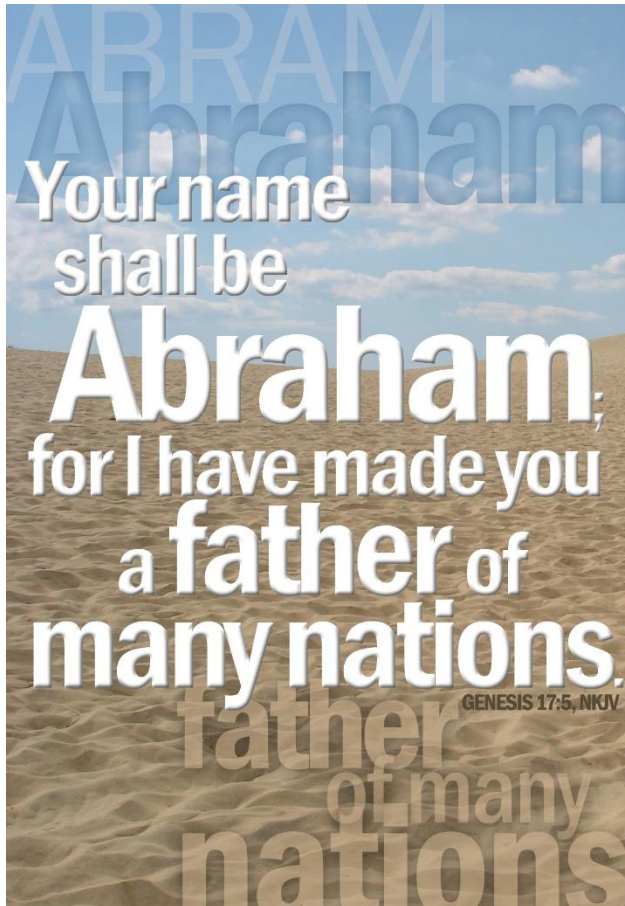


Second Sunday in Lent

February 25, 2024

10:30 AM



"Christ- Students- Community Coming Together"

444 Abbot Road | East Lansing, MI 48823 | (517) 332-0778

www.martinlutherchapel.org

The readiness of Abraham and Sarah, and the eagerness of Jesus to do God's will are models for contemporary disciples in the church. Baptized into Christ's death and resurrection, we are called to live a distinctive style of life shaped by faith in God's mercy. As followers of Christ, we take up our cross and stand with all those who suffer in our midst. Our Lenten journey always takes us to the cross, the heart of God's love for the world.

WELCOME

PRELUDE

Stand

INVOCATION

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

[C] Amen.

[P] Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **[C] Amen.**

WORDS OF CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

[P] If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Kneel/ Remain Standing

[P] Most merciful God,

[C] We confess that we are in bondage 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] Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, 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.

GREETING OF PEACE

Introduce yourself to those around you, greeting them with the greeting of peace.

SERVICE OF THE WORD

HYMN “The God of Abr’ham Praise”

1 The God of A - br'ham praise, Who reigns en - throned a - bove;
2 The God of A - br'ham praise, At whose su - preme com - mand
3 The God of A - br'ham praise, Whose all - suf - fi - cient grace
4 He by Him - self has sworn; I on His oath de - pend.

An - cient of ev - er - last - ing days And God of love.
From earth I rise and seek the joys At His 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.

Je - ho - vah, great I AM! By earth and heav'n con - fessed;
I all on earth for - sake, Its wis - dom, fame, and pow'r,
He deigns to call me friend; He calls Him - self my God.
I shall be - hold His face; I shall His pow'r a - dore

I bow and bless the sa - cred name For - ev - er blest.
And Him my on - ly por - tion make, My shield and tow'r.
And He shall save me to the end Through Je - sus' blood.
And sing the won - ders of His grace For - ev - er - more.

Text: Thomas Olivers, 1725–99, alt.

Tune: Hebrew; setting: *Hymns Ancient and Modern*, 1875

Text and music: Public domain

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Ex. 3:6, 14; Ps. 142:5–6; Ps. 9:7–11; Rev. 4:8

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.**

P In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



P For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



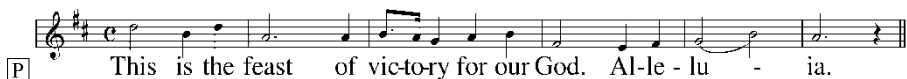
P For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

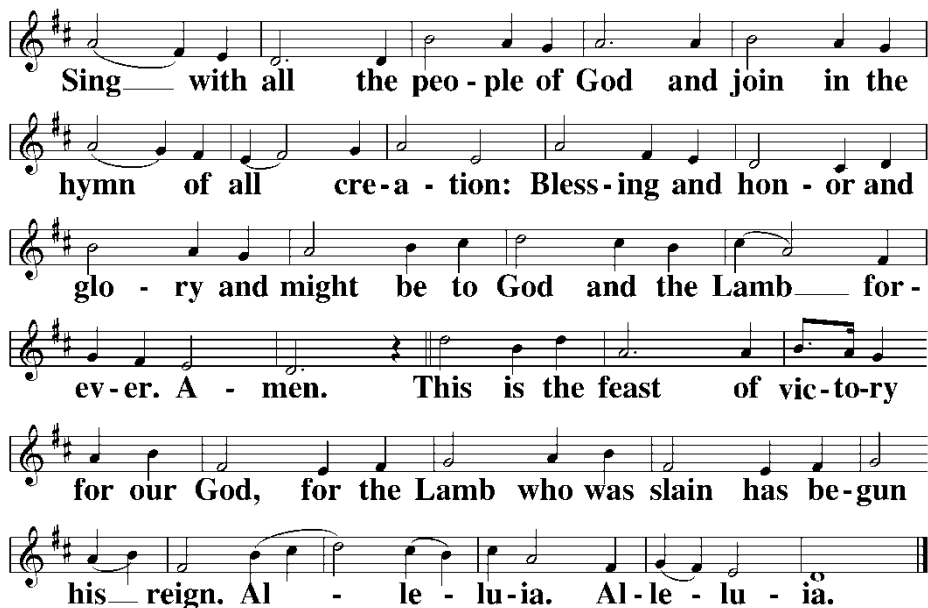


P For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.



P Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.





[P] The Lord be with you. **[C]** And also with you.

[P] Eternal God, it is 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. **[C]** Amen.

Children are invited to the Fireside Lounge for the Children's Lesson.

FIRST LESSON

Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16

In today's reading, the writer connects the covenant made with Abraham and Sarah to the "everlasting" covenant made with Noah. The relationship between God and Abraham's descendants is as sure as the relationship between God and the seasons and times of the year. The name changes further emphasize the firmness of God's promise.

[R] 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 Sarah 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."

R This is the Word of the Lord. **C** **Thanks be to God.**

SECOND LESSON

Romans 4:13-25

Paul is trying to persuade the Roman Christians that people are made right with God through faith rather than by works of the law. Abraham became the ancestor of God's chosen people not by keeping the law but by trusting God to keep his promises.

R 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.

R This is the Word of the Lord. **C** **Thanks be to God.**

Stand

C Lenten Verse



C Re - turn to the Lord, your God, for He is gra-cious and
mer - ci - ful, slow to an - ger, and a-bound-ing in
stead-fast love, and a - bound - ing in stead - fast love.

GOSPEL **P** The Gospel is written in Mark chapter 8, beginning at verse 31.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

P 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. 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."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord. **C** Praise to You, O Christ.

APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.
And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell.
The third day He rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven,
And sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From thence 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.**

Sit

MESSAGE “The Promise of a Better Tomorrow”

Stand

HYMN

"When Peace Like a River"

1 When peace, like a riv - er, at - tend - eth my way; When
2 Though Sa - tan should buf - fet, though tri - als should come, Let
3 He lives— oh, the bliss of this glo - ri - ous thought; My
4 And, Lord, haste the day when our faith shall be sight, The

sor - rows, like sea bil - lows, roll; What - ev - er my lot, Thou hast
this blest as - sur - ance con - trol, That Christ hath re - gard - ed my
sin, not in part, but the whole, Is nailed to His cross, and I
clouds be rolled back as a scroll, The trum - pet shall sound and the

taught me to say, It is well, it is well with my soul.
help - less es - tate And hath shed His own blood for my soul.
bear it no more. Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!
Lord shall de - scend; E - ven so it is well with my soul.

Refrain

It is well with my soul, It is well, it is well with my soul.
It is well with my soul,

Text: Horatio G. Spafford, 1828–88, alt.
Music: Philip P. Bliss, 1838–76

IT IS WELL
11 8 11 9 and refrain

Text and music: Public domain

Is. 26:3; Luke 2:29; Rom. 5:1; Col. 3:15

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

P Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.

Other prayers are inserted here. Each petition ends with “Lord, in your mercy,” to which the congregation responds, “hear our prayer.” The prayers conclude:

P Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **C** **Amen.**

Sit

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERING

You may contribute online using the QR code or place a gift in offering plate at the door along with the interest sheet.



Give Now

OFFERTORY MUSIC

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

Stand

C *introduction*
Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the
brim our cup of bless-ing. Gath-er a har-vest from the
seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the
bread of life. Gath-er the hopes and dreams of
all; u-nite them with the prayers we of-fer.
Grace our ta-ble with your pres-ence, and
give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.

P Let us pray. Compassionate God,

C we offer you these gifts as signs of our time and labor. Receive the offering of our lives, and feed us with your grace, that, even in the midst of death, all creation might feast on your unending life in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

PREFACE

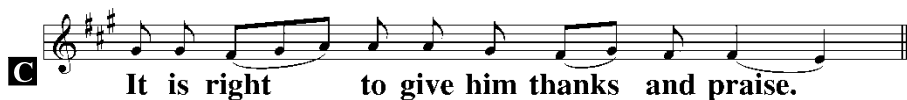
P The Lord be with you.



P Lift up your hearts.

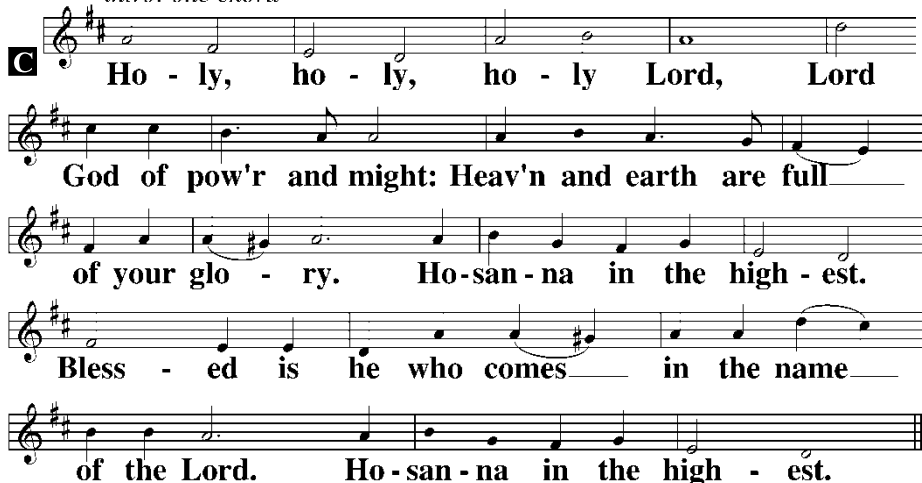


P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



P It is indeed right and salutary that we should ... and so we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

intro: one chord



WORDS OF INSTITUTION

[P] 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.


[P] 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.

LORD’S PRAYER


Recognizing that the church, and this congregation, are comprised of people from many cultures, languages, and backgrounds, please speak this prayer in the language or version closest to your heart.

[C] 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.

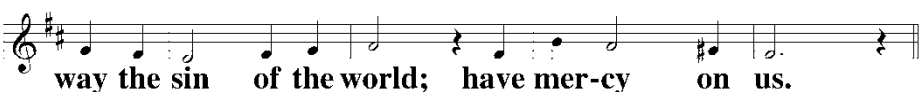
LAMB OF GOD




[C] Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world;




have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a -



way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us.



Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the



world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

Sit

THE DISTRIBUTION *You may approach the altar as space is available to receive pre-packaged communion elements or from the common loaf, along with an individual cup of wine or grape juice. Gluten-free options are available.*

HYMN "Take My Life And Let it Be"

1 Take my life and let it be Con-se - crat - ed, Lord, to Thee;
2 Take my hands and let them move At the im - pulse of Thy love;
3 Take my voice and let me sing Al-ways, on - ly for my King;
4 Take my sil - ver and my gold, Not a mite would I with - hold;

Take my mo-ments and my days, Let them flow in cease-less praise.
Take my feet and let them be Swift and beau - ti - ful for Thee.
Take my lips and let them be Filled with mes - sag - es from Thee.
Take my in - tel - lect and use Ev - 'ry pow'r as Thou shalt choose.

5 Take my will and make it Thine,
It shall be no longer mine;
Take my heart, it is Thine own,
It shall be Thy royal throne.

6 Take my love, my Lord, I pour
At Thy feet its treasure store;
Take myself, and I will be
Ever, only, all for Thee.

Text: Frances R. Havergal, 1836–79
Music: William H. Havergal, 1793–1870

PATMOS
77 77

Text and music: Public domain

Rom. 12:1–2; Rom. 6:13; 1 Cor. 6:20; 2 Cor. 5:15

Stand

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

POST-COMMUNION COLLECT AND PRAYER

intro: one chord

[C] Thank the Lord and sing his praise; tell ev-'ry-one what
he has done. Let ev - 'ry-one who seeks the Lord re-joice
and proud-ly bear his name. He re-calls his prom-is-es and



P Let us pray. God of our pilgrimage, in this meal you nourish us with the gifts of faith and hope. Sustain us on our journey, that refreshed by your grace, we may reach the promised land, the Easter feast of victory in Jesus Christ our Lord.

C Amen.

BENEDICTION

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

C Amen.

P Go in peace; serve the Lord. **C Thanks be to God.**

CLOSING HYMN

"Abide With Me"

1 A - bid with me, fast falls the e - ven - tide.
2 I need Thy pres - ence ev - 'ry pass - ing hour;
3 Come not in ter - rors, as the King of kings,
4 Swift to its close ebbs out life's lit - tle day;

The dark - ness deep - ens; Lord, with me a - bid.
What but Thy grace can foil the tempt - er's pow'r?
But kind and good, with heal - ing in Thy wings;
Earth's joys grow dim, its glo - ries pass a - way;

When oth - er help - ers fail and com - forts flee,
 Who like Thy - self my guide and stay can be?
 Tears for all woes, a heart for ev - 'ry plea.
 Change and de - cay in all a - round I see;

Help of the help - less, O a - bid with me.
 Through cloud and sun - shine, O a - bid with me.
 Come, Friend of sin - ners, thus a - bid with me.
 O Thou who chang - est not, a - bid with me.

Text: Henry F. Lyte, 1793–1847, alt.

Tune: William H. Monk, 1823–89; setting: *The Lutheran Hymnal*, 1941

EVENTIDE

10 10 10 10

Text and music: Public domain

Luke 24:29; Ps. 63:6–8; 73:23–26; 1 Cor. 10:13

- 5 I fear no foe with Thee at hand to bless;
 Ills have no weight and tears no bitterness.
 Where is death's sting? Where, grave, thy victory?
 I triumph still if Thou abide with me!
- 6 Hold Thou Thy cross before my closing eyes;
 Shine through the gloom, and point me to the skies.
 Heav'n's morning breaks, and earth's vain shadows flee;
 In life, in death, O Lord, abide with me.

POSTLUDE

Our Confession about Communion

1. Holy Communion is a divinely instituted act in which Jesus Christ gives His true (real) body and blood under the forms of bread and wine. We thus hold that the bread and wine are not mere symbols of Jesus' body and blood. When we receive the bread and wine we receive in fact the body and blood of Christ for the forgiveness of sins.

2. We believe that Communion is a celebration of this forgiveness which comes to us through faith as we eat and drink. In communion we remember our Lord's passion and death, His resurrection and ascension, and the promise of His coming again. Communion is truly the Gospel made visible, and is offered for those who "hunger and thirst after righteousness."

3. We believe that as we eat and drink this Supper we are strengthened in our faith in Jesus Christ and in our love for one another.

Therefore, we invite to the Lord's Table all who:

a. have been instructed in the meaning of Communion; have been baptized in the name of the Triune God; have received Jesus Christ as their own personal and living Savior and Lord, and concur in our confession;

b. are not living in open rebellion against the Word of God, and do not hold willful and persistent form of hatred, resentment or anger against any other person.

Those who have questions about communion are welcome to talk to one of the Pastors.
