



United in Christ: Hope Now! Hope Always!

“Wait, Israel, for God! Wait with hope! Hope now! Hope always! Psalm 131:3

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

February 28, 2021

Second Sunday in Lent

Pastor: Paula Geister-Jones Lay Ministry Administrator: Jenny Hoffman

Guest Preacher: Pastor Emily Tveite

Organist/Pianist: Linda Kunz Soloist: Kyla Betts

Lector: Sue Weum (8:00 a.m.) Marti Conant (9:15 a.m.)

Ushers: Sue Walls, Sue Weum (8:00 a.m.)

Tune your radio to FM 87.9 Technical Support: Thomas Lehr

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.

CALL TO WORSHIP: “Come Follow Me, the Savior Spoke” Gesius/Organ

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

C: Amen.

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Fountain of living water,

C: **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

P: 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

C: Amen.

HYMN: "Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing" #807 ELW

**Vs. 1: Come, thou Fount of ev'ry blessing, tune my heart to sing thy grace;
streams of mercy, never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise.
While the hope of endless glory fills my heart with joy and love,
teach me ever to adore thee; may I still thy goodness prove.**

**Vs. 2: Here I raise my Ebenezer: "Hither by thy help I've come";
and I hope, by thy good pleasure, safely to arrive at home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger, wand'ring from the fold of God;
he, to rescue me from danger, interposed his precious blood.**

**Vs. 3: Oh, to grace how great a debtor daily I'm constrained to be;
let that grace now like a fetter bind my wand'ring heart to thee.
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it; prone to leave the God I love.
Here's my heart, oh, take and seal it; seal it for thy courts above.**

GREETING

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

Honk your horns to greet one another.

LITANY FOR LENT

P: The word is near you,

C: on your lips and in your heart.

P: If you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord,
C: and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.
P: Faith comes from what is heard,
C: and what is heard comes through the word of Christ.

HYMN OF PRAISE: "Beneath the Cross of Jesus" #338 ELW vs. 1 & 2

**Vs. 1: Beneath the cross of Jesus I long to take my stand;
the shadow of a mighty rock within a weary land,
a home within a wilderness, a rest upon the way,
from the burning of the noontide heat and burdens of the day.**

**Vs. 2: Upon the cross of Jesus, my eye at times can see
the very dying form of one who suffered there for me.
And from my contrite heart, with tears, two wonders I confess:
the wonder of his glorious love and my unworthiness.**

SALUTATION

P: The Lord be with you.
C: And also with you.
Honk your horns to greet one another.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray.
C: 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.

ANTHEM: "We Are..."* by Ysaye M. Barnwell**

FIRST READING: Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16

17 ¹⁻² When Abram was ninety-nine years old, God showed up and said to him, "I am The Strong God, live entirely before me, live to the hilt! I'll make a covenant between us and I'll give you a huge family." ³⁻⁸ Overwhelmed, Abram fell flat on his face. Then God said to him, "This is my covenant with you: You'll be the father of many nations. Your name will no longer be Abram, but Abraham, meaning that

'I'm making you the father of many nations.' I'll make you a father of fathers—I'll make nations from you, kings will issue from you. I'm establishing my covenant between me and you, a covenant that includes your descendants, a covenant that goes on and on and on, a covenant that commits me to be your God and the God of your descendants. And I'm giving you and your descendants this land where you're now just camping, this whole country of Canaan, to own forever. And I'll be their God." ¹⁵⁻¹⁶ God continued speaking to Abraham, "And Sarai your wife: Don't call her Sarai any longer; call her Sarah. I'll bless her—yes! I'll give you a son by her! Oh, how I'll bless her! Nations will come from her; kings of nations will come from her."

L: The word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL CANTICLE: "Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed" #337 ELW vs. 1

Vs. 1: Alas! And did my Savior bleed, and did my sov'reign die?

Would he devote that sacred head for sinners such as I?

The Gospel is announced...

P: The Holy Gospel according to Mark the 8th Chapter.

C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

GOSPEL: Mark 8:31-38

³⁰⁻³² Jesus warned them to keep it quiet, not to breathe a word of it to anyone. He then began explaining things to them: "It is necessary that the Son of Man proceed to an ordeal of suffering, be tried and found guilty by the elders, high priests, and religion scholars, be killed, and after three days rise up alive." He said this simply and clearly so they couldn't miss it. ³²⁻³³ But Peter grabbed him in protest. Turning and seeing his disciples wavering, wondering what to believe, Jesus confronted Peter. "Peter, get out of my way! Satan, get lost! You have no idea how God works." ³⁴⁻³⁷ Calling the crowd to join his disciples, he said, "Anyone who intends to come with me has to let me lead. You're not in the driver's seat; I am. Don't run from suffering; embrace it. Follow me and I'll show you how. Self-help is no help at all. Self-sacrifice is the way, my way, to saving yourself, your true self. What good would it do to get everything you want and lose you, the real you? What could you ever trade your soul for? ³⁸ "If any of you are embarrassed over me and the way I'm leading you when you get around your fickle and unfocused friends, know that you'll be an even greater embarrassment to the Son

of Man when he arrives in all the splendor of God, his Father, with an army of the holy angels.”

P: The gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON: Emily Tveite, Campus Pastor at UW

HYMN: “What Wondrous Love Is This” #666 ELW Vss. 1 & 2

Vs. 1: What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul!

What wondrous love is this, O my soul!

What wondrous love is this that caused the Lord of bliss

to bear the dreadful curse for my soul, for my soul,

to bear the dreadful curse for my soul?

Vs. 2: When I was sinking down, sinking down, sinking down,

when I was sinking down, sinking down,

when I was sinking down beneath God's righteous frown,

Christ laid aside his crown for my soul, for my soul,

Christ laid aside his crown for my soul.

APOSTLE'S 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 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

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

Honk your horn 3 times after each petition

P: 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.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: 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. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: 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. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: 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. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: 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. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: 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.

C: Your mercy is great.

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

C: Amen.

THE SHARING OF THE PEACE

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: **And also with you.**

Honk your horns to greet one another.

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.

ANOUNCEMENTS

BENEDICTION

P: 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.

C: **Amen.**

Honk your horns one last time.

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord!

C: **Thanks be to God!**

SENDING HYMN: "Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing" #545 ELW

Vs. 1: Lord, dismiss us with your blessing, fill our hearts with joy and peace;
let us each, your love possessing, triumph in redeeming grace.

Oh, refresh us; oh, refresh us, trav'ling through this wilderness.

**Vs. 2: Thanks we give and adoration for your gospel's joyful sound.
May the fruits of your salvation in our hearts and lives abound.
Ever faithful, ever faithful to your truth may we be found.**

**Vs. 3: Savior, when your love shall call us from our struggling pilgrim way,
let no fear of death appall us, glad your summons to obey.
May we ever, may we ever reign with you in endless day.**

POSTLUDE: "Lord Jesus, You Shall Be My Song" set by Raabe

*About the Anthem: For each child that's born, a morning star rises and sings to the universe who we are. We are our grandmothers' prayers, and we are our grandfathers' dreamings, we are the breath of our ancestors, we are the spirit of God. We are mothers of courage and fathers of time, we are daughters of dust and the sons of great visions, we're sisters of mercy and brothers of love, we are lovers of life and the builders of nations, we're seekers of truth and keepers of faith, we are markers of peace and the wisdom of ages. We are our grandmothers' prayers, and we are our grandfathers' dreamings, we are the breath of our ancestors, we are the spirit of God. For each child that's born, a morning star rises and sings to the universe who we are.

**Footnote: Ysaye M. Barnwell is most known for her singing with and musical compositions performed and recorded by Sweet Honey in the Rock. Dr. Barnwell has been a commissioned composer on numerous and varied dance, choral, film and video projects including Sesame Street which have been an outgrowth of her combined understanding of creative artists inextricably bound to society.