



ST. MICHAEL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
THE SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT – MARCH 13, 2022

READINGS: GENESIS 15:1-12,17-18; PSALM 27:10-18; PHILIPPIANS 3:17-4:1; LUKE 13:31-35

THE WORD OF GOD

Hymn: 401, v s. 1, 2, 5 – The God of Abraham Praise

Bless the Lord, who forgives all our sins. **God's mercy endures for ever.**

As we prepare to worship, let us call to mind our sin, and the infinite mercy of God. (*silence*)

Almighty God; **Long-suffering and of great goodness: I confess to you, I confess with my whole heart my neglect and forgetfulness of your commandments, my wrong doing, thinking, and speaking; the hurts I have done to others, and the good I have left undone. O God, forgive me, for I have sinned against you; and raise me to newness of life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

May God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins, and bring you to everlasting life. **Amen.**

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

A READING FROM THE BOOK OF GENESIS

OUR HEBREW SCRIPTURE LESSON TELLS OF THE PROMISE OF MANY DESCENDANTS AND OF A COVENANT GUARANTEEING A HOMELAND WHICH GOD MADE WITH ABRAHAM. NOW HE PUTS HIS FAITH IN GOD AND IS ACCEPTED INTO A RIGHT RELATIONSHIP WITH THE LORD.

After Abram had rescued his nephew, the Lord came to Abram in a vision and said, 'Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great.' But Abram said, 'O Lord God, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?' And Abram said, 'You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir.' But the word of the Lord came to him, 'This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir.' He brought him outside and said, 'Look towards heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them.' Then he said to him, 'So shall your descendants be. I am the Lord who brought you from Ur of the Chaldeans, to give you this land to possess. 'And Abram believed the Lord; and the Lord reckoned it to him as righteousness. On that day the Lord made a covenant with Abram, saying, 'To your descendants I give this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the river Euphrates.

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

IN PSALM 27, THE PSALMIST EXPRESSES GREAT TRUST AND CONFIDENCE IN THE LORD AND ASKS ALWAYS TO BE IN GOD'S PRESENCE. THE CANTOR SINGS THE REFRAIN: ALL REPEAT, AND SING AS INDICATED:

Hearken to my voice, O Lord, when I call; have mercy on me and answer me. You speak in my heart and say, "Seek my face." Your face, LORD, will I seek. **R.**

Hide not your face from me, nor turn away your servant in displeasure. You have been my helper; cast me not away; do not forsake me, O God of my salvation. **R**

Though my father and my mother forsake me, the Lord will sustain me. Show me your way, O Lord; lead me on a level path, because of my enemies. **R.**

What if I had not believed that I should see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living! O tarry and await the Lord's pleasure; be strong, and he shall comfort your heart; wait patiently for the LORD. **R.**

A READING FROM PAUL'S EPISTLE TO THE PHILIPPIANS

IN THIS READING PAUL WARNS OF ENEMIES OF THE CROSS OF CHRIST AND URGES THE DISCIPLES IN PHILIPPI TO STAND FIRM IN THE HOPE OF THE GLORY TO COME.

Brothers and sisters, join in imitating me, and observe those who live according to the example you have in us. For many live as enemies of the cross of Christ; I have often told you of them, and now I tell you even with tears. Their end is destruction; their god is the belly; and their glory is in their shame; their minds are set on earthly things. But our citizenship is in heaven, and it is from there that we are expecting a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ. He will transform the body of our humiliation so that it may be conformed to the body of his glory, by the power that also enables him to make all things subject to himself. Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

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

Tract, Psalm 106, Tone VIIIG: Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good, for his mercy endures forever. Who can declare the mighty acts of the LORD or show forth all his praise? Happy are those who act with justice and always do what is right! Remember me, O LORD, with the favor you have for your people, and visit me with your saving help; That I may see the prosperity of your elect and be glad with the gladness of your people, that I may glory with your inheritance.

The Holy Gospel of our Lord, Jesus Christ, according to Luke.

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

As Jesus drew closer to Jerusalem, some Pharisees came and said to him, 'Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you.' He said to them, 'Go and tell that fox for me, "Listen, I am casting out demons and performing cures today and tomorrow, and on the third day I finish my work. Yet today, tomorrow, and the next day I must be on my way, because it is impossible for a prophet to be killed away from Jerusalem." Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing! See, your house is left to you. And I tell you, you will not see me until the time comes when you say, "Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord." '

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

Sermon -- The Rev. Michael L. Bradley, rector

The Apostles' Creed

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.

Prayers of the People

In penitence and faith let us make our prayers to God.

For your holy people, that they may triumph over evil and grow in grace,
we pray to you, O Lord: **Hear our prayer.**

For candidates for baptism and confirmation, that they may live by every word that proceeds from
your mouth, we pray to you, O Lord: **Hear our prayer.**

For the leaders of the nations, that you will guide them in the ways of mercy and truth,
we pray to you, O Lord: **Hear our prayer.**

For the needy, that they may not be forgotten, nor the hope of the poor be taken away,
we pray to you, O Lord: **Hear our prayer.**

For the sick in body, mind and spirit, that they may know your power to heal,
we pray to you, O Lord: **Hear our prayer.**

For the poor in spirit, that they may inherit the kingdom of heaven and see you face to face,
we pray to you, O Lord: **Hear our prayer.**

Let us commend the world, for which Christ suffered, to the mercy and protection of God.

Prayers are offered for special intentions; and the people are bidden to offer their prayers.

Holy Communion

Anthem: Until You Save the World - Heather Sorenson

As lights go out and candles dim, we grieve a darkened world, kneeling down before you, sometimes praying without words; longing for redemption's plan to finally be unfurled. We sit in silence, wait in hope until you save the world. "Stay with Me," we hear You ask. "Stay with Me till this is passed. Stay with Me, my hour is coming fast." Lord, we'll stay with you while shadows chill until until You save the world. As lights go out and candles dim, we recognize our part; the chilly darkness in the world comes from our darkened hearts. We long for light and Heaven's warmth, for music to be heard. But we sit in silence, and wait in hope until you save the world. As lights go out and candles dim, with tears our vision blurred; we sit in silence, wait in hope until you save the world.

All things come of thee, O Lord; **And of thine own have we given thee.**

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

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

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. You bid your faithful people cleanse their hearts, and prepare with joy for the Paschal feast; that, fervent in prayer and in works of mercy, and renewed by your Word and Sacraments, they may come to the fullness of grace which you have prepared for those who love you. Therefore, we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

*The celebrant continues with the Prayer of Consecration, Memorial Acclamation, and Great Amen.
After the breaking of the bread:*

May God's peace be with you always. **And also with you.**

Behold, the Lamb of God. Behold him who takes away the sins of the world.
Happy are they who are called to his supper.

*All are invited to come forward and receive the Body of Christ.
Those who desire a blessing, please keep your hands folded as a sign to the celebrant.*

After all have received Communion, please stand and pray together:

Eternal God; **You have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

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.**

Let us depart in peace. **Thanks be to God.**

Hymn 636, How Firm a Foundation, Ye Saints of the Lord

Organ: Praeludium in G minor - Gottlieb Muffat

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Our 75th Year!

We share the light of Christ by loving and serving our neighbors in the world.
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