Second Sunday in Lent February 25, 2024



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.



ZIONMinistries Under the Cross

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Welcome to Zion!

Return to the Lord your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, abounding in steadfast love... (Joel 2:13)

Welcome – whether this is your home congregation or your first visit, we're glad you're here!

We welcome all people in the name of Christ to experience God's goodness and grace in Word, water, and meal. Wherever you are on your spiritual journey, there is a place for you to belong at Zion.

Get Connected at Zion

The best ways to stay connected are to visit our website, follow us on social media (@zionchurchdfb on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter), and subscribe to our weekly newsletter.

Children in Worship

Children are God's gift to our church! They are not the future of our church; they are the right now. The way we welcome children here directly affects the way they respond to the Church, to God, and to one another.

We welcome children and their families to sit near the Prayground at the front of the sanctuary. There are coloring activities, puzzles, books, and a toolbox to engage in our worship together.

Giving

We appreciate your stewardship of treasure, talent, and time at Zion. You may leave your offerings in the offering plates or give online via our website or this QR code.



Livestreaming

Zion livestreams all our services on Facebook and YouTube. Any person present gives consent to being filmed or photographed.



We Gather

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

In the name of the Father, and of the \pm 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, we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. 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. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

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 HYMN

"Blessed Be Your Name"

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 Hymn #157

Kyrie eleison is Greek for "Lord, have mercy."

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray together...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

The readings are found on the "Today's Readings" insert.

FIRST READING

Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16

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

RESPONSIVE PSALM

Psalm 22:23-31

Using the psalm tone printed on the insert, the Cantor and the assembly will chant the Psalm responsively.

SECOND READING

Romans 4:13-25

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

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL Mark 8:31-38

Before the reading: The Holy Gospel according to Mark...

Glory to you, O Lord.

After the reading: These are the words of our Lord. They are true

and can be trusted. Praise to you, O Christ!

GOD'S MESSAGE FOR ALL

HYMN OF THE DAY

"Whom Shall I Fear"

APOSTLES' CREED

Together with all 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 to the dead. 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 THE PEOPLE

SHARING OF PEACE

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

OFFERING & ANNOUNCEMENTS

We Feast at the Lord's Table

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 God thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. You call your people to cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the paschal feast, that, renewed in the gift of baptism, we may come to the fullness of your grace. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with

the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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.

LORD'S PRAYER

Music by Cantor Peter J. Rizzo

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



SHARING THE MEAL

Here is bread for the journey, a feast for hungry hearts. Come to the table of mercy and grace.

During the season of Lent, our meal is shared in silence. You are encouraged to use this time for prayer and contemplation.

We Are Sent into the World

BLESSING FOR STRENGTH

May the body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ comfort, strengthen, and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray together...Generous God, at this table we have tasted your immeasurable grace. As grains of wheat are gathered into one bread, now make us one loaf to feed the world; in the name of Jesus, the Bread of life. Amen.

BLESSING

Beloved, we are God's own people, holy, washed, renewed. May God bless you and keep you, shower you with mercy, fill you with courage, and + give you peace. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN

Hymn #325, Verse 1

"I Want Jesus to Walk with Me"

DISMISSAL

The worship has ended. Now the service begins. Go in peace. Share your bread with the world. **Thanks be to God!**

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Holy Communion at Zion

Christ's table is open to all! We offer grape juice for those who desire. If, for reasons of conscience or health, you are unable to receive either the bread or the wine, please know that the Church affirms the full presence of Christ in each element.

For Whom & For What Shall We Pray?

If you would like to submit a name(s) to include in our **Prayers of the People**, please use an index card from the Welcome Table and place it in the prayer basket at the altar **before the Hymn of the Day**. In order to keep our prayer list current, all names must be resubmitted each week if you desire continued prayers.

Opportunities to "Just Show Up"

Wednesdays in Lent

February 28, March 6, 13, & 20 in Katie Luther Chapel



5:30 p.m. Dinner 6:00 p.m. Conversation

7:30 p.m. Evening Prayer

In partnership with Deerfield Beach Community Cares, we are hosting a series of classes on food

and money for our Nina's Place families. The first three weeks will cover food-related topics, be facilitated by Feeding South Florida, and be offered in English, Spanish, and Creole. The last two classes will cover budgeting and credit and be facilitated by First Horizon Bank.

Let's demonstrate our Zion spirit of hospitality. We will help serve dinner, eat and learn with our neighbors, and end the evening with prayer. Holden Evening Prayer will also be livestreamed on Facebook and YouTube.

Opportunities to Serve Joyfully & Give Selflessly

Fill the Soup Pot: Spare Change & Soup Continues

Continuing through the end of February, you are invited to bring your spare change for a "noisy offering" and cans of soup to worship on Sunday mornings. The spare change will go toward buying additional shelf-stable items for our friends at Nina's Place.

Sunday Morning Worship Leadership (Greeters, Assisting Ministers, Readers, Coffee Fellowship)



Prayer Team at Nina's Place!

Nina's Place is always in need of volunteers! To get connected for our Thursday & Friday food deliveries, speak to Cantor Kurt Schmidt to be added to the What's App group. To sign up for a Saturday volunteer spot, visit www.ninasplacedfb.org.



Today's Readings

Second Sunday in Lent February 25, 2024

Prayer of the Day

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.**

First Reading

Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16

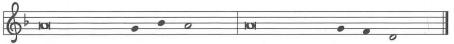
When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the LORD appeared to Abram, and said to him, "I am God Almighty; walk before me, and be blameless. ²And I will make my covenant between me and you, and will make you exceedingly numerous." ³Then Abram fell on his face; and God said to him, ⁴"As for me, this is my 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."

Psalm

Psalm 22:23-31; tone 9



You who fear the LORD, give praise!
All you of Jacob's line, give glory.
Stand in awe of the LORD,
all you off-l spring of Israel.

24For the LORD does not despise
nor abhor the poor in their poverty;
neither is the LORD's face
hid-l den from them;

but when they cry out,
the LORD hears them.
From you comes my praise
in the great assembly;
I will perform my vows

I will perform my vows in the sight of those who fear the Lord.

who 'fear the LORD.

26The 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 ¹ to the LORD; all the families of nations shall bow ¹ before God.

²⁸For dominion belongs | to the LORD,
 who rules o- | ver the nations.
 ²⁹Indeed, all who sleep in the earth

shall bow ¹ down in worship; all who go down to the dust, though they be dead, shall kneel be- ¹ fore the LORD.

³⁰Their descendants shall ¹ serve the LORD, whom they shall proclaim to genera- ¹ tions to come.

³¹They shall proclaim God's deliverance to a people ¹ yet unborn, saying to them,

"The LORD has acted!"

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. 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. 20 No. 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." 23 Now 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 Iesus our Lord from the dead, 25 who was handed over to death for our trespasses and was raised for our justification.

Gospel Mark 8:31-38

[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."

TODAY'S READINGS February 25, 2024

Volume 55, Number 2

Next Sunday's Readings: Exodus 20:1-17; Psalm 19; 1 Corinthians 1:18-25; John 2:13-22.

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