

CALVIN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Online Worship Service – February 28, 2021

Revised Common Lectionary Readings
Second Sunday in Lent
Year B

Genesis 17:1-7, 5-16
Psalm 22:23-31
Romans 4:13-25
Mark 8:31-38

Prelude

Welcome and Opening Prayer

God, your Son Jesus Christ bore the cross for our salvation and was raised from the dead for the redemption of the world. Give us the courage to take up our cross and follow him, that through his grace we may accept the cost of faithful discipleship and receive the joy of everlasting life with Christ, who lives with you and the Holy Spirit, on God, now and forever. Direct our hearts through our worship this morning, that we may do this. Amen.

**adapted from Feasting on the Word Worship Companion, (c) 2014 Westminster John Knox Press*

Call to Worship

Psalm 22:27-29

All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD.

And all the families of the nations shall worship before him.

For dominion belongs to the LORD, and he rules over the nations.

To him indeed shall all who sleep in the earth bow down...and I shall live for him.

Hymn

Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days
Glory to God Hymnal, # 166

Confession*

Mark 8:34-35

"Jesus 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...will save it.'"

Merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you and one another in our thoughts, our words and our actions. There is a brokenness in us that reflects the brokenness of our world – and it is deep and broad.

Yet in your mercy and healing grace, you can restore us and empower us to walk in the way of Christ. In your mercy and healing grace, you can reform our paths toward love and justice for our neighbors and for the earth. In your mercy and healing grace, you can make your peace – your shalom – a reality in our communities and lives.

**by permission from Rev. Roger Gench, Presbyterian Outlook liturgy for the Second Sunday in Lent, 2021
(personal confession)*

Assurance and Peace

Genesis 17:7

“God said to Abraham, ‘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 your offspring after you.’”

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

Thanks be to God

May the Peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

ScriptureLamentations 2

(selections)

Sermon*A Faithful Enemy***Hymn***Why Stand So Far Away, My God? (Psalm 10)*

Glory to God Hymnal, # 786

Offering and Doxology

Mark 8:36

“Jesus said to them, ‘For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life?’”

With all humility, let us make our offering to God, trusting not in worldly gain, but in God’s sustaining grace. Please prayerfully consider the time, talents, or gifts you have received, and how you can give them back to God in love and service to others.

**Invitation to the Offering adapted from Feasting on the Word Worship Companion*

Prayer of Dedication and the Prayers of the People

**portions adapted from Feasting on the Word Worship Companion and
Presbyterian Outlook liturgy for the Second Sunday in Lent, 2021*

Almighty God, we thank you for the covenant you established with your people, which you have opened to us through Jesus Christ our Lord. Accept these offerings with the dedication of our lives, that we may be for the world a sign of your abiding love and a testament to your enduring promise.

O God, you who are our creator and redeemer, we pray that the Spirit of Jesus would be with us as we continue our journey through Lent. Jesus called his disciples to pick up their cross and follow him. Help us to discern what that means for us as the church in this time and place. Give us the courage to name suffering and evil and to stand in resistance to it. Give us endurance when we face persecution for resisting abuses in our lives and communities. Empower us to stand with those who suffer on account of homelessness, lack of food or resources, or other injustices. Inspire us to see Christ in the least of these in our midst.

O God, we pray for those who are isolated and lonely during this pandemic. May we find ways to be a comfort for them. We pray for children and parents who are navigating school and work under such stressful circumstances. We pray for those who have lost loved ones because of the virus and are grieving the loss. We pray for

your church in this time of crisis and that we would find new ways to live your mission. We also pray for those hurt by the snow and ice storms that have ravaged large sections of our county — adding to the already stressful realities of life in our current crisis.

And, O God, we continue to pray for the global community as it grapples with the pandemic. And for our nation, as we have just passed the tragic milestone of over 500,000 dead. We pray your mercy on friends, relatives, and loved ones, and indeed on all of us. We pray that you would give us the fortitude to take responsibility for measures that will protect us all. We pray especially for the those hit hardest by the strains of this menace, and pray for those in leadership in our communities, states and nation as they negotiate ways in which to aid those most afflicted. We pray for a speedy process of vaccination in this country and in countries around the globe. We celebrate with those who have been able to receive the vaccine, and we pray for fairness in access to the vaccine for our communities and for other countries and places that have not received it. May your justice, your kingdom shalom, reign in this world.

We continue to pray for those whose names are known to us.

For those who mourn...are in need of comfort...and those in need of healing...

For our sisters and brothers of the Martin Luther King Community Presbyterian Church.

And we ask your continued presence with all at the Oak Hill, Chapel Hill, Waterman Lake, Madonna Manor, the Highlands, and Atria assisted living facilities, and all who are separated from family and friends in this time.

And now hear us as we offer our personal prayers for all those on our hearts and in our minds...

Grant these prayers, O God, by your grace, for it is to you that we can turn. Stir up in us the will to seek out your kingdom with the dedication of our lives in ministry to the world, for the sake of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the one who taught us to pray with boldness together,

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed by 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen. us from evil. For thine is the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

Hymn

O Carpenter, Why Leave the Bench
Glory to God Hymnal, # 162

Charge and Benediction*

**adapted from Feasting on the Word Worship Companion*

Beloved Disciples of Jesus, do not shun the way of the cross, but follow wherever our Lord may lead.

And the love of God the Father, the grace of Jesus the Son, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you now and forevermore. Amen.