



February 25, 2024

The Second Sunday in Lent

Rev. Ken Bersche

*Janis Lapham, Organist
Maggie Kent, Secretary*

Prelude

Processional Hymn *Please Stand*

“How Great Thou Art”

- ♪ O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder
Consider all the works Thy hand hath made,
I see the stars, I hear the mighty thunder,
Thy pow’r throughout the universe displayed;
~Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to Thee, How great Thou art! How great Thou art!
Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to Thee, How great Thou art! How great Thou art!
- ♪ When through the woods and forest glades I wander,
I hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees;
When I look down from lofty mountain grandeur
And hear the brook and feel the gentle breeze; ~Then...
- ♪ But when I think that God, His Son not sparing,
Sent Him to die, I scarce can take it in,
That on the cross my burden gladly bearing
He bled and died to take away my sin; ~Then...
- ♪ When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation
And take me home, what joy shall fill my heart!
Then I shall bow in humble adoration
And there proclaim: “My God, how great Thou art!” ~Then....

Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 801 -Text: Carl Gustaf Boberg 1859-1940, tr. Stuart W. K. Hine 1899-1989;
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Invocation

In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Matthew 28:19b

Amen.

You who fear the LORD, trust in the LORD! He is their help and their shield.

The LORD has remembered us; He will bless us; He will bless the house of Israel; He will bless the house of Aaron;

He will bless those who fear the LORD,

Both the small and the great.

Psalms 115:11-13

Confession and Absolution

Our hope in Christ is strong and living, yet we have often taken for granted the profound reality of Christ’s death for us. We have ignored how weak and ungodly we have been. Still, our heavenly Father grants us access to His throne of grace, to ask for His forgiveness.

A Time of Silence

Heavenly Father,

We have not rejoiced in suffering but have given up easily. We have lacked integrity and acted shamefully. And we have even despaired of life itself. Have mercy upon us, and reconcile us back to You, so that we may rejoice once more, on account of Jesus.

Amen.

At just the right time, while we were still weak and ungodly, Jesus Christ died for us and reconciled us to God. As a called and ordained servant of Christ and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen. We are forgiven and are at peace with God.

Prayer

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray. O God, You see that of ourselves we have no strength. By Your mighty power defend us from all adversities that may happen to the body and from all evil thoughts that may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Old Testament Reading *Please Be Seated*

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, ²that I may make my covenant between me and you, and may multiply you greatly.” ³Then Abram fell on his face. And God said to him, ⁴“Behold, my covenant is with you, and you shall be the father of a multitude of nations. ⁵No longer shall your name be called Abram, but your name shall be Abraham, for I have made you the father of a multitude of nations. ⁶I will make you exceedingly fruitful, and I will make you into nations, and kings shall come from you. ⁷And 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.

¹⁵And God said to Abraham, “As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her name 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 become nations; kings of peoples shall come from her.”

The Epistle

Romans 5:1–11

¹Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. ²Through him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God. ³Not only that, but we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, ⁴and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, ⁵and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.

⁶For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. ⁷For one will scarcely die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person one would dare even to die— ⁸but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. ⁹Since, therefore, we have now been justified by his blood, much more shall we be saved by him from the wrath of God. ¹⁰For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by his life. ¹¹More than that, we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

Gradual Hymn

“In Christ Alone”

♪ In Christ alone my hope is found; He is my light, my strength, my song;

This Cornerstone, this solid Ground, Firm through the fiercest drought and storm.

What heights of love, what depths of peace, When fears are stilled, when strivings cease!

My Comforter, my All in All, here in the love of Christ I stand.

- ♪ In Christ alone, who took on flesh, Fullness of God in helpless babe.
 This gift of love and righteousness, Scorned by the ones he came to save.
 Till on that cross as Jesus died, The wrath of God was satisfied;
 For every sin on Him was laid; Here in the death of Christ I live.
- ♪ There in the ground His body lay, Light of the world by darkness slain:
 Then bursting forth in glorious day, Up from the grave He rose again!
 And as He stands in victory, Sin's curse has lost its grip on me;
 For I am His and He is mine— Bought with the precious blood of Christ.
- ♪ No guilt in life, no fear in death, This is the power of Christ in me;
 From life's first cry to final breath. Jesus commands my destiny.
 No power of hell, no scheme of man, Can ever pluck me from His hand;
 Till He returns or calls me home — Here in the power of Christ I'll stand.

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Holy Gospel Please Stand

Mark 8:27–38

²⁷And Jesus went on with his disciples to the villages of Caesarea Philippi. And on the way he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that I am?” ²⁸And they told him, “John the Baptist; and others say, Elijah; and others, one of the prophets.” ²⁹And he asked them, “But who do you say that I am?” Peter answered him, “You are the Christ.” ³⁰And he strictly charged them to tell no one about him. ³¹And he began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders and the chief priests and the scribes and be killed, and after three days rise again. ³²And he said this plainly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. ³³But turning and seeing his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, “Get behind me, Satan! For you are not setting your mind on the things of God, but on the things of man.” ³⁴And calling the crowd to him with his disciples, he said to them, “If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. ³⁵For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake and the gospel's will save it. ³⁶For what does it profit a man to gain the whole world and forfeit his soul? ³⁷For what can a man give in return for his soul? ³⁸For whoever is ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him will the Son of Man also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.”

Apostles' Creed

Preschool Sings

Children's Message

The Hymn Please Be Seated

“When I Survey the Wondrous Cross”

- ♪ When I survey the wondrous cross On which the Prince of Glory died,
 My richest gain I count but loss And pour contempt on all my pride.
- ♪ Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast Save in the death of Christ, my God;
 All the vain things that charm me most, I sacrifice them to His blood.
- ♪ See, from His head, His hands, His feet Sorrow and love flow mingled down!
 Did e'er such love and sorrow meet Or thorns compose so rich a crown?
- ♪ Were the whole realm of nature mine, That were a tribute far too small;
 Love so amazing, so divine, Demands my soul, my life, my all!

*Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 425-Text: Isaac Watts 1674-1748;
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Proclamation of the Word

“The Complete, Crucified, and Crowned Christ”

Mark 8:27–38

Offering and Musical Offering

Prayer of the Church *Please Stand Each petition is concluded with the following:*

Lord Jesus Christ, my prayer attend,

And I will praise Thee without end.

Lord’s Prayer

Benediction

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord lift up His countenance on You and + give You peace.

Numbers 6:24–26

Amen.

Recessional Hymn *Please Be Seated*

“Were You There”

- ♪ Were you there when they crucified my Lord?
Were you there when they crucified my Lord?
Oh... Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble,
Were you there when they crucified my Lord?
- ♪ Were you there when they nailed Him to the tree?
Were you there when they nailed Him to the tree?
Oh... Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble,
Were you there when they nailed Him to the tree?
- ♪ Were you there when they laid Him in the tomb?
Were you there when they laid Him in the tomb?
Oh... Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble,
Were you there when they laid Him in the tomb?
- ♪ Were you there when God raised Him from the tomb?
Were you there when God raised Him from the tomb?
Oh... Sometimes it causes me to tremble, tremble, tremble,
Were you there when God raised Him from the tomb?

Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 456 -Text & Tune: African American Spiritual, 19th cent.;
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Postlude