit to bless us, your servants, and these your own gifts of bread and wine, so that we and all who share in the body and blood

of Christ may be filled with heavenly blessing and grace, and, receiving the forgiveness of sin, may be formed to live as your holy people and be given our inheritance with all your saints.

To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever. **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

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, forever and ever. Amen.

DISTRIBUTION

PRAYER

Let us pray...Compassionate God, you have fed us with the bread of heaven. Sustain us in our Lenten pilgrimage: may our fasting be hunger for justice; our alms, a making of peace; and our prayer, the song of grateful hearts, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

We Are Sent Forth to Love & Serve

ANNOUNCEMENTS

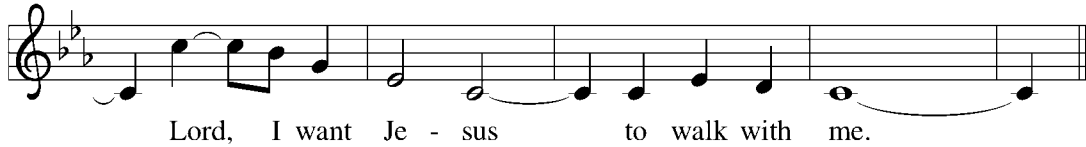
BENEDICTION

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace. **Amen.**

SENDING SONG

"I Want Jesus to Walk with Me" (Hymn #325, Verse 1)

The image shows three staves of musical notation for the hymn "I Want Jesus to Walk with Me". The music is written in a treble clef with a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The first staff contains the melody for the first line of the verse: "I I want Je - sus to walk with me;". The second staff contains the melody for the second line: "I want Je - sus to walk with me;". The third staff contains the melody for the third line: "all a - long my pil - grim jour - ney,". The lyrics are printed below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across notes.



DISMISSAL

The worship has ended; now the service begins. Go in peace. Share the good news!

Thanks be to God!

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