

Second Sunday in Lent Sunday, February 28, 2021

Prelude

ELW 334 "*Tree of Life and Awesome Mystery*"

- 1 Tree of Life and awesome myst'ry,
in your death we are reborn;
though you die in all of hist'ry,
still you rise with ev'ry morn,
still you rise with ev'ry morn.
- 2 We remember truth once spoken,
love passed on through act and word;
ev'ry person lost and broken
wears the body of our Lord,
wears the body of our Lord.
- 3 Christ, you lead and we shall follow,
stumbling though our steps may be;
one with you in joy and sorrow,
we the river, you the sea,
we the river, you the sea.
- 4 In our call to be a blessing,
may we be a blessing true;
may we live and die confessing
Christ as Lord of all we do.

Confession & Forgiveness Rite

P: In the name of the Father, and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

P: A: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. Most merciful God,

C: We confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. 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. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

P. In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

Kyrie – Setting 5

Prayer of the Day

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: 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.

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

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.”

L: Word of God. Word of Life.

C: Thanks be to God.

Taize: “ *We Adore You, Jesus Christ*”

Second Reading: Romans 4:13-25

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.

L: Word of God. Word of Life.

C: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation (Setting 5)

P: The Gospel according to St. Mark.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel: Mark 8:31-38

³¹[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. 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.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Gospel Acclamation (Setting 5)

Sermon

Hymn of the Day

ELW 326 “Bless Now, O God the Journey”

- 1 Bless now, O God, the journey
that all your people make,
the path through noise and silence,
the way of give and take.
The trail is found in desert
and winds the mountain round,
then leads beside still waters,
the road where faith is found.
- 2 Bless sojourners and pilgrims
who share this winding way;
your hope burns through the terrors,
your love sustains the day.
We yearn for holy freedom
while often we are bound;
together we are seeking
the road where faith is found.
- 3 Divine eternal lover,
you meet us on the road.
We wait for land of promise
where milk and honey flow,
but waiting not for places,
you meet us all around.

Our covenant is written
on roads, as faith is found.

Apostle's Creed

A: Let us confess our faith:

C: 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 into hell.
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 Intercession

A: Called to the renewal of our faith in Lent, let us offer our prayers to God.

A: In the waters of baptism, you join us to the life and resurrection of Jesus Christ. For the gift of forgiveness, we praise you.

C: Hear us, O God.

A: You send us your Holy Spirit to guide us and teach us. For all the gifts of the Spirit, we thank you.

C: Hear us, O God.

A: You nourish us with your word and welcome us to your table. For all the ways you care for us, we praise you.

C: Hear us, O God.

A: You call us to tell others about Jesus. For willingness to show Jesus by what we say and do, we pray to you.

C: Hear us, O God.

A: You send us to help other people and to work for what is right. For courage to be the body of Christ, we pray to you.

C: Hear us, O God.

A: You send your spirit of healing and strength to all who call upon you. We ask your healing for those who seek your healing presence, especially Dennis, Carol, Nancy, Pastor Steve Swanson, Renee, Vicki, Rhea, Lupe, Betty, Calina, Bob, Bill, Michael, all those diagnosed with COVID-19, and all others we hold in our thoughts, we pray to you.

C: Hear us, O God.

P: All these things, and whatever else you see that we need, grant us, O Lord our God, through Jesus Christ, for your mercy is everlasting, and your faithfulness endures from age to age.

C: Amen.

Anthem

"Lift Every Voice and Sing"

Eucharist Liturgy

P: The Lord be with you

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

P: Blessed are you, O God of the universe.

Your mercy is everlasting

and your faithfulness endures from age to age.

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.
With this bread we remember our Lord's Passover
from death to life as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

C: Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

P: O God of resurrection and new life: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us and on the gift of bread we share. Grace our table with your presence.

C: Come, Holy Spirit.

P: With the earth and all its creatures, with sun and moon and stars,
we praise you, O God,
blessed and holy Trinity,
now and forever. **C: Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer (sung by musicians)

Communion Distribution

You are invited to come to the altar for Holy Communion. Places are marked where you may stand. Communion will be by the distribution of bread alone. After you have communed, please return to your place in the pews. We ask that everyone observe the protocols of social distancing and wear your mask when approaching and leaving the altar.

Lamb of God

ELW 357 "*Lamb of God, Pure and Sinless*"

- 1 Lamb of God, pure and sinless,
once on the cross an off'ring,
patient, lowly, guiltless,
forsaken in your suff'ring:
from sin's grasp you have torn us,
from gloom to hope have borne us.
Grant us your mercy, O Jesus.

- 2 Lamb of God, pure and sinless,
once on the cross an off'ring,
patient, lowly, guiltless,
forsaken in your suff'ring:
from sin's grasp you have torn us,
from gloom to hope have borne us.
Grant us your mercy, O Jesus.

- 3 Lamb of God, pure and sinless,
once on the cross an off'ring,
patient, lowly, guiltless,
forsaken in your suff'ring:
from sin's grasp you have torn us,

from gloom to hope have borne us.
Your peace be with us, O Jesus. Amen.

Post Communion Blessing

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **C: Amen.**

Post-Communion Prayer

A: Compassionate God, you have fed us with the bread of heaven. Sustain us in our Lenten pilgrimage: may our fasting be hunger for justice; our alms, a making of peace; and our prayer, the song of grateful hearts, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **C: Amen.**

Closing Hymn

ELW 606 "Our Father, We Have Wandered"

- 1 Our Father, we have wandered
and hidden from your face;
in foolishness have squandered
your legacy of grace.
But now, in exile dwelling,
we rise with fear and shame,
as, distant but compelling,
we hear you call our name.
- 2 And now at length discerning
the evil that we do,
behold us, Lord, returning
with hope and trust to you.
In haste you come to meet us
and home rejoicing bring,
in gladness there to greet us
with calf and robe and ring.
- 3 O Lord of all the living,
both banished and restored,
compassionate, forgiving,
and ever-caring Lord,
grant now that our transgressing,
our faithlessness may cease.
Stretch out your hand in blessing,
in pardon, and in peace.

Benediction and Dismissal

P: Go forth into the world to serve God with gladness; be of good courage; hold fast to that which is good; render to no one evil for evil; strengthen the fainthearted; support the weak; help the afflicted; honor all people; love and serve God, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.

C: Thanks be to God.

A: Go in peace. Remember your baptism.

C: Thanks be to God.

Postlude

"Prayer" by George Walker

Announcements

- We invite you to join us for worship each week, either in-person or virtually. Please note that registration is required for in-person attendance. Read our safety protocols for worship and reserve your spot at www.concordiafaith.org/worship . All services will still be available virtually either by livestream via YouTube or recordings will be available later on our YouTube channel: Concordia Church Chicago.
- Do you have pictures of past Concordia Church events? We would love for you to share them with us for use in our service slideshows. If you have any photos of Concordia Church, members engaged in church activities, or other memories from past years, please send them to Desirae in the church office at ddiehl@concordiafaith.org .
- Join Pastor Zook for a Lenten Adult Bible Study, *Sunday mornings at 8:30am; February 21 – March 21*. Titled, "**Whose Bible Is It Anyway?**" the study will explore the following: When it comes to understanding and interpreting the Bible, we have no end of differing opinions and conflicting interpretations of what the Bible teaches. For our 5 week Lenten study, we'll explore the various ways the Bible has been interpreted and how we can be refreshed in our understanding of the Bible for our faith and calling in life. We will read essays by two authors on the history of interpretations and theology of the Scriptures for Christian faith and the Church. Brevard S. Childs, "On Reclaiming the Bible for Christian Theology" and Robert Jenson, "Hermeneutics and the Life of the Church". Copies of the essays will be available to those who wish to participate. You can sign up for the Zoom Lenten Bible Study by emailing Pastor Zook, nzook@concordiafaith.org BYOB--Bring your own Bible.

- The musicians of Concordia Church, along with some special guests, are releasing a new musical offering each Wednesday at 7pm during this season of Lent. You can find these programs - both previous and upcoming - on our YouTube Channel or on our Lenten webpage, www.concordiafaith.org/Lent

- We appreciate your continued gifts to Concordia Church! Remember, you may give in three ways:
 1. Text-to-give: Text "Concordia" to 73256 and follow the link you receive
 2. Give online at onrealm.org/concordiafaith/give
 3. Send a check via mail to the church