

SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT

THEME: We can count on God keeping His promises.

Pre-Service Music

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING BLESSING

A WORD ABOUT OUR WORSHIP TODAY

P: Our help is in the name of the Lord;

C: who made heaven and earth.

Psalm 124:8

P: I said, I will confess my transgressions to the Lord,

C: and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

Psalm 32:5

CONFESSING TO GOD

P: We are gathered here today to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and sing His praises. In today's service we will receive the forgiveness of our sins as we kneel at the altar. Let us first begin by thinking about our unworthiness and how we have fallen short in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. During this moment of silence we reflect upon our need for God's help.

Silent Reflection

P: We confess.....

C: Lord, we seek refuge in Your mercy. We are no better than the tax collector who said, "Lord, be merciful to me, a sinner". Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life.

P: Almighty God, merciful Father, in Holy Baptism You declared us to be Your children and gathered us into Your one, holy Church, in which You daily and richly forgive us our sins and grant us new life through Your Spirit. Be in our midst, enliven our faith, and graciously receive our prayer and praise; through Your Son Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: Amen

OPENING HYMN Lord, I Lift Your Name

- 1 Lord, I lift your name on high, Lord I love to sing your praises,
I'm so glad you're in my life, I'm so glad you came to save us.
- 2 You came from heaven to earth to show the way
From the earth to the cross, my debt to pay
From the cross to the grave, from the grave to the sky
Lord I lift our name on high

Repeat 1 and 2

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: We pray.....

C: O God, it your glory always to have mercy. Bring back all who have erred and strayed from your ways; lead them again to embrace in faith the truth of your Word and to hold it fast; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

HEARING FROM GOD'S WORD

Old Testament Reading: Genesis 12:1-9

God promises to Abram that He will make his name great

Now the LORD said to Abram, "Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonors you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."

So Abram went, as the LORD had told him, and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he departed from Haran. And Abram took Sarai his wife, and Lot his brother's son, and all their possessions that they had gathered, and the people that they had acquired in Haran, and they set out to go to the land of Canaan. When they came to the land of Canaan, Abram passed through the land to the place at Shechem, to the oak of Moreh. At that time the Canaanites were in the land. Then the LORD appeared to Abram and said, "To your offspring I will give this land." So he built there an altar to the LORD, who had appeared to him. From there he moved to the hill country on the east of Bethel and pitched his tent, with Bethel on the west and Ai on the east. And there he built an altar to the LORD and called upon the name of the LORD. And Abram journeyed on, still going toward the Negeb.

New Testament Reading: Romans 4:1-8, 13-17

It is by faith and not our works that we have received God's promises

What then shall we say was gained by Abraham, our forefather according to the flesh? For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. For what does the Scripture say? "Abraham believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness." Now to the one who works, his wages are not counted as a gift but as his due. And to the one who does not work but believes in him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is counted as righteousness, just as David also speaks of the blessing of the one to whom God counts righteousness apart from works:

"Blessed are those whose lawless deeds are forgiven,
and whose sins are covered;

blessed is the man against whom the Lord will not count his sin."

For the promise to Abraham and his offspring that he would be heir of the world did not come through the law but through the righteousness of faith. For 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 there is no transgression.

That is why it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his offspring—not only to the adherent of the law but also to the one who shares the faith of Abraham, who is the father of us all, 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.

SUNDAY SCHOOL CHILDREN

The Lord is My Shepherd

The Lord is my Shepherd, I'll walk with Him always
He leads by still waters, I'll walk with Him always

Always, always, I'll walk with Him always
Always, always I'll walk with Him always

[Gospel Reading: John 3:1-17](#)

Jesus tells Nicodemus of God's love for the world

Now there was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews. This man came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher come from God, for no one can do these signs that you do unless God is with him." Jesus answered him, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God." Nicodemus said to him, "How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother's womb and be born?" Jesus answered, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not marvel that I said to you, 'You must be born again.' The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear its sound, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit."

Nicodemus said to him, "How can these things be?" Jesus answered him, "Are you the teacher of Israel and yet you do not understand these things? Truly, truly, I say to you, we speak of what we know, and bear witness to what we have seen, but you do not receive our testimony. If I have told you earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you heavenly things? No one has ascended into heaven except he who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON SONG "Green Book" 294 My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less

My hope is built on nothing less Than Jesus' blood and righteousness;
No merit of my own I claim, But wholly lean on Jesus' name.

Refrain:

On Christ, the solid rock, I stand; All other ground is sinking sand,
All other ground is sinking sand.

When darkness veils his lovely face, I rest on his unchanging grace;
In ev'ry high and stormy gale My anchor holds within the veil.

Refrain:

On Christ, the solid rock, I stand; All other ground is sinking sand,
All other ground is sinking sand.

His oath, his covenant, his blood Sustain me in the raging flood;
When all supports are washed away, He then is all my hope and stay.

Refrain:

On Christ, the solid rock, I stand; All other ground is sinking sand,
All other ground is sinking sand.

When he shall come with trumpet sound, Oh, may I then in him be found,
Clothed in his righteousness alone, Redeemed to stand before the throne!

Refrain

On Christ, the solid rock, I stand; All other ground is sinking sand,
All other ground is sinking sand.

AFFIRMATION OF 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.**

OFFERING (We give our offerings as a sign of our lives offered to God.)

OFFERTORY ([Janice and Ingrid](#)) [With the Help of the Spirit of the Lord](#) [By Jane Southwick Cool](#)

PRAYER OF GOD'S PEOPLE

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

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.

WORDS OF CONSECRATION

LORD'S PRAYER

DISTRIBUTION

DISTRIBUTION SONGS

"Green Book" 301

Come to Calvary's Holy Mountain

Come to Calv'ry's holy mountain, Sinners ruined by the fall;
Here a pure and healing fountain Flows to you, to me, to all,
In a full perpetual tide, Opened when our Savior died.

