

February 28, 2021 - Second Sunday in Lent

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| Celebrant: | Rev. Robert Cooke |
| Preacher: | Rev. Dr. Alex Faseruk |
| Music: | Rhonda Wicks |
| Readers/Prayers: | Victoria Featherston |
| Production: | Kevin McGrath |

Opening Hymn: You Call Us, Lord, To Be

You call us, Lord, to be
a people set apart,
to feel with thoughtful mind
and think with tender heart.
Thus chosen, now, O Lord, we ask
for faith in your unfailing grace
to make us equal to the task.

You call us, Lord, to care
for self and neighbour too,
to take the risk, and dare
to show what love can do.
Thus chosen, now, O Lord, we ask
for faith in your unfailing grace
to make us equal to the task.

You call us, Lord, to be
good stewards of the earth;
to tend to it as a place
of blessedness and worth.
Thus chosen, now, O Lord, we ask
for faith in your unfailing grace
to make us equal to the task.

You call us, Lord, to serve:
to die that we may live,
to know we best receive
when joyfully we give.
Thus chosen, now, O Lord, we ask
for faith in your unfailing grace
to make us equal to the task.

Greeting

The grace and peace of our Saviour Jesus Christ be with you,
and also with you.

As we prepare for Easter, when we shall reaffirm the baptismal covenant, let us continue to observe a holy Lent, by self-examination and repentance; by prayer, fasting, and self-denial; and by reading and meditating on God's holy word.

Kyries

Wash away all our iniquity
and cleanse us from our sin:
Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

Against you, you only have we sinned
and done what is evil in your sight:
Christ, have mercy. **Christ, have mercy.**

Create in us a pure heart, O God,
and renew a steadfast spirit within us:
Lord, have mercy. **Lord, have mercy.**

Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal,
have mercy on us.
**Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal,
have mercy on us.**

Collect

Let us Pray,
God of the wilderness,
your Son battled with the powers of darkness
and grew closer to you in the desert:
help us to use these forty days
to grow in wisdom and prayer,
so that we may witness to your saving love
in Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

A Reading from the Book of Genesis

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. And I will make my covenant between me and you, and will make you exceedingly numerous." Then Abram fell on his face; and God said to him, "As for me, this is my covenant with you: You shall be the ancestor of a multitude of nations. No longer shall your name be Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you the ancestor of a multitude of nations. I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you. 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. As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name. I 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." GENESIS 17:1-7, 15-16

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

A Reading from the Gospel According to Mark

Jesus began to teach his disciples 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. He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. But 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." He 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. For 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. For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? Those 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."

MARK 8:31-38

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon

An Affirmation of Faith

Let us declare our faith in God,

**We believe in God the Father,
from whom every family
in heaven and on earth is named.**

**We believe in God the Son,
who lives in our hearts through faith,
and fills us with his love.**

**We believe in God the Holy Spirit,
who strengthens us
with power from on high.**

**We believe in one God:
Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
Amen.**

Prayers of the People

We trust in your mercy.

Show us your way.

Lord's Prayer

Trusting in the compassion of God, we pray as our Saviour taught us,

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.**

Give us today our daily bread.

**Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.**

**Lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and for ever. Amen.**

Confession and Absolution

Dear friends in Christ,
as we prepare for the Feast of Easter,
let us make ready our hearts
to reaffirm the covenant of our baptism.

Let us ask God to bring to light
the things now hidden in darkness,
and to disclose to us the secret purposes of our hearts.

How faithfully have we continued
in the apostles' teaching and fellowship,
in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?

Lord, have mercy,

Lord, have mercy, and complete your work in us.

How faithfully have we persevered in resisting evil,
and whenever we fell into sin,
repented and returned to the Lord?

Lord, have mercy,

Lord, have mercy, and complete your work in us.

How faithfully have we proclaimed
by word and example
the good news of God in Christ?

Lord, have mercy,

Lord, have mercy, and complete your work in us.

How faithfully have we sought and served Christ
in all persons, loving our neighbours as ourselves?

Lord, have mercy,

Lord, have mercy, and complete your work in us.

How faithfully have we worked
for justice and peace among all people,
respecting the dignity of every human being?

Lord, have mercy,

Lord, have mercy, and complete your work in us.

How faithfully have we worked to safeguard
the integrity of God's creation,
respecting, sustaining and renewing the life of the earth?
Lord, have mercy,
Lord, have mercy, and complete your work in us.

Almighty God, have mercy upon you,
pardon and deliver you from all your sins,
confirm and strengthen you in all goodness,
and keep you in eternal life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**
The peace of the Lord be always with you
And also with you.

Let us offer one another a sign of peace.

Blessing

What does the Lord require? That you do justice, love kindness and walk
humbly with your God. And the blessing of God the Father, God the Son,
and God the Holy Spirit be with you this day and always. **Amen.**

Closing Hymn: Take Up Your Cross

Take up your cross, the Savior said,
if you would my disciple be;
take up your cross with willing heart,
and humbly follow after me.

Take up your cross; let not its weight
fill your weak spirit with alarm;
Christ's strength shall bear your spirit up
and brace your heart and nerve your arm.

Take up your cross and follow Christ,
nor think till death to lay it down;
for only those who bear the cross
may hope to wear the glorious crown.

Dismissal

The worship has ended; the service begins. Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God