



# Sunday, February 28, 2021

## Second Sunday in Lent

### **Introduction**

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.

# Opening Hymn....."The Wonderful Cross"



1. When I sur - vey the won - drous cross On which the Prince of  
 2. See, from His head, His hands, His feet, Sor - row and love flow

7



glo - ry died; My rich - est gain I count but loss, And pour con -  
 min - gled down; Did e're such love and sor - row meet, Or thorns com -

14



tempt on all my pride. crown? Oh, the won - der - ful cross, Oh, the  
 pose so rich a

20



won - der - ful cross bids me come and die, and find that I may tru -

24



- ly live. Oh, the won - der - ful cross, Oh, the won - der - ful cross;

29



All who gath - er here by grace draw near and bless Your name.

34



3. Were the whole realm of na - ture mine, That were an of - fring

40



far too small: Love so a - maz - ing, so di - vine,

46



De - mands my soul, my life, my all. Oh, the

Chris Tomlin | Isaac Watts | J. D. Walt | Jesse Reeves | Lowell Mason

## Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✚ one God, the keeper of the covenant, the source of steadfast love, our rock and our redeemer.

**Amen.**

God hears us when we cry and draws us close in Jesus Christ. Let us return to the one who is full of compassion.

Fountain of living water,

**pour out your mercy over us. Our sin is heavy, and we long to be free. Rebuild what we have ruined and mend what we have torn. Wash us in your cleansing flood. Make us alive in the Spirit to follow in the way of Jesus, as healers and restorers of the world you so love.**

**Amen.**

Beloved, God's word never fails. The promise rests on grace: by the saving love of Jesus Christ, the wisdom and power of God, your sins are ✚ forgiven, and God remembers them no more. Journey in the way of Jesus.

**Amen.**

## Prayer of the Day

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.**

## First Reading: Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16

*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.*

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.

God said to Abraham, "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."

**HERE ENDS THE READING.**

## **Second Reading: Romans 4:13-25**

*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.*

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. Hoping against hope, he believed that he would become "the father of many nations," according to what was said, "So numerous shall your descendants be." He 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. No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, being fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. Therefore, his faith "was reckoned to him as righteousness." Now the words, "it was reckoned to him," were written not for his sake alone, but for ours also. It will be reckoned to us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead, who was handed over to death for our trespasses and was raised for our justification.

**HERE ENDS THE READING.**

## **Gospel: Mark 8:31-38**

The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*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.*

[Jesus] 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<sup>2</sup>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.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you O Christ.**

## Sermon

### Sermon Song.....“God of Revival”



We've seen what You can do  
Oh God of wonders  
Your power has no end  
The things You've done before  
In greater measure  
You will do again

#### *Pre-Chorus*

'Cause there's no prison wall  
You can't break through  
No mountain You can't move  
All things are possible  
There's no broken body You can't raise  
No soul that You can't save  
All things are possible

#### *Chorus*

The darkest night  
You can light it up  
You can light it up  
Oh God of revival  
Let hope arise  
Death is overcome  
You've already won  
Oh God of revival

You rose in victory and now You're seated  
Forever on the throne  
So why should my heart fear what You defeated  
I will trust in You alone

#### *Pre-Chorus*

#### *Chorus*

#### *Bridge*

Come awaken Your people  
Come awaken this city

Oh God of revival pour it out pour it out  
Every stronghold will crumble  
(I) Hear the chains hit the ground  
Oh God of revival pour it out pour it out

*Bridge*

*Chorus*

*Bridge*

'Cause there's no prison wall  
You can't break through  
No mountain You can't move  
All things are possible  
There's no broken body You can't raise  
No soul that You can't save  
All things are possible  
Things are possible

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## The Apostles' Creed

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 power of 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**

## Prayers of Intercession

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. Lord, in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

All the ends of the earth worship you. From galaxies to microorganisms, preserve your creation. Teach humanity to wonder at your works and to join you in tending to creation's well-being. Lord, in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

You rule over the nations. Raise up advocates for peace and justice within and between nations. Give life where hope seems dead; call into existence new realities we cannot even imagine. Lord, in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

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. Restore all who are sick or grieving. Bring vindication for victims of injustice, exploitation, and oppression *especially Bill, Lisle, Luz, Judi, Don, Mary, Christi, David, Victoria, Kristina, Vicki, Margo, Joy, Lourdes, Michelle, LauraLee, Gloria, Sharon, Janis, Kathryn, Michael, JJ, Ellen, Sharon, Cheryl, John & Christine, Darell, Richard, Ruth, Tori, James, Nancy, David and Lew; and Friends & Family of Phyllis).*

Lord, in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

You made Abraham and Sarah the ancestors of a multitude of nations. Bless grandparents, 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 ministries and services to families. Lord, in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

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. Lord, in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

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

## **Sharing of the Peace**

The peace of the Lord be with you all.

**And also with you.**

## **Offering Prayer**

Faithful God, you walk beside us in desert places, and you meet us in our hunger with bread from heaven. Accompany us in this meal, that we may pass over from death to life with Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

## **Thanksgiving at the Table**

In the night in which he was betrayed,  
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;  
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:  
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,  
and gave it for all to drink, saying:  
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,  
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.  
Do this for the remembrance of me.

## **The Lord's Prayer**

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, forever and ever. Amen.

## **Invitation to the Table**

Jesus draws the whole world to himself. Come to this meal and be fed.

## **Distribution**

*At this time take the elements you have with you saying these words:*

**The Body of Christ given for you. The Blood of Christ shed for you.**

## **Post Communion Prayer**

God of steadfast love, at this table you gather your people into one body for the sake of the world. Send us in the power of your Spirit, that our lives bear witness to the love that has made us new in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

## **Blessing**

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.**

**Sending Song.....“One Way”**

1. I lay my life down at Your feet; You're the on - ly One I need.  
 2. - You were al - ways, al - ways there, ev - 'ry "how" and ev - 'ry "where."

5  
 I turn to You and You are al - ways there.  
 Your grace a - bounds so deep - ly with - in me,

9  
 In trou - bled times it's You I seek. I put You first; that's all I need.  
 - You will nev - er, ev - er change. - yes - ter - day, to - day the same;

13  
 I hum - ble all I am; it's all to You.  
 for - ev - er 'til for - ev - er needs no end.

17 **Chorus**  
 One way: Je - sus, You're the on - ly One that I could live for.

21  
 One way: Je - sus, You're the on - ly One that I could live for.

25  
 You are the Way, the Truth and the Life. We live by faith and not by sight for You;

29  
 we're liv - in' all for You. 2nd X to Chorus

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## Dismissal

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

