

Morning Prayer

The Second Sunday in Lent

February 28, 2021

Zoom link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85887946777?pwd=ei94MEdsMUh6clV6b2dUblFOQ3I2Zz09>

Meeting ID: 858 8794 6777

Passcode: 782611

As a Lenten practice for us as a congregation, we would like to keep a period of five minutes silence before the Prelude begins. Zoom participants will be muted at 9:55 a.m. We are taking on this practice as an opportunity for all worshippers to gather their thoughts, spend a brief time in prayer, and prepare their hearts for worship.

Prelude

Announcements

Opening Hymn

Chorus Book 150

You are holy; I come in silence

Chord progression: $\begin{matrix} G\flat & A\flat7 & G\flat & D\flat \\ A\flat & D\flat & & \end{matrix}$ $D\flat^4$ $\begin{matrix} G\flat & A\flat7 \\ A\flat & \end{matrix}$

You are ho - ly; I come in si - lence.

Chord progression: $A\flat7$ $A\flat13$ $E\flat^{7sus}$ $E\flat m7$ $\begin{matrix} G\flat & A\flat & A\flat^4 & A\flat & D\flat \\ A\flat & & & & \end{matrix}$

— You are wise, — Lord; — I come to hear.

G^bM⁷ D^b2⁴ D^b G^b F E^{sus} E G⁷ E
 G A A

You are God; I come to o - bey

B^bm G^b2¹⁴ G^b D^b2² D^b D^b E^bm⁷ G^b A^b7 D^b A^b7
 A^b F E^b

You. You are love; I come to draw near.

D^b G^b G^b2¹⁴ D^b D^b E^bm⁷ G^b A^b7 D^bsus D^b
 F A^b F

You are love; I come to draw near.

Presider Blessed be the God of our salvation:
People **Who bears our burdens and forgives our sins.**

The Decalogue

Hear the commandments of God to God's people:
 I am the Lord your God who brought you out of bondage.
 You shall have no other gods but me.

Amen. Lord have mercy.

You shall not make for yourself any idol.

Amen. Lord have mercy.

You shall not invoke with malice the Name of the Lord your God.

Amen. Lord have mercy.

Remember the Sabbath Day and keep it holy.

Amen. Lord have mercy.

Honor your father and your mother.

Amen. Lord have mercy.

You shall not commit murder.

Amen. Lord have mercy.

You shall not commit adultery.

Amen. Lord have mercy.

You shall not steal.

Amen. Lord have mercy.

You shall not be a false witness.

Amen. Lord have mercy.

You shall not covet anything that belongs to your neighbor.

Amen. Lord have mercy.

The Presider then says

Hear these words of scripture:

If we claim to be sinless, we are self-deceived and strangers to the truth. If we confess our sins, God is just, and may be trusted to forgive our sins and cleanse us from every kind of wrong.

Spirit of God, search our hearts.

Confession of Sin

The Presider then says

Gentle Father, show us our sins as they really are, so that we may truly renounce them and know the depth and richness of your mercy.

Silence is kept for a time.

The People's Respondent, the Presider, and the 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.**

A Priest then says

Almighty God, who pardons all who truly repent, forgive + your sins, strengthen you by the Holy Spirit, and keep you in life eternal; through Jesus Christ our Redeemer. **Amen.**

Holy God,
Holy and Mighty,
Holy Immortal One.
Have mercy upon us.

The Invitatory and Psalter

Presider Lord, open our lips.

People **And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: *
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.**

Lord be gracious to us; we long for you.

Be our strength every morning; our salvation in time of distress.

Psalm 67:1-5

Deus misereatur

O God, be merciful to us and bless us, *
show us the light of your countenance and come to us.

**Let your ways be known upon earth, *
your saving health among all nations.**

Let the peoples praise you, O God; *
let all the peoples praise you.

**Let the nations be glad and sing for joy, *
for you judge the peoples with equity
and guide all the nations upon earth.**

Let the peoples praise you, O God; *
let all the peoples praise you.

Psalm 22:22-30

²²Praise the LORD, you that fear him; *

stand in awe of him, O offspring of Israel;
all you of Jacob's line, give glory.

**²³For 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.**

²⁴My praise is of him in the great assembly; *

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

**²⁵The poor shall eat and be satisfied,
and those who seek the LORD shall praise him: *
“May your heart live for ever!”**

²⁶All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD, *
and all the families of the nations shall bow before him.

**²⁷For kingship belongs to the LORD; *
he rules over the nations.**

²⁸To him alone all who sleep in the earth bow down in worship; *
all who go down to the dust fall before him.

**²⁹My soul shall live for him;
my descendants shall serve him.**

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

**³⁰They shall come and make known to a people yet unborn *
the saving deeds that he has done.**

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: *
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.**

Lord be gracious to us; we long for you.

Be our strength every morning; our salvation in time of distress.

The Lessons

First Reading

Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16

A Reading from the book of Genesis.

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.”

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Canticle: The Prayer of Manasseh

¹ O Lord Almighty,
God of our ancestors,
of Abraham and Isaac and Jacob
and of their righteous offspring;
**² you who made heaven and earth
with all their order;**
³ who shackled the sea by your word of command,
who confined the deep
and sealed it with your terrible and glorious name;
**⁴ at whom all things shudder,
and tremble before your power,**
⁵ for your glorious splendor cannot be borne,
and the wrath of your threat to sinners is unendurable;
**⁶ yet immeasurable and unsearchable
is your promised mercy,**
⁷ for you are the Lord Most High,
of great compassion, long-suffering, and very merciful,
and you relent at human suffering.
**O Lord, according to your great goodness
you have promised repentance and forgiveness
to those who have sinned against you,**
and in the multitude of your mercies
you have appointed repentance for sinners,
so that they may be saved.
**⁸ Therefore you, O Lord, God of the righteous,
have not appointed repentance for the righteous,
for Abraham and Isaac and Jacob, who did not sin against you,
but you have appointed repentance for me, who am a sinner.**

**Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: *
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.**

Second Reading

Romans 4:13-25

A Reading from Paul's letter to the Church in Rome.

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.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Hymn

Hymnal 675

Take up your cross, the Savior said



1 Take up your cross, the Sa - vior said, if
4 Take up your cross, then, in his strength, and
5 Take up your cross, and fol - low Christ, nor



1 you would my dis - ci - ple be; take up your cross with
 4 calm - ly ev - ery dan - ger brave: it guides you to a -
 5 think till death to lay it down; for on - ly those who



1 will - ing heart, and hum - bly fol - low af - ter me.
 4 bun - dant life and leads to vic - tory o'er the grave.
 5 bear the cross may hope to wear the glo - rious crown.

Third Reading

Mark 8:31-38

A Reading from Mark.

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.”



Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

The Apostles' Creed

The People's Respondent, the Presider, and the People

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth;
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the Virgin Mary.
He 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,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again 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.**

The Prayers

Presider Hear our cry, O God.

People **And listen to our prayer.**

Presider Let us pray.

The People's Respondent, the Presider, and the People

**Eternal Spirit,
Earth-maker, Pain bearer, Life-giver,
Source of all that is and that shall be,
Father and Mother of us all,
Loving God, in whom is heaven;
The hallowing of your name echo through the universe;
The way of your justice be followed by the people of the world;
Your heavenly will be done by all created beings;
Your commonwealth of peace and freedom
Sustain our hope and come on earth.
With the bread we need for today, feed us.
In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us.
In times of temptation and test; strengthen us.
From trials too great to endure, spare us.
From the grip of all that is evil, free us.
For you reign in the glory of the power that is love, now and forever. Amen.**

V. Make you ways known upon earth, O God,
R. Your saving power among all peoples.
V. Renew your Church in holiness,
R. And help us to serve you with joy.
V. Guide the leaders of this and every nation,
R. That justice may prevail throughout the world
V. Let your way be known upon earth;
R. Your saving health among all nations.
V. Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten,
R. Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.
V. Make us instruments of your peace,
R. And let your glory be over all the earth.

The Collect of the Day

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.**

Lord God, almighty and everlasting Father, you have brought us in safety to this new day: Preserve us with your mighty power, that we may not fall into sin, nor be overcome by adversity; and in all we do, direct us to the fulfilling of your purpose; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Almighty God. Give your people grace to withstand the temptations of the world, the flesh and the devil, and with pure hearts and minds to follow you, the only true God; through Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

Lord Jesus Christ, you stretched out your arms of love on the hard wood of the cross that everyone might come within the reach of your saving embrace: So clothe us in your Spirit that we, reaching forth our hands in love, may bring those who do not know you to the knowledge and love of you; for the honor of your Name. **Amen.**

Intercessions and thanksgivings

Presider O God, we are in awe of you and your promises. Have mercy upon us. Set our minds on you.

Intercessor Your world is aching for healing. Make us good stewards of your creation, Lord. Grant our president and our leaders in the courts and Congress compassion and wisdom. **Have mercy upon us. Set our minds on you.**

Silence is kept.

Your church is reaching for you. We pray today for our Bishops Bonnie, Michael, Justin, Moises, Elizabeth, Donald and Craig. We pray for all ministers, priests, deacons, ministry teams, those in formation; and our sisters and brothers worshipping at St John's, Howell, Trinity Church, Farmington Hills; and St Luke's, Santiago, in the Dominican Republic. Help us to extend our reach to all whom you love. **Have mercy upon us. Set our minds on you.**

Silence is kept.

Your people are being born, and rejoice in your life-giving love. We give you thanks today [especially for _____].

Silence is kept.

Your people are hungry and cold and don't know where to turn. They are ill, and are anxious. They bend under the weight of their lives. We pray for [_____]. Enable us to bring them your healing and fullness of life. **Have mercy upon us. Set our minds on you.**

Silence is kept.

For those who have died in the faith of Christ, [especially _____], that they may reside with you in paradise; let us pray. **Have mercy upon us. Set our minds on you.**

Silence is kept.

Presider Be gracious to your people, we entreat you, O Lord, that they, repenting day by day of the things that displease you, may be more and more filled with love of you and of your commandments; and, being supported by your grace in this life, may come to the full enjoyment of eternal life in your everlasting kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen**

The Presider then says

My sisters and brothers, I invite you- wherever you are- to take into your hands the gifts you offer today. Gifts of food, gifts of money, gifts of whatever form, and join me as we offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving, and make good our vows to the Most High.

Let us pray.

Loving God and merciful Creator, whose hand is open wide to satisfy the needs of every living creature: we come to you with thanksgiving and praise. We offer to you this day our gifts of time, talent, and possessions, knowing that all we are, and all we have, is a

gift from you. **Please accept these gifts, and help us to reach out to others as you, our God, have reached out to us. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

A Prayer of St. Chrysostom

The People's Respondent, the Presider, and the People

Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you will be in the midst of them: **Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting. Amen.**

Closing Hymn

LEVAS 144

Where he leads me

1. I can hear my Sav - ior call - ing, — I can hear my Sav - ior call - ing, —
2. I'll go with Him through the gar - den, — I'll go with Him through the gar - den, —
4. He will give me grace and glo - ry, — He will give me grace and glo - ry, —

1. I can hear my Sav - ior call - ing, — "Take thy cross and fol - low, fol - low me."
2. I'll go with Him through the gar - den, — I'll go with Him, with Him all the way.
4. He will give me grace and glo - ry, — And go with me, with me all the way.

Where He leads me I will fol-low,—Where He leads me I will fol-low,—

Where He leads me I will fol-low,— I'll go with Him, with Him all the way.

Dismissal

A Priest says

Heavenly Father, whose blessed Son came not to be served but to serve: Bless all who, following in his steps, give themselves to the service of others; that with wisdom, patience, and courage, they may minister in his Name to the suffering, the friendless, and the needy, for the love of him who laid down his life for us,. **Amen.**

And may the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all + evermore. **Amen.** 2 Corinthians 13:14

Postlude

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REGARDING OFFERINGS TO ST. BARNABAS CHURCH

To make an offering to St Barnabas, please mail your check to the church: 20500 W Old US-12, Chelsea MI 48118-1309. Mail is being collected daily.

CONTINUING OUR DONATIONS OF FOOD AND FUNDS
TO FAITH IN ACTION

Faith in Action is continuing to provide leadership in collecting donations to support households in need in the Chelsea and Dexter areas. They will be in need of our continuing help in the weeks of winter still to come.

Needed right now: *boxed/shelf-stable milk, cooking oil, salt/pepper, spices, coffee, tea bags, sugar, flour, canned tuna, crackers, cake mix, canned frosting, dish soap, women's hygiene products.* You may bring your donations to FIA, or to Nancy who will see that they get there. **If you bring food directly to FIA**, please let Nancy know, so she can continue to keep our records of donation. The **next Food Drive at the church** will be **March 21**, the date of the next BC meeting. The building will be open for you to leave your donations.

Financial donations to help us combat the continuing effects of the pandemic can be made by PayPal at www.faithinaction1.org, by [Facebook](#), or by mailing a check to *Faith in Action, 603 S. Main Street, Chelsea MI 48118*. **If you need help, please call FIA at (734) 475-3305**

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Upcoming Commemorations

- Feb 28 Anna Julia Haywood Cooper, Educator, 1964
- March 1 David of Wales, Bishop, c. 544
- 2 Chad of Lichfield, Bishop, 672
- 3 John and Charles Wesley, Priests, 1791, 1788;
and, Katherine Drexel, Monastic, 1955
- 4 Paul Cuffee, Witness to the Faith among the Shinnecock, 1812
- 6 William W. Mayo, 1911, and Charles F. Menninger, 1953,
and Their Sons, Pioneers in Medicine

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February 28, 2021 – Lent 2B

Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16

In our passage, we witness another in a long history of exchanges between God and Abram. Abram listens, receptive and humble as God makes his everlasting covenant. The covenant is a promise that he and Sarai, heretofore childless, will be the forerunners of multitudes – of kings and of nations. This is a spectacular promise, given that Sarai and Abram are way beyond childbearing years. God gives Abram and Sarai new names, signifying their new role as the progenitors of multitudes with Yahweh as their God.

There are many instances in Abram's life of going off in his own direction and being influenced by fear or the desires of others. He also has an abiding faith in God and follows God's direction, even when that direction seems improbable and even impossible. Abram's faithfulness pales in comparison to God's generosity and grace.

- Recall a time when God's generosity and promises gave you new direction.
- Our lives can seem small in comparison to the monumental story of Abraham. But God is as generous and faithful to us as to him. How would you describe God's faithfulness to you today, and your faithfulness to him?
- In our passage, Abram's only action is a humble acceptance of God's promise and direction. How do you respond to God's direction and promises?

Psalm 22:22-30

Our reading begins halfway through Psalm 22, following bleak moments of despair and death where pleadings and prayers have seemingly gone unanswered. Here is a turning point – an exhortation to praise and glorify the Lord. Why? Because God listens to those who share their pain with him. Because God is indeed with us in *all* things, even when we can't sense his presence, even in death. And "us" means everyone, including the poorest and most forsaken among us. All will be heard, remembered, and satisfied throughout *all* times for those who turn to him. The final verses soar with a promise of deliverance of future generations. Our task is to keep praying, acknowledging that we are in dire need of God's help and that he is our strength.

- This Psalm asks us to reflect on God's presence and goodness even when we can't feel them. If you agree, how would you express this to someone struggling with this idea?
- In our culture, the nature of God has often been described as above or looking down upon us, rather than with us – especially in our pain, our fallenness, our desperation. Describe how you see God being with and for us in hard times.

Romans 4:13-25

This passage from Romans is a bit like an ancient bible study on today's reading from Genesis! Paul lays it out nicely: Abraham didn't find the old laws the be-all, end-all – he took God at his word. Simply abiding the laws renders faith meaningless. Rather, Abraham's faith is self-perpetuating, creative, and trusting. God's promise that he would be "father of many nations" flows from Abraham's faith. Paul reminds the Romans that God's promise applies to them as well. And we, too, can take it to heart; faith and trust in God bind us to God's creative and generative promises.

- How have you seen God do the seemingly impossible in your life or the lives of others?
- It's easy to think that we must follow a lot of rules and do good things in order to be accepted by God, rather than trusting in his grace. How would you explain faith in God's grace and promises to someone struggling with this concept?

Mark 8:31-38

Jesus is straightforward in this passage – no sugarcoating his fate. He will be rejected, suffer, die, and rise again, he tells his disciples, drawing a reprimand from Peter. Jesus in turn scolds Peter for thinking from a human perspective rather than a divine one. Jesus continues with a similarly difficult message for his followers. Following him means losing one's life and taking up the cross.

To “follow” Jesus is to deny one’s own wants and desires and do the right thing – the thing given you to do. Jesus didn’t want to die on a cross, but we see that he was confident in the glory of God that was to come, despite the painful costs. Important to consider is that as someone who loved Jesus, Peter was well-meaning in his “human perspective”. Certainly, he shuddered at the thought of Jesus’ suffering and death.

- Recall a time in your life when you were on the receiving end of good intentions and loving advice that held you back from doing what you knew you had to do. Or a time when you’ve been compelled to advise someone away from doing something costly and painful that they felt called to do. Do you sense the tension between human and divine things in this recollection?
- This passage prompts questions about what we value and what we’re willing to give up for those values. When have you been called to give up the pleasures of the moment for lasting things? The popular choice for the more principled one? Profit for honor?

This study written by Sondra Jones.

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Confession of Sin sentences and Absolution from *A New Zealand Prayer Book*. San Francisco: HarperSanFrancisco, 1997, pp.594 & 38.

Invitatory sentences from *A New Zealand Prayer Book*. San Francisco: HarperSanFrancisco, 1997, p.592

Lord’s Prayer from *A New Zealand Prayer Book*. San Francisco: HarperSanFrancisco, 1997, p.181.

Suffrages from *A New Zealand Prayer Book*. San Francisco: HarperSanFrancisco, 1997, p.50.

Dismissal prayer from *Saintly Scorecard* 2021. Cincinnati: Forward Movement, 2021, p.25

Our Mission:

We seek to grow as diverse disciples of Jesus Christ, and to serve Jesus by serving others in the world, guided by the values of Ancient Rites, Open Minds, and Affirming Hearts.



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