

Concordia Lutheran Church & St. Mary's Episcopal Church
Morning Worship for The Sundays in Lent
February 28, 2021

Topic: The Second Sunday in Lent

Time: Sunday, February 28, 2021 10:00 AM Eastern Time

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82324470555?pwd=Z3dCRVpwSlpjaTRZXQvRHpmaUhXdz09>

Meeting ID: 823 2447 0555

Password: 0000

Use your telephone to call this number and enter the ID and Password.

You will be able to speak and to hear the service.

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Introduction to the Day: 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.

PRELUDE: Partita on "O God, My Faithful God"

Flor Peeters; *John Anderson*

THE SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP – THE SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT

THE PENETENTIAL ORDER from the *Book of Common Prayer*

Pastor Marschhausen

Blessed be God, the Father, the Son , and the Holy Spirit.

And blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever. Amen.

Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

His mercy endures forever.

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.

(First John 1:8,9)

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

A moment of silence

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.

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.**

Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy Immortal One, **have mercy upon us. Amen.**

HYMN

O God, My Faithful God

- 1 O God, my faithful God, true fountain ever flowing,
without whom nothing is, all perfect gifts bestowing:
give me a healthy frame, and may I have within
a conscience free from blame, a soul unstained by sin.
- 2 Give me the strength to do with ready heart and willing
whatever you command, my calling here fulfilling--
to do it when I ought, with all my might -- and bless
whatever I have wrought, for you must give success.
- 3 Keep me from saying words that later need recalling;
guard me, lest idle speech may from my lips be falling;
but when, within my place, I must and ought to speak,
then to my words give grace, lest I offend the weak.
- 4 When dangers gather round, oh, keep me calm and fearless;
help me to bear the cross when life seems dark and cheerless;
help me, as you have taught, to love both great and small,
and, by your Spirit's might, to live at peace with all.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor Marschhausen

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Let us pray. 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.**

READINGS FROM SCRIPTURE

The First Reading – Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16

Reader from Concordia

As with Noah, God makes an everlasting covenant with Abraham and Sarah. God promises this old couple that they will be the ancestors of nations, though they have no child together. God will miraculously bring forth new life from Sarah's womb. The name changes emphasize the firmness of God's promise.

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.”

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Verse for the Day – (Galatians 6:14)

Pastor Marschhausen

May I never boast of anything except the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ,
by which the world is crucified to me, and I to the world.

The Epistle Reading – Romans 4:13-25

Reader from St. Mary's

Paul presents Abraham as the example for how a person comes into a right relationship with God not through works of the law but through faith. Though Abraham and Sarah were far too old for bearing children, Abraham trusted that God would accomplish what God had promised to accomplish.

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.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Hymn

Take Up Your Cross, the Savior Said

1 “Take up your cross,” the Savior said, “if you would my disciple be; forsake the past, and come this day, and humbly follow after me.”

- 2 Take up your cross; let not its weight pervade your soul with vain alarm; his strength shall bear your spirit up, sustain your heart, and nerve your arm.
- 3 Take up your cross, nor heed the shame, nor let your foolish heart rebel; for you the Lord endured the cross to save your soul from death and hell.
- 4 Take up your cross and follow Christ, nor think till death to lay it down; for those who humbly bear the cross one day will wear the glorious crown.

The Holy Gospel – Mark 8:31-38

Deacon Winzler proclaims the Gospel...

After Peter confesses his belief that Jesus is the Messiah, Jesus tells his disciples for the first time what is to come. Peter's response indicates that he does not yet understand the way of the cross that Jesus will travel.

The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark. ***Glory to you, O Lord.***

³¹Jesus 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.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

HOMILY

Pastor Marschhausen

THE APOSTLES' CREED

Pastor Marschhausen

Together with all the baptized in Christ, let us confess our faith.

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.

The Prayers of the People –

Reader from St. Mary's

Relying on the promises of God, we pray boldly for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

Your gift of grace is for all people. Give confident faith to all the baptized, that they may follow you wholeheartedly. Give new believers joy in your promises; give hope and courage to those who suffer for their faith. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

All the ends of the earth worship you. From galaxies to microorganisms, preserve your creation. Teach humanity to marvel at your works and to join you in tending to creation's well-being. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

You rule over the nations. Raise up advocates for peace and justice within and between communities, nations and cultures. Give life where hope seems dead; call into existence new realities we cannot even imagine; teach us to walk in harmony with our neighbors. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

In Jesus you joined humanity in suffering and death. Reveal to all the depth of your love shown on the cross. Accompany all who suffer in body, mind, and spirit. Heal and restore all who are sick or grieving. Bring vindication for victims of injustice, exploitation, and oppression. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

You made Abraham and Sarah the ancestors of a multitude of nations. Bless grand-parents, parents, and foster parents, and the children who look to them for care and guidance. Console those who deal with infertility, parents who have entrusted their children to adoption, and children longing to be adopted. Equip and bless ministries and services to families. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Here other intercessions may be offered.

We await the day of Christ's coming in glory. Lead us by the example of all the saints whom you have called to take up their cross and follow you, that together we may find our lives in you. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We entrust ourselves and all our prayers to you, O faithful God, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

A PRAYER WHILE WE ARE UNABLE TO RECEIVE HOLY COMMUNION...

Pastor Marschhausen

Lord Jesus Christ, you are the bread of life and the cup of salvation.

I believe that you are truly present in the sacrament of Holy Communion.

I am baptized into your death and resurrection.

I seek you daily. I worship and adore you.

Since I cannot receive you in the eucharistic bread and wine,

I pray that you continue to come into my heart and soul,

as you always have,
through Confession and Forgiveness,
through the proclamation of your holy Word,
and through the prayers of your people;

**that I may remain united to you
by your all-powerful and ever-present Holy Spirit.**

Let me receive you and be nourished by your abundant grace.

Be for me the manna in my wilderness,

the bread of angels for my very human journey through time,
a foretaste of the heavenly banquet,
and solace in the hour of my death.

And return us all, Lord Jesus, to your Holy Table when this is over.

I pray all this, trusting that you are our life,

our peace, and our everlasting joy. **Amen.**

INTERCESSIONS *Intercessions and Thanksgivings follow...* *Pastor Marschhausen*

Now I invite your prayers for all the needs of the world God so loved, silently or aloud.

After each petition we pray, Lord, in your mercy. Hear our Prayer.

Draw near to us, O God, and receive our prayers for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BIRTHDAY & ANNIVERSARY BLESSINGS

Pastor Marschhausen

O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on your servant *N.* as *he* begins another year. Grant that *he* may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen *his* trust in your goodness all the days of *his* life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

God the Father, God the Son, God the Holy Spirit, bless, preserve and keep you; *N.* and *N.* God mercifully grant you the riches of grace, that you may please God both in body and soul. God make you a sign of the loving-kindness and steadfast fidelity manifest in the life, death, and resurrection of our Savior, and, living together in faith and love, may receive the blessings of eternal life. **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Pastor Marschhausen

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

**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.

Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

THE BLESSING

Pastor Marschhausen

You are what God made you to be:

 created in Christ Jesus for good works,
 chosen as holy and beloved,
 freed to serve your neighbor.

 God bless you [†] that you may be a blessing,
 in the name of the holy and life-giving Trinity. **Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN

Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus

- 1 Let us ever walk with Jesus, follow his example pure,
 through a world that would deceive us and to sin our spirits lure.
 Onward in his footsteps treading, trav'lers here, our home above,
 full of faith and hope and love, let us do our Savior's bidding.
 Faithful Lord, with me abide; I shall follow where you guide.
- 2 Let us suffer here with Jesus, and with patience bear our cross.
 Joy will follow all our sadness; where he is there is no loss.
 Though today we sow no laughter, we shall reap celestial joy:
 all discomforts that annoy shall give way to mirth hereafter.
 Jesus, here I share your woe; help me there your joy to know.
- 3 Let us gladly die with Jesus. Since by death he conquered death,
 he will free us from destruction, give to us immortal breath.
 Let us mortify all passion that would lead us into sin;
 and the grave that shuts us in shall but prove the gate of heaven.
 Jesus, here with you I die, there to live with you on high.
- 4 Let us also live with Jesus. He has risen from the dead
 that to life we may awaken. Jesus, you are now our head,
 we are your own living members; where you live, there we shall be
 in your presence constantly, living there with you forever.
 Jesus, let me faithful be; life eternal grant to me.

Deacon Fedorchak dismisses the assembly...

Go in peace. Share the good news.

Thanks be to God.

NOTES:

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DAILY READINGS FOR MARCH 1-6

Monday, March 1

Psalm 105:1-11, 37-45
Genesis 21:1-7
Hebrews 1:8-12

Tuesday, March 2

Psalm 105:1-11, 37-45
Genesis 22:1-19
Hebrews 11:1-3, 13-19

Wednesday, March 3

Psalm 105:1-11, 37-45
Jeremiah 30:12-22
John 12:36-43

Thursday, March 4

Psalm 19
Exodus 19:1-9a
1 Peter 2:4-10

Friday, March 5

Psalm 19
Exodus 19:9b-15
Acts 7:30-40

Saturday, March 6

Psalm 19
Exodus 19:16-25
Mark 9:2-8