



# Lent 2

**February 28, 2021 + 9:00 AM**

*Welcome to our worship of the Lord Jesus Christ on this Second Sunday in Lent! The second covenant in this year's Lenten readings is the one God made with Abraham and Sarah 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.*

## GATHERING

### GATHERING MUSIC

**GATHERING HYMN: "The God of Abraham Praise" ELW 831**

*See page 12 of this bulletin for the music.*

*The God of Abr'ham praise, who reigns enthroned above,  
Ancient of everlasting days, and God of love:  
"I Am the One I Am"— by earth and heav'n confessed;  
I bow and bless the sacred name forever blest.*

*The God of Abr'ham praise! At Your supreme command  
From earth I rise and seek the joys at Your right hand.  
I all on earth forsake—its wisdom, fame, and pow'r—  
And You my only portion make, my shield and tow'r.*

*The God of Abr'ham praise! Your all-sufficient grace  
shall guide me all my pilgrim days in all my ways.  
You deign to call me friend; You call Yourself my God!  
And you will save me to the end through Jesus' blood.*

*Your promise You have sworn; I on Your oath depend.  
I shall, on eagle wings upborne, to heav'n ascend.  
I shall behold Your face; I shall Your pow'r adore,  
And sing the wonders of Your grace forevermore.*

## INVOCATION AND CONFESSION:

Blest are You, O Lord our God— the Keeper of the covenant,  
the + Source of steadfast love, our Rock and our Redeemer!

**Amen.**

Fountain of living water, pour out Your mercy upon us.  
Our sin weighs heavy upon us, and we long to be free.  
Rebuild what we've ruined; mend what we've torn; wash us in Your cleansing flood.  
Make us alive in the Spirit to follow the way of Jesus,  
as healers and restorers of the world You so love.

**Amen.**

God hears us when we cry, and draws us close in Christ Jesus.  
So let's return to the One who's full of compassion:

*Silence is kept for individual reflection and confession.  
After the period of silence, we sing (see p. 13 for the music):*

***O Lord who rules the heav'nly hosts, O God of Abraham,  
Lord God of Isaac, Jacob, and of all their chosen clan;  
You made the heav'ns and formed the earth with all their vast array;  
Before You all things quake with fear and tremble in dismay.***

***But yet Your love surpasses all the measure of our mind;  
You, Lord, are patient, merciful, and infinitely kind.  
You do not judge as we deserve; in Your great goodness, Lord,  
You offer pardon that we may repent and be restored.***

***And now, O Lord, I bend my knee and make my sure appeal,  
For I have sinned, Lord, and I know my wickedness too well.  
Therefore I make this prayer to You: Forgive me, Lord, forgive;  
Let me not perish in my sin, let me not die, but live.***

***Those who repent have You as God; in me Your love is shown;  
I, though unworthy, shall be saved; thus is Your love made known!  
I will praise You unceasingly, now and through all my days.  
The pow'rs of heaven sing Your praise-- glory is Yours always!***

## REETING AND PRAYER OF THE DAY:

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the + love of God,  
and the communion of the Holy Spirit are with You all.

***And also with You.***

Then let's 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, Christ Jesus our Savior and Lord,  
who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

## WORD AND PRAYER

*We'll sing this canticle together three times through:*

***Lay me low, where the Lord can find me. Lay me low, where the Lord can hold me;  
Lay me low, where the Lord can bless me; lay me low, Lord, lay me low...***

### FIRST READING: **Genesis 17.1-7, 15-16**

<sup>1</sup>When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the Lord appeared to Abram and said to him, "I'm God Almighty; walk before Me, and be blameless. <sup>2</sup>And I'll make My covenant between me and you, and will make you exceedingly numerous."

<sup>3</sup>Then Abram fell on his face; and God said to him, <sup>4</sup>"As for Me, this is My covenant with you: You shall be the ancestor of a multitude of nations. <sup>5</sup>No longer shall your name be 'Abram'— but your name shall be Abraham, for I've made you the ancestor of a multitude of nations. <sup>6</sup>I'll make you exceedingly fruitful; and I'll make nations of you, and kings shall come from you. <sup>7</sup>I'll 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"... <sup>15</sup>God said to Abraham, "As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her 'Sarai', but Sarah shall be her name. <sup>16</sup>I'll bless her, and moreover, I'll give you a son by her. I'll bless her, and she shall give rise to nations; kings of peoples shall come from her."

This is holy wisdom; this is holy word.

***Thanks be to God!***

### SECOND READING: **Romans 4.13-25** **NLT**

*St Paul writes:* <sup>13</sup>God's promise that he'd inherit the world didn't come to Abraham or to his descendants through the Law, but through the righteousness of faith. <sup>14</sup>If it's the adherents of the Law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. <sup>15</sup>For the law brings wrath— but where there's no law, neither is there violation.

<sup>16</sup>For this reason it depends on faith, in order that *God's* promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all *Abraham's* descendants— not only to the adherents of the Law, but also to those who share the faith of Abraham. For he's the father of all of us (<sup>17</sup>as it's written, "I've 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 don't exist. <sup>18</sup>Hoping against hope, *Abraham* believed that he'd become "the father of many nations," according to what was said, "So numerous shall your descendants be." <sup>19</sup>He didn't 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. <sup>20</sup>No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, <sup>21</sup>being fully convinced that God was able to do what He'd promised. <sup>22</sup>Therefore his faith "was reckoned to him as righteousness." <sup>23</sup>Now the words, "it was reckoned to him," were written not for his sake alone, <sup>24</sup>but for ours also. It'll be reckoned to us who believe in Him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead, <sup>25</sup>who was handed over to death for our trespasses and was raised for our justification.

This is holy wisdom; this is holy word.

***Thanks be to God!***

## **THE HOLY GOSPEL:                      Mark 8.31-38**

*Sung to the tune of "In the Cross of Christ I Glory":*

***We are turning, Lord, to hear You; You are merciful and kind,  
Slow to anger, rich in blessing, and with love to us inclined.***

The Holy Gospel according to St Mark, the first chapter.

***Glory to You, O Lord!***

*After Peter confessed his belief that Jesus is the Messiah,* <sup>31</sup>*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>32</sup>*He said all this quite openly. And Peter took Him aside and began to rebuke Him.*<sup>33</sup>*But turning and looking at His disciples, He rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind Me, Satan— for you're setting your mind not on divine things, but on human things."   Then*<sup>34</sup>*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.*<sup>35</sup>*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.*<sup>36</sup>*For what'll it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life?*<sup>37</sup>*Indeed, what can they give in return for their life?*<sup>38</sup>*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."*

This is the Gospel of our Lord.

***Praise to You, O Christ!***

# PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

## HYMN OF THE DAY: “Take Up Your Cross”

ELW 667

*We'll sing this to the tune of “All Praise to Thee, My God, This Night” [TALLIS' CANON]—  
see p. 14 for the tune*

*“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.”*

*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.*

*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.*

*Take up your cross and follow Christ, nor think till death to lay it down;  
For only those who bear the cross may hope to wear a glorious crown.*

## APOSTLES CREED:

Let's confess our faith together in the words of our baptismal 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 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:

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As we journey through this season of repentance and renewal,  
let's turn to God who mercifully gives us new life:

Good and gracious God, Your gift of grace is for all people. Give confident faith to all Your children, that they may follow You wholeheartedly. Give new believers joy in Your promises; give hope and courage to those who suffer for their faith. Give us all courage to stand with Jesus and suffer with Him wherever this world seeks to tear down Your divine image and besmirch Your beauty in others, that all may know Your love.

All the ends of the earth worship You, O God! From galaxies to microorganisms, preserve Your good creation. Teach us all to marvel at Your wonderful works and to join You in tending to creation's well-being.

You rule over the nations. Teach us to honor our common humanity and rejoice in our diversity. Raise up advocates for peace and justice within and between nations; lead us away from hatred, fear, and violence, and give us the courage to reject those who leverage these things for their own self-advancement. Give life where hope seems dead; call into existence new realities we can't even imagine; show us the way of peace, and give us the courage of compassion.

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, those who've entrusted their children to adoption, and children longing to be adopted. Equip our ministries and services to families of every shape, size, and form, that all may know in their homes the joy of life in community.

In Christ Jesus You've joined humanity in suffering and death. Reveal to all people the depth of Your love for them shown on the cross. Accompany those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit; restore those who are sick or grieving; watch over those who've left their homes or families in search of safety or employment; bring vindication to victims of injustice, exploitation, and oppression; and help all Your broken ones to discover for themselves the beauty You see in them. We especially seek Your healing grace for our brothers and sisters... and all whom we remember before You now...

As we await the day of Christ's final appearing in glory, lead us by the example of all the saints whom You've called to take up their cross and follow You, that together we may find our lives in You.

For into Your hands, O God, we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray,  
trusting in Your mercy through Christ Jesus our Lord.

***Amen.***

The peace of the Lord is with you always.

***And also with you.***

*Reconciled to God and one another, let's share with one another a sign of God's peace.*

# THANKSGIVING

## THE OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS AND OURSELVES

### OFFERTORY CANTICLE:

*See p. 14 for the tune. We'll sing this three times through:*

*Take, oh, take me as I am; summon out what I shall be;  
Set Your seal upon my heart and live in me.*

### THANKSGIVING AND THE LORD'S PRAYER:

Gracious God, You've named us and claimed us; You've called us Your beloved children,  
and You know the secrets of our hearts.

When we sin and stray from Your paths, You astound us with Your saving grace.

*For this Word of life, we give You thanks and praise!*

Loving Jesus, living Word, in You the Reign of God has come near;  
through You all that was lost has been found.

Help us to boldly follow wherever You lead us,  
trusting Your promise that we need not fear, for You're with us.

*For this Word of life, we give You thanks and praise!*

Holy Spirit, the Mystery in whom we dwell, into our scarcity, Your abundance flows.  
Enliven all communities with Your Good News.

Guide us to love and serve Jesus, giving ourselves away for the sake of the world.

*For this Word of life, we give You thanks and praise!*

Merciful, Triune God, accompany us in our journey through these forty days.

Stir up Your Spirit within us, that we may provide for those who are poor,

pray for those in need, fast from self-indulgence,

and above all that we may find our treasure in the life of Your Son,

Christ Jesus our Savior and Lord, who's taught us to pray:

*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.*

# SENDING

## BENEDICTION:

And now may God our Creator give you a share in the eternal covenant;  
may Christ Jesus be proud of you when He finally appears in glory;  
may the Holy Spirit strengthen you in faith and lead you in the ways of righteousness;  
and Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless You now and forever. **Amen.**

## SENDING HYMN: “Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus”

**ELW 802**

*See p. 15 of this bulletin for the music.*

*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.*

*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.*

*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.*

*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.*



## ANNOUNCEMENTS AND DISMISSAL:

God has a plan.

*We're it!*

What's our part in God's plan?

*Sharing God's love in joyful service!*

Then let's go in peace, live in joy, and serve the Lord!

*Thanks be to God!*

### Acknowledgements

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### After the Confession

You tried to explain it to your brother once, and to yourself, the sense you've had  
growing within you since that day Jesus called you to follow, and you did—  
that sense of awe, of something forcing cracks into familiar walls of thought, like that time  
as a child when you first saw the sea, not the Galilean waters from which your family fished,  
but the Mediterranean, vast, blue, the deep waves rolling in, the ships sailing out, their square sails  
growing small as they headed to the horizon from which the wind blew a salt scent  
to your skin, while your thoughts tried to grasp something big beyond words . . .  
and today here's Jesus, asking what people have been naming Him, and you use the word  
that comes so easily to your lips, it slips like breathing from your mouth: "Messiah"—  
yet you sense as you say it that you're trying to name the sea, but describing  
just the beginning of an ocean of truth; and sure enough: Jesus speaks about suffering death  
almost as if it were part of a plan, which surely can't be, but He rebukes  
your rebuke of Him, talks of taking up a cross, of losing life to find it—  
suddenly you're again that young child on the shore, watching a boat leave harbor  
on a deeper sea than you've ever known— and somehow the ship that's leaning into the wind  
has its deck underneath your own feet...

• *Andrew King*

# The Audacity of It!

Longtime improv comedy teacher Billy Merritt claims there are three types of improvisers: the pirate, the straight man or woman, and the ninja. The pirate's the one we think of when we imagine an improviser: the zany one, fearless and unpredictable, willing to do or say anything in order to get a scene going. John Belushi at his finest was a pirate...

When I lead improv workshops for church groups, I like to ask, "Who was Jesus' best pirate?" Many groups answer instantly, with one voice: "Peter". Peter's always full of grand gestures. When Peter sees Jesus transfigured on the mountain, he wants to go right to work building dwellings so they can stay up there and bask in that wonderful feeling. When he tries to rebuff Jesus for washing his feet and Jesus chastises him, he changes his tune: "OK, Jesus, wash my whole body instead!" And when the disciples are fishing together after the resurrection and see Jesus standing on the beach, we know which one jumps into the water and swims in to meet him, rather than just taking the boat ashore...

That go-for-broke attitude traces back to today's passage. Immediately prior to this, Jesus has asked, "Who do you say that I am?" and Peter responds, "The Messiah!" Barely three verses later, Peter is rebuking Him— rebuking the Messiah! Jesus is having none of it ("Get behind Me, Satan!"); though notably, He doesn't blanch at the fact of the pushback so much as the content: "You're setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

I have to admire Peter's sheer audacity to argue with— to reproach, even— the person he only moments ago identified as the Anointed One for whom countless generations have been waiting and yearning. That takes nerve! I'm reminded of the meme that floats around the ultrarunning community: "Courage is knowing it might hurt and doing it anyway. Stupidity is the same thing. And that's why life is hard."

We can't blame Peter too much for being confused. Good teaching relies on a combination of showing and telling, and up to now, Jesus has been engaged in a lot of showing: feeding 5000 people, walking on water, healing the sick. Even the teachings of Jesus to this point have been focused on parables, with little about who Jesus is or His explicit mission. I'm reminded of a preaching professor who'd try to help her students rely more on showing than telling. I absorbed the lesson so zealously that my early sermons became beautiful but impenetrable works of poetry-prose. I remember one bit of written feedback: "Yes, we want to show people the mysteries of the Gospel more than tell them. But sometimes, MaryAnn, you just need to **SAY IT**." (Yes, she used all caps!)

Here, Jesus **SAYS IT**, laying out the path for those who'd follow Him. It's a familiar call to discipleship, repeated in one form or another in each Gospel. But the four accounts differ. According to Matthew, Jesus assures us that those who lose their life will "find" it (10:39). Luke says we will "keep" it (17:33), and John says we'll "keep it for eternal life" (12:25).

Mark's Jesus goes a step further. He's not a "finders-keepers" kind of guy. Our lives aren't simply misplaced items needing to be retrieved; nor are they things to be preserved, whether now or in the life to come. For Mark's Jesus, we're hopelessly lost without God, and when we lose our life for Christ, we'll actually save it. We'll be rescued from grave danger and harsh afflictions, delivered from the very throes of death. Spirituality's not something we dabble in for personal enlightenment; for Christians, a relationship with Jesus Christ is a matter of life and death.

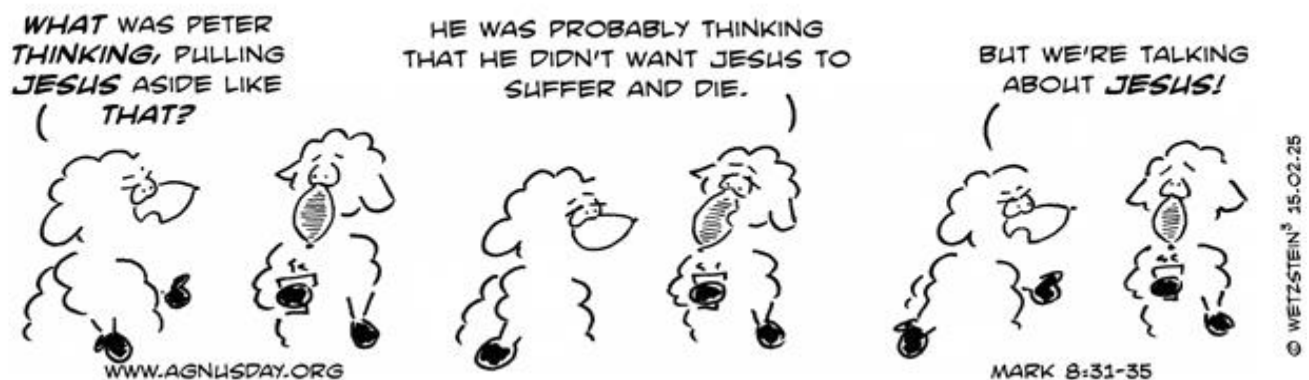
"Why is it that every Christian sanctuary has His cross at the focal point," asks pastor Paul Shupe, "while our own crosses are nowhere symbolized?" If we're honest, many of us really don't want this kind of saving. We'd like to continue living as we currently do, just happier— more faithfully would be fine, so long as we stay comfortable. We'd rather not be transformed, but we're willing to be improved. We're not sure about being saved, but enhanced? Yes, please...

In her book *How to Lead When You Don't Know Where You're Going*, Susan Beaumont writes about a member of her home church, Anna B. Quick, who through her steadfastness kept the small congregation afloat during long periods without a pastor a century ago. Every Sunday she'd come to the rundown church building, unlock the doors, turn on the lights, and keep vigil in the sanctuary just in case someone showed up. She filed the annual paperwork to keep the church a legal entity. Over time, conditions changed, and the church began to thrive again...

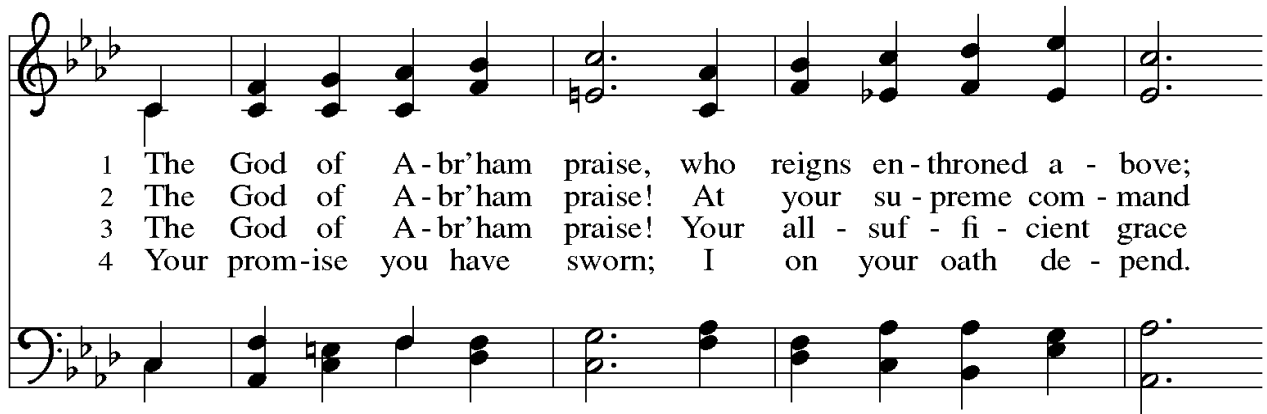
At least, that's how the story was told. When a recent pastor dug into the details, he discovered that things changed only after Quick and a few others started giving boldly and sacrificially of their time and money to hire a pastor, tear down the old building, and raise money for a new facility and new ministries. Quick and others denied themselves, took up their cross, and followed where it led— not to some remote mission field, but to a profound offering of self in the name of following Jesus.

"Now's no time for an academic solidarity with the world," writes Richard Rohr. "Real solidarity needs to be felt and suffered. That's the real meaning of the word 'suffer'— to allow someone else's pain to influence us in a real way. We need to move beyond our own personal feelings and take in the whole." Self-improvement has its place, but Jesus promises us something much deeper, if we're willing to give ourselves to it.

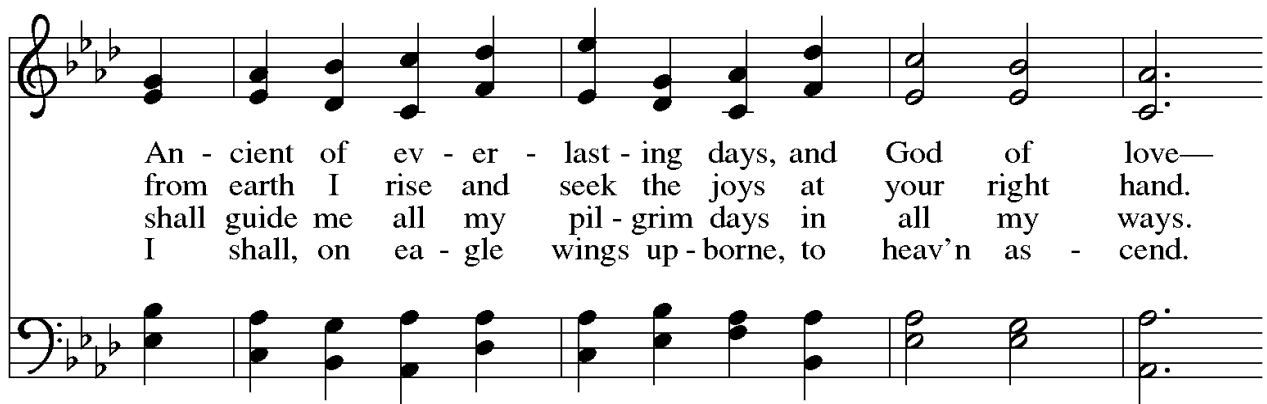
• MaryAnn McKibben Dana



# The God of Abraham Praise



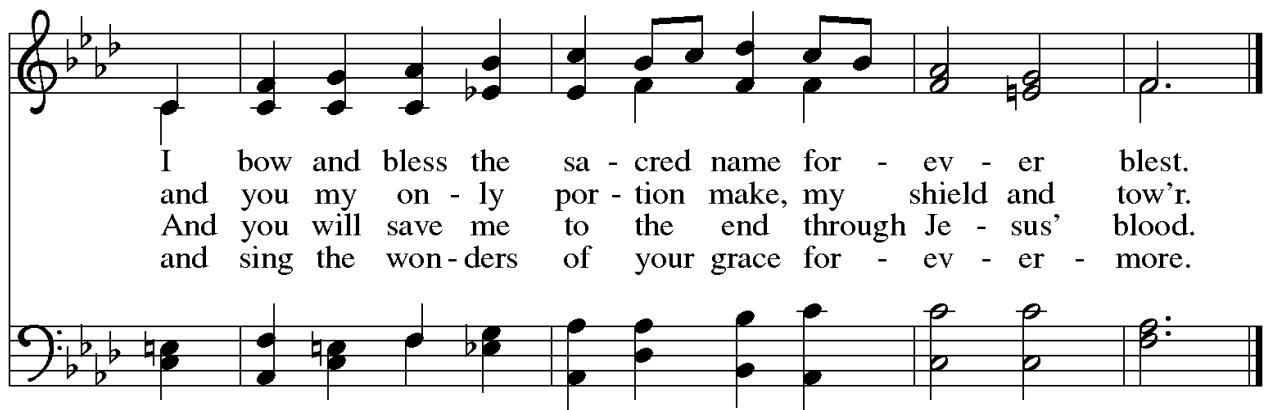
1 The God of A-br'ham praise, who reigns en-throned a - bove;  
 2 The God of A-br'ham praise! At your su-preme com-mand  
 3 The God of A-br'ham praise! Your all-suf-fi-cient grace  
 4 Your prom-ise you have sworn; I on your oath de-pend.



An-cient of ev-er-last-ing days, and God of love—  
 from earth I rise and seek the joys at your right hand.  
 shall guide me all my pil-grim days in all my ways.  
 I shall, on ea-gle wings up-borne, to heav'n as-cend.



“I Am the One I Am”—by earth and heav'n con-fessed;  
 I all on earth for-sake—its wis-dom, fame, and pow'r—  
 You deign to call me friend; you call your-self my God!  
 I shall be-hold your face; I shall your pow'r a-dore,

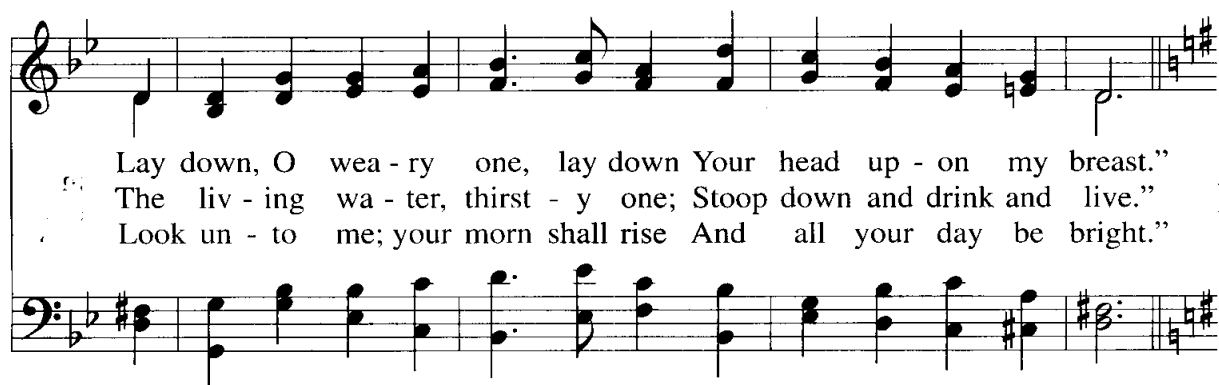


I bow and bless the sa-cred name for-ev-er blest.  
 and you my on-ly por-tion make, my shield and tow'r.  
 And you will save me to the end through Je-sus' blood.  
 and sing the won-ders of your grace for-ev-er-more.

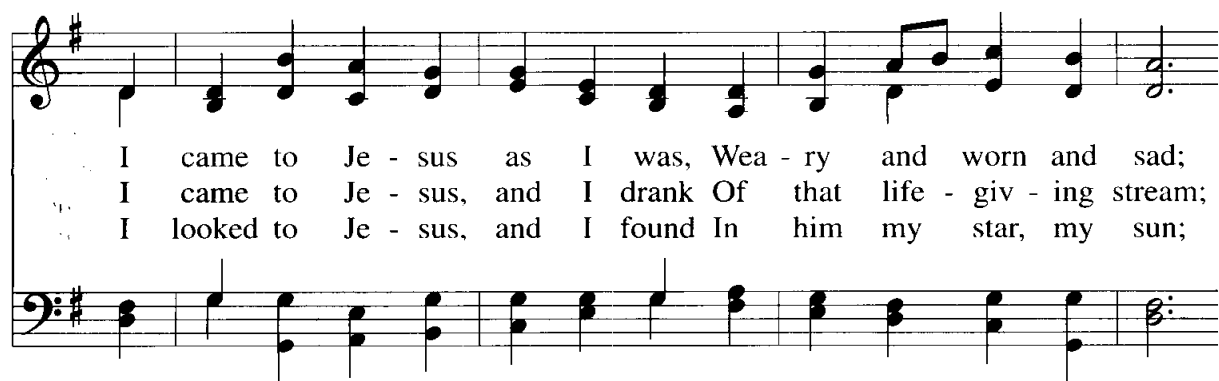
# VOX DILECTI [tune]



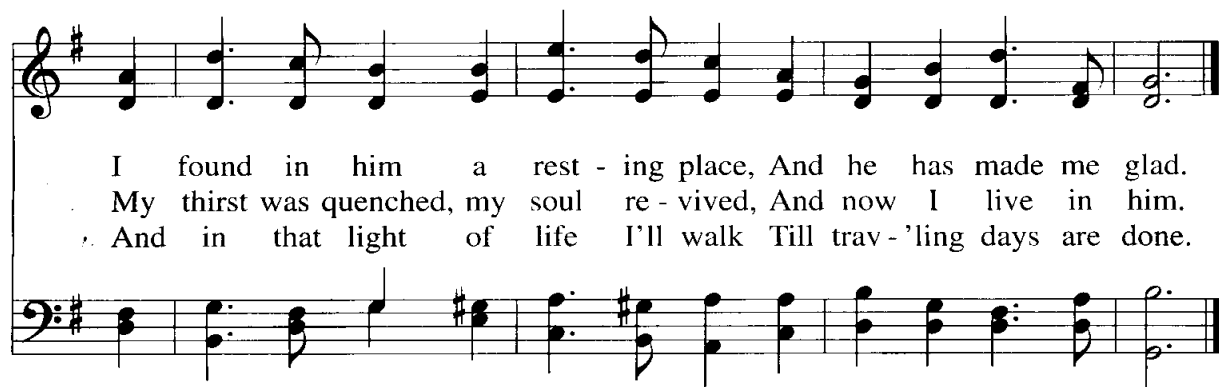
1 I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "Come un - to me and rest;  
 2 I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "Be - hold, I free - ly give  
 3 I heard the voice of Je - sus say, "I am this dark world's light.



Lay down, O wea - ry one, lay down Your head up - on my breast."  
 The liv - ing wa - ter, thirst - y one; Stoop down and drink and live."  
 Look un - to me; your morn shall rise And all your day be bright."



I came to Je - sus as I was, Wea - ry and worn and sad;  
 I came to Je - sus, and I drank Of that life - giv - ing stream;  
 I looked to Je - sus, and I found In him my star, my sun;



I found in him a rest - ing place, And he has made me glad.  
 My thirst was quenched, my soul re - vived, And now I live in him.  
 And in that light of life I'll walk Till trav - 'ling days are done.

# Take Up Your Cross [tune]

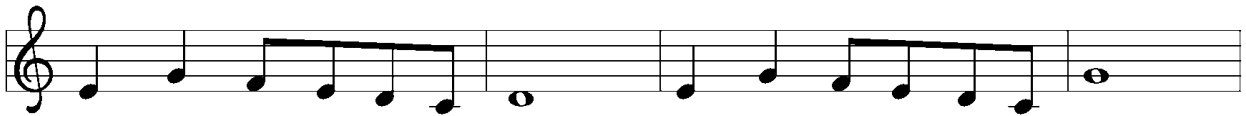


- 1 All praise to thee, my God, this night for all the bless-ings of the light.
- 2 For - give me, Lord, for thy dear Son, the ill that I this day have done;
- 3 Teach me to live, that I may dread the grave as lit - tle as my bed.
- 4 Oh, may my soul in thee re - pose, and may sweet sleep mine eye-lids close,
- 5 Praise God, from whom all bless-ings flow; praise him, all crea-tures here be - low;



Keep me, oh, keep me, King of kings, be - neath thine own al - might - y wings.  
that with the world, my - self, and thee, I, ere I sleep, at peace may be.  
Teach me to die, that so I may rise glo - rious at the awe - some day.  
sleep that shall me more vig - rous make to serve my God when I a - wake!  
praise him a - bove, ye heav' n - ly host; praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

# Take, O, Take Me as I Am



Take, oh, take me as I am; sum - mon out what I shall be;



set your seal up - on my heart and live in me.

Text: John L. Bell, b. 1949

Music: TAKE ME AS I AM, John L. Bell

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# Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus



1 Let us ev - er walk with Je - sus, fol - low his ex - am - ple pure,  
 2 Let us suf - fer here with Je - sus, and with pa - tience bear our cross.  
 3 Let us glad - ly die with Je - sus. Since by death he con - quered death,  
 4 Let us al - so live with Je - sus. He has ris - en from the dead



through a world that would de - ceive us and to sin our spir - its lure.  
 Joy will fol - low all our sad - ness; where he is there is no loss.  
 he will free us from de - struc - tion, give to us im - mor - tal breath.  
 that to life we may a - wak - en. Je - sus, you are now our head,



On - ward in his foot - steps tread - ing, trav - 'lers here, our home a - bove,  
 Though to - day we sow no laugh - ter, we shall reap ce - les - tial joy:  
 Let us mor - ti - fy all pas - sion that would lead us in - to sin;  
 we are your own liv - ing mem - bers; where you live, there we shall be



full of faith and hope and love, let us do our Sav - ior's bid - ding.  
 all dis - com - forts that an - noy shall give way to mirth here - af - ter.  
 and the grave that shuts us in shall but prove the gate of heav - en.  
 in your pres - ence con - stant - ly, liv - ing there with you for - ev - er.



Faith - ful Lord, with me a - bide; I shall fol - low where you guide.  
 Je - sus, here I share your woe; help me there your joy to know.  
 Je - sus, here with you I die, there to live with you on high.  
 Je - sus, let me faith - ful be; life e - ter - nal grant to me.

Text: Sigismund von Birken, 1626–1681; tr. *Lutheran Book of Worship*, alt.  
 Music: LASSET UNS MIT JESU ZIEHEN, Georg G. Boltze, 18th cent.  
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# This Week at St Paul's

P = Parish House, F = Fellowship Hall

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Activity</u>
<b>Sun. 2/28</b> <b>Lent 2</b>	9:00 AM	Service of Word, Prayer, and Thanksgiving online: <a href="http://www.facebook.com/StPaulsQtown/live">www.facebook.com/StPaulsQtown/live</a>
	10:30 AM	Fellowship Hour via Zoom: [use meeting ID 839 381 0896, passcode 90e8Dm]
	6:00 PM	Confirmation Class via Zoom *
<b>Wed. 3/3</b>	7:00 PM	Lenten Evening Prayer online: <a href="http://www.facebook.com/StPaulsQtown">www.facebook.com/StPaulsQtown</a>
<b>Thur. 3/4</b>	10:00 AM	Bible Study via Zoom/FCC *
	7:00 PM	Scouts BSA Troop 007 [F]
<b>Fri. 3/5</b>	1:00 PM	Al-Anon [F]
	7:00 PM	AA [F]
<b>Sun. 3/7</b> <b>Lent 3</b>	9:00 AM	Holy Communion online: <a href="http://www.facebook.com/StPaulsQtown/live">www.facebook.com/StPaulsQtown/live</a>
	10:30 AM	Fellowship Hour via Zoom: [use meeting ID 839 381 0896, passcode 90e8Dm]
	6:00 PM	Confirmation Class via Zoom *

- \* If you'd like to participate in these **activities taking place over Pr Dave's Zoom platform**, go to [zoom.us](http://zoom.us), click "Join a Meeting" at the top right of the page, use meeting ID 3700147169, and if it asks for a password, use 119805 and you should be in. If you're using your phone, these dial-in numbers will work: 929.205.6099 or 312.626.6799. After you dial, you'll be asked for the host's code, and you'll type in 3700147169#, then 119805# and you're in. (What's more, with your smart phone or computer, you can engage video as well as audio, so we can see and hear you—something that's precious right now!) You can also use **Free Conference Call [FCC]**: Dial 857.232.0157, enter conference code 144261, and you're in.





### **REMEMBER IN PRAYER THIS WEEK:**

- The Armed Forces, Crossroads Pregnancy Care, David Johnson Sr., Andrew Edmonds, Fay Barndt, Morgan, Ally, Dontay, & Emily Hassler, President Biden and his cabinet, Don & Karen Ludovici, Barbara Graser, Jordan Scholl, Kelsey Shaak, Bob Knapp, Ray Constable, Walter Rausch, Bob Westervelt, Carol Marks, Rosemary Bruno, Florence Zellers, Nick Wildman, Walt & Ryan, Bobby Lane, Alan & Kathy West, Connie Slotter, Doug Fay, Karen Berger, Gary Kratz, Jim, Pr Susan Lynch, Pr Wanda Schwandt, Barb Fehnel, Sheena Lakjer, Larry Noblit, Stan Johnson, Jan Riley, Sam Sovacol, Karen Blitch, Mattie Bleam, Samantha Martin, Jeannie Rothsching, Marie Shaw, Tammy Zepiora, Kevin Schrantz, Beth, Norm Diehl Sr., Annabelle Weller, Bob & Phyllis Labs, Roger & Tanner Banks, Amy Miller, Erika, Linda & Pat Knowlten, Owen & Siobhan, Aly Brown, Matt Aber, Ray, Kelly, Ozzi and his parents, John Hunsberger, Emily Hassler, Bill Baringer; victims of flooding, hurricanes, earthquakes, and wildfires; everyone struggling with COVID-19 and its containment.
- Families and friends of Bill Stever, Bill Barndt Sr., Robert Webb, Karl Gross, Kara L, Jane, Bill Blain, Carole Eddings, George Dutton, Jamie Wright, Eric McGovern.

***This week's bulletins*** are given to the glory of God by Connie Slotter in honor of her loving family—"May God bless us all!"

We'd hoped to resume in-person worship at St Paul's by now— but because a new and powerful surge of the COVID-19 pandemic has befallen us recently, we're ***postponing returning to in-person indoor worship*** until it's safer for us to gather. We'll continue to livestream our worship via Facebook Live and host our fellowship hour via Zoom, so hang in there with us.

Please ***don't forget to keep on giving to our ministries here at St Paul's!*** You can now do this in several ways: [1] If you're already signed up for Simply Giving, you're already taken care of; [2] You can mail your offerings to the church; and now [3] You can go to our church website ([www.stpaulsqtown.org](http://www.stpaulsqtown.org)) and make your contributions online. Whatever way you choose, your contributions help us continue to serve our congregation and community and build upon the good things God's doing through us.

On ***Wednesdays @ 7:00 PM during Lent***, Pr Dave will be posting ***Lenten Evening Prayer*** services on our church's Facebook page ([www.facebook.com/StPaulsQtown](http://www.facebook.com/StPaulsQtown)). The services will feature classic canticles set to familiar hymn tunes, and focus on God's covenants with God's people throughout the ages as featured in the Great Vigil of Easter. We welcome you to join in the worship, gathering around your "home altar" with a single candle reminding you of Jesus the Light of the world, the Light no darkness can overcome...

Come join us each week for our ***Thursday Morning Bible Study*** from ***10:00 AM-12:00 NN*** via Zoom or Free Conference call. (See the previous page for information on accessing these platforms.) We're digging into the Scripture readings for the upcoming week to discover the treasures that await us come Sunday. You don't have to be a biblical "expert" to get a lot out of this study— so come join us and invite your friends as well!

Our Southeast Penn Synod's annual **Tuscarora Lutheran Youth Retreat** will be held **via Zoom** on Saturday, **April 10 beginning at 10:00 AM** for youth in grades 6-12 and their leaders. For those who've been to the in-person Tuscarora Lutheran Youth Retreat (formerly Harvey Cedars), you know how engaging and inspirational this retreat is—and though the COVID-19 pandemic is forcing us to do things differently, it's still going to be a great event. For more information and to register, go to [tuscaroralutheranretreat.weebly.com/](http://tuscaroralutheranretreat.weebly.com/). Registration fee is \$20 per person; deadline to register is March 7.

Our **"Monthly Special"** benevolence recipient for March is **Crossroads Pregnancy Care**. Crossroads Pregnancy Care has been serving women and families since 1985, with clients coming from many counties, including Bucks, Montgomery, and Lehigh Counties. While Crossroads doesn't refer for or perform abortions, they do provide free pregnancy tests and ultrasounds, referrals for adoption, medical care, and other community services, education and support, parenting education, material support, a mom's support group, free STD screening and treatment, and post-abortion support.

**Bakers Needed:** Do you like to bake? Sue Young is coordinating bakers to supply treats to help support the AA "Let Go and Let God" group meeting each Friday at St. Paul's. She's hoping to add a couple more bakers to those who already participate in this ministry. If you're interested, please contact Sue Young at 610.982.5541 or [sueyoung751@gmail.com](mailto:sueyoung751@gmail.com). Thank you!

Our **Scouts BSA Troop 007** is holding a new fundraiser— **pizza kits** from our local pizza shop and restaurant Giovanni's! All kits include fresh dough, sauce, cheese, and pepperoni to make a delicious pizza or calzone at home. Kits come in two sizes: The small kit makes one small pizza or calzone and sells for \$10; the large kit makes one large pizza or calzone (or you can divide it up to make personal-sized pizza) and sells for \$18. Orders and payments are due by Thursday, March 4; pickup and delivery will be Saturday, March 13. For questions or to place and order, contact Terra Schote @ 267.227.7451 or [Ronnieschote@yahoo.com](mailto:Ronnieschote@yahoo.com)



*For more information on our ministries, please contact:*

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