

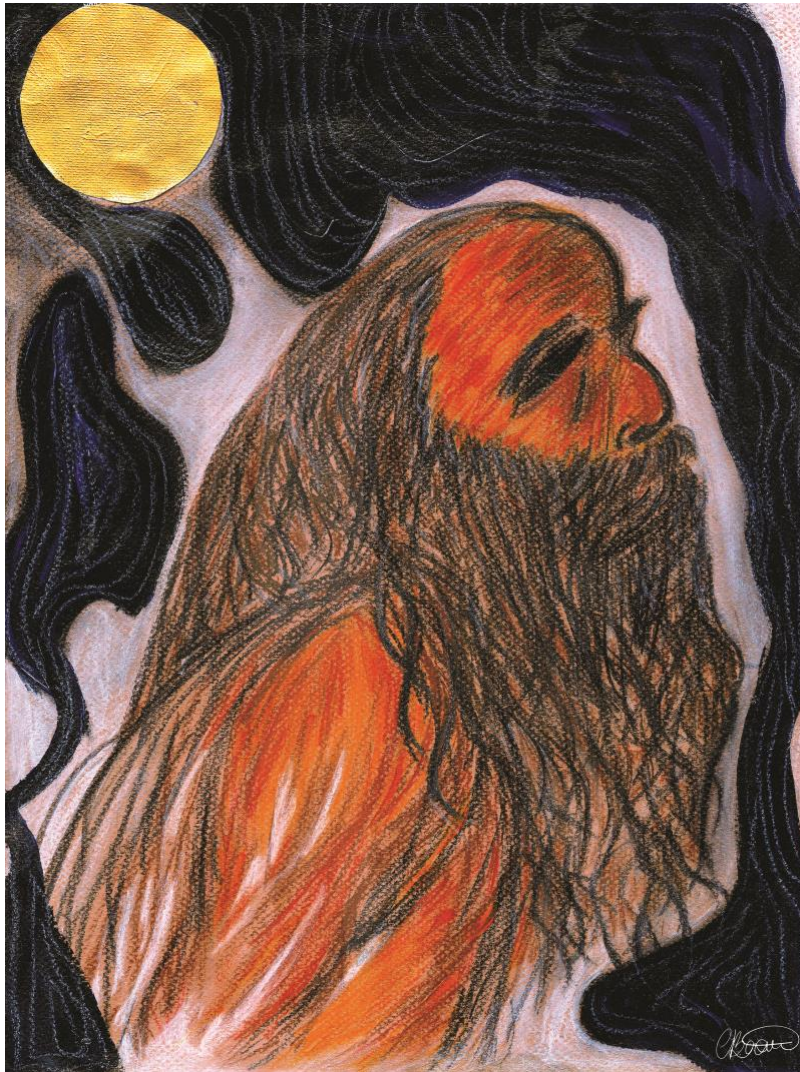
Second Sunday in Lent

March 5, 2023

10:00 AM

Welcome to St. Paul's

Our mission is to be a loving, accepting Christian community serving all people.



Renacimiento – by Carmelle Beaugelin

Inspired by John 3:1-17

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St. Paul's Episcopal Church

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Second Sunday in Lent

Homilist today is the Rev. Anne Slakey

Celebrant today is the Rev. Anne Slakey

Organist: Justin Pratt

Organ Prelude:

Processional Hymn

489

1. The great Creator of the worlds,
the sovereign God of heaven,
his holy and immortal truth
to all on earth hath given.

2. He sent no angel of his host
to bear this mighty word,
but him through whom the worlds were made,
the everlasting Lord.

3. He sent him not in wrath and power,
but grace and peace to bring;
in kindness, as a king might send
his son, himself a king.

4. He sent him down as sending God;
in flesh to us he came;
as one with us he dwelt with us,
and bore a human name.

5. He came as Savior to his own,
the way of love he trod;
he came to win us by good will,
for force is not of God.

6. Not to oppress, but summon all
their truest life to find,
in love God sent his Son to save,
not to condemn mankind.

Celebrant: Blessed be the God of our salvation:

People: **Who bears our burdens and forgives our sins.**

Celebrant: If we say that 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.

1John 1:8,9

The Confession of Sin

Celebrant: Let us confess our sins to God.

Silence may be kept.

People: God of all mercy, we confess that we have sinned against you, opposing your will in our lives. We have denied your goodness in each other, in ourselves, and in the world you have created. We repent of the evil that enslaves us, the evil we have done, and the evil done on our behalf. Forgive, restore, and strengthen us through our Savior Jesus Christ, that we may abide in your love and serve only your will. Amen.

The Absolution

Celebrant: Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

Kyrie S-86

Kyrie eleison. (3X)

Christe eleison. (3X)

Kyrie eleison. (3x)

The Collect for the Day

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: Let us pray.

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.**

The First Lesson

Genesis 12:1-4a

The Lord said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you, and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."

So Abram went, as the Lord had told him; and Lot went with him.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm

121

- 1 I lift up my eyes to the hills; *
from where is my help to come?
- 2 My help comes from the LORD, *
the maker of heaven and earth.
- 3 He will not let your foot be moved *
and he who watches over you will not fall asleep.
- 4 Behold, he who keeps watch over Israel *
shall neither slumber nor sleep;
- 5 The LORD himself watches over you; *
the LORD is your shade at your right hand,
- 6 So that the sun shall not strike you by day, *
nor the moon by night.
- 7 The LORD shall preserve you from all evil; *
it is he who shall keep you safe.
- 8 The LORD shall watch over your going out and your coming in, *
from this time forth for evermore.

What then are we to say was gained by Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh? For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. For what does the scripture say? “Abraham believed God, and it was reckoned to him as righteousness.” Now to one who works, wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due. But to one who without works trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith is reckoned as righteousness.

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

For 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, as 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.

Reader: The Word of the Lord

People: **Thanks be to God**

Gradual Hymn**668**

**1 I to the hills will lift my eyes.
from whence shall come my aid?
My help is from the Lord above,
who heaven and earth has made.**

**2 He shall not let your foot be moved,
his own he safely keeps;
with watchful and untiring eye
he slumbers not, nor sleeps.**

**3 Thy faithful guardian is the Lord,
thy shelter and thy shade.
Nor sun by day , nor moon by night,
need make thy soul afraid.**

**4 From evil he shall keep thee safe,
and shall thy strength restore.
and guard thy going out and in,
both now and evermore.**

The Gospel**John 3:1-17**

Clergy: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John

People: **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

There was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. He came to Jesus by night and said to him, “Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God.” Jesus answered him, “Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.” Nicodemus said to him, “How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother’s womb and be born?” Jesus answered, “Very

truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not be astonished that I said to you, 'You must be born from above.' The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit." Nicodemus said to him, "How can these things be?" Jesus answered him, "Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?"

"Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

"For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

"Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him."

Clergy: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

Homily

The Rev. Anne Slakey

Interlude:

The Nicene Creed

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God, begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven:
by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.
We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He has spoken through the Prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

The Prayers of the People (*Enriching our Worship form V*)

Celebrant: Let us pray for the whole state of Christ's church and the world.

Intercessor: Comfort and liberate the lonely, the bereaved and the oppressed.

Hear us, O Christ.

Keep in safety those who travel especially the refugees escaping war and famine and all who are in peril especially the people of the Ukraine.

Hear us, O Christ.

Heal the sick in body, mind or spirit and provide for the homeless, the hungry and the destitute. Whom shall we pray for this day? (*pause*). Lord in your mercy.

Hear us, O Christ.

Guard and protect all children who are in danger.

Hear us, O Christ.

Shower your compassion on prisoners, hostages and refugees, and all who are in trouble.

Hear us, O Christ.

Forgive our enemies, persecutors, and slanderers, and turn their hearts.

Hear us, O Christ.

Hear us as we remember those who have died, whom shall we remember this day? (*pause*) Grant us with them a share in your eternal glory.

Hear us, O Christ.

Celebrant: Lord Jesus Christ, you said to your apostles, "Peace I give to you; my own peace I leave with you:"

Regard not our sins, but the faith of your Church, and give to us the peace and unity of that heavenly City,

where with the Father and the Holy Spirit you live and reign, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Peace

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Prayers for Birthdays, Anniversaries, & Special Thanksgiving

Watch over thy child, O Lord, as *his* days increase; bless and guide *him* wherever he may be. Strengthen *him* when *he* stands; comfort *him* when discouraged or sorrowful; raise *him* up if *he* fall; and in *his* heart may thy peace which passeth understanding abide all the days of *his* life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

The Offertory

Celebrant: Ascribe to the Lord the honor due his name, bring offerings and come into His courts with praise.

Offertory Hymn

474

1 When I survey the wondrous cross
where the young Prince of Glory died,
my richest gain I count but loss,
and pour contempt on all my pride.

3 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?

2 Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast,
save in the cross of Christ, my God:
all the vain things that charm me most,
I sacrifice them to his blood.

4 Were the whole realm of nature mine,
that were an offering far too small;
love so amazing, so divine,
demands my soul, my life, my all.

Celebrant: Please join me as we give thanks for the gifts given this week saying:

Praise God from whom all blessings flow
Give praise all creatures here below
Give praise above ye heavenly host
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING (Enriching our Worship Prayer 1)

The musical notation is arranged in four staves, alternating between the Celebrant and the People. Each staff begins with a treble clef and a flat key signature (B-flat). The notes are represented by black dots, with stems and beams indicating the melody. The lyrics are written below the notes.

Celebrant
The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

People
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People
It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Celebrant:

It is truly right, and good and joyful, to give you thanks, all-holy God, source of life and fountain of mercy. You have filled us and all creation with your blessing and fed us with your constant love; you have redeemed us in Jesus Christ and knit us into one body. Through your Spirit you replenish us and call us to fullness of life. Therefore, joining with Angels and Archangels and with the faithful of every generation, we lift our voices with all creation as we sing:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Bless'd is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

The Celebrant continues

Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of the universe and giver of life. You formed us in your own image and called us to dwell in your infinite love. You gave the world into our care that we might be your faithful stewards and show forth your bountiful grace.

But we failed to honor your image in one another and in ourselves; we would not see your goodness in the world around us; and so we violated your creation, abused one another, and rejected your love. Yet you never ceased to care for us, and prepared the way of salvation for all people.

Through Abraham and Sarah you called us into covenant with you. You delivered us from slavery, sustained us in the wilderness, and raised up prophets to renew your promise of salvation. Then, in the fullness of time, you sent your eternal Word, made mortal flesh in Jesus. Born into the human family, and dwelling among us, he revealed your glory. Giving himself freely to death on the cross, he triumphed over evil, opening the way of freedom and life.

On the night before he died for us, Our Savior Jesus Christ took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his friends, and said: "Take, eat: This is my Body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said: "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People

**Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.**

The Celebrant continues

Remembering his death and resurrection, we now present to you from your creation this bread and this wine. By your Holy Spirit may they be for us the Body and Blood of our Savior Jesus Christ. Grant that we who share these gifts may be filled with the Holy Spirit and live as Christ's Body in the world. Bring us into the everlasting heritage of your daughters and sons, that with the Blessed Virgin Mary, John the Baptizer and blessed Paul, and all your saints, past, present, and yet to come, we may praise your Name for ever. Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever.

AMEN.

Celebrant: And now as our Savior Christ has taught us we are bold to sing:

Celebrant and People

S-119

**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,
for ever and ever. Amen**

The Breaking of the Bread

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.

Fraction Anthem

S161

**Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:
have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:
have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world:
grant us peace.**

Celebrant: The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

*Those who wish to receive communion are invited to come forward. Please indicate if you would like to receive the bread only or receive in both kinds by intinction (dipping of the host by the clergy), or by drinking from the common cup. The silver chalice has consecrated wine and the pottery chalice has consecrated grape juice.
Prayers for healing are available at the Baptismal Font during Communion*

Eucharistic Visitor Prayer

Celebrant and People

In the name of this congregation, we send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that those to whom you go may share with us in the communion of Christ's body and blood. We who are many are one body, because we all share one bread and one cup. Amen.

After Communion, the Celebrant says: Let us pray.

Celebrant and People:

**Loving God, we give you thanks for restoring us in your image and nourishing us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood. Now send us forth a people, forgiven, healed, renewed; that we may proclaim your love to the world and continue in the risen life of Christ our Savior.
Amen.**

Solemn Prayer

Celebrant: Let us bow down before the Lord our Maker.

Celebrant: Keep this your family, Lord, with your never-failing mercy, that relying solely on the help of your heavenly grace, they may be upheld by your divine protection; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Closing Hymn

635

1 If thou but trust in God to guide thee,
and hope in him through all thy ways,
he'll give thee strength whate'er betide thee,
and bear thee through the evil days.
Who trusts in God's unchanging love
builds on a rock that nought can move.

2 Sing, pray, and keep his ways unswerving;
so do thine own part faithfully,
and trust his word, though undeserving
thou yet shalt find it true for thee;
God never yet forsook in need
the soul that trusted him indeed.

The Dismissal

Officiant: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Organ Postlude:

✠ ✠ ✠

St. Paul's Episcopal Church

Priest-in-Charge: The Rev. Rik Rasmussen

Associates: The Rev. Karen Lawler

The Rev. Anne Slakey

Music Director: Justin Pratt

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Our service is streamed on Facebook and YouTube. Go to our Facebook page to join us in worship: (<https://www.facebook.com/StPaulsSacramento/live/>). Our YouTube channel is: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCjU73KRrR_-v3gc9n_gr80A

If you know any who would like to be added to our email list and receive the program each week, please send their email address to: st1849paul@sbcglobal.net

We will have a discussion group based on the Lenten Devotional “Seeking: Honest questions for deeper faith” from Sanctified Art on Wednesdays after the 12:10 service.

Hope's Space book group!

What: Our first read will be *This Here Flesh: Spirituality, Liberation, and the Stories that Make Us* by Cole Arthur Riley, a 2022 New York Times Bestseller.

When: Monday evenings at 6:30 pm beginning February 6, on Zoom.

Why: to hear stories from someone whose life experiences may be different than ours and to move from Cole's stories to a process of story sharing about her themes including Dignity, Wonder, Belonging, Fear, Lament, Justice.

Our next Vestry Meeting will be Tuesday 28 March at 5:15 PM. Please let Rev. Rik know if you would like to attend.
