

The Second Sunday in Lent

March 8, 2020 • 8:00 AM Service
Holy Communion Rite One



SIGNS OF LIFE

why church matters

WATER



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Sunday Services at 8 and 10 AM • Wed. Service at 10 AM • Sat. Service at 5 PM

GATHERING FOR WORSHIP

PRELUDE

[During the Prelude, please prepare for worship by observing attentive silence.]

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

ACCLAMATION

[Please stand.] Symbols in the Bulletin **P** Priest, **D** Deacon, **C** Congregation, **L** Leader, **All** Everyone.

P Bless the Lord who forgiveth all our sins.

C God's mercy endureth for ever.

GATHERING PRAYER

P We pray for our life as a church community sharing God's signs of life:

All Almighty and everliving God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth, hear our prayers for this parish family. Strengthen the faithful, arouse the careless, and restore the penitent. Grant us all things necessary for our common life, and bring us all to be of one heart and mind within your holy Church; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

P Lord, have mercy upon us.

C Christ, have mercy upon us.

P Lord, have mercy upon us.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C And with thy Spirit.

P Let us pray ...Ever-creating Spirit, who brooded over the waters of chaos and brought forth all life from them: We thank you for the wondrous gift of water through which we die with Christ and are raised by you to the new life of grace; and we pray that we may ever be faithful stewards of this gift and make it available, clean and pure, to all living beings, that in so doing the springs of living water promised by Christ Jesus may well up in every human heart; through Jesus our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Father, one God, now and for ever.

C Amen.

THE WORD OF GOD

The Readings Isaiah 55:6-11, Psalm 1:1-3, Acts 8:26-40, Matthew 14:22-33

[Please be seated.]

The First Reading

📖 *The First Reading is taken from Isaiah chapter 55...*

Seek the Lord while he may be found; call on him while he is near. Let the wicked forsake their ways and the unrighteous their thoughts. Let them turn to the Lord, and he will have mercy on them, and to our God, for he will freely pardon.

“For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways,” declares the Lord. “As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts. As the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return to it without watering the earth and making it bud and flourish, so that it yields seed for the sower and bread for the eater, so is my word that goes out from my mouth: It will not return to me empty, but will accomplish what I desire and achieve the purpose for which I sent it.”

📖 The Word of the Lord.

👏 **Thanks be to God.**

The Psalm

📖 *We will read responsively Psalm 1...*

📖 Happy are they who have not walked in the counsel of the wicked,

👏 **nor lingered in the way of sinners, nor sat in the seats of the scornful!**

📖 Their delight is in the law of the LORD,

👏 **and they meditate on his law day and night.**

📖 They are like trees planted by streams of water,

👏 **bearing fruit in due season, with leaves that do not wither;
everything they do shall prosper.**

The Second Reading

📖 *The Second Reading is taken from Acts chapter 8...*

Now an angel of the Lord said to Philip, “Go south to the road—the desert road—that goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza.” So he started out, and on his way he met an Ethiopian eunuch, an important official in charge of all the treasury of the Kandake (which means “queen of the Ethiopians”). This man had gone to Jerusalem to worship, and on his way home was sitting in his chariot reading the Book of Isaiah the prophet.

The Spirit told Philip, “Go to that chariot and stay near it.” Then Philip ran up to the chariot and heard the man reading Isaiah the prophet. “Do you understand what you are reading?” Philip asked.

“How can I,” he said, “unless someone explains it to me?” So he invited Philip to come up and sit with him. This is the passage of Scripture the eunuch was reading: *He was led like a sheep to the slaughter, and as a lamb before its shearer is silent, so he did not open his mouth. In his humiliation he was deprived of justice. Who can speak of his descendants? For his life was taken from the earth.*

The eunuch asked Philip, "Tell me, please, who is the prophet talking about, himself or someone else?" Then Philip began with that very passage of Scripture and told him the good news about Jesus.

As they traveled along the road, they came to some water and the eunuch said, "Look, here is water. What can stand in the way of my being baptized?" And he gave orders to stop the chariot. Then both Philip and the eunuch went down into the water and Philip baptized him. When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord suddenly took Philip away, and the eunuch did not see him again, but went on his way rejoicing. Philip, however, appeared at Azotus and traveled about, preaching the gospel in all the towns until he reached Caesarea.

L The Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

The Gospel

[Please stand.]

D The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

C **Glory be to thee, O Lord.**

D Immediately Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead of him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowd. After he had dismissed them, he went up on a mountainside by himself to pray. Later that night, he was there alone, and the boat was already a considerable distance from land, buffeted by the waves because the wind was against it. Shortly before dawn Jesus went out to them, walking on the lake.

When the disciples saw him walking on the lake, they were terrified. "It's a ghost," they said, and cried out in fear.

But Jesus immediately said to them: "Take courage! It is I. Don't be afraid."

"Lord, if it's you," Peter replied, "tell me to come to you on the water."

"Come," he said. Then Peter got down out of the boat, walked on the water and came toward Jesus.

But when he saw the wind, he was afraid and, beginning to sink, cried out, "Lord, save me!" Immediately Jesus reached out his hand and caught him.

"You of little faith," he said, "why did you doubt?" And when they climbed into the boat, the wind died down.

Then those who were in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God."

D The Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise be to thee, O Christ.**

SERMON

[Please be seated.]

Becky Robbins-Penniman

NICENE CREED

[Please stand.]

☞ We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

[Please stand, kneel, or sit, as you prefer.]

☞ Remembering that it is no longer we who live but Christ who lives in us, let us pray for the whole state of Christ's Church and for the world.

℣ We pray for all who call you Lord. Enliven our common life, that together we may worship you joyfully, give our hearts wholly to you in prayer, and gently commend to others the faith that is in us. We pray for all who are in need and who suffer [especially, *read names from notebook*]

☞ Lord Christ, live in us so that we are courageous agents of justice and compassion, and share our resources generously.

℣ We pray for the leaders around the world. Help them to respect all by considering others as equal to themselves, by thinking charitably towards all neighbors near and far, and by seeking to understand and appreciate those who differ from them.

☞ Lord Christ, live in us so that we love and serve others as you love and serve us.

℣ We pray for all who are responsible for the mission and ministry of the church, lay and ordained.

☞ Lord Christ, live in us so that we are humble, patient and act with integrity, using the values and promises of the Reign of God as the foundation of every decision, action or abstention.

℣ We pray for a sense of awe for all you have created and entrusted to us, including our own bodies, your creation, and the lives of others. We give you thanks for the blessings of this life. You open your hand and fill the earth with good things.

☞ Lord Christ, live in us so that we cherish the gifts you have given us, conserving and healing your creation for the sake of those who come after us.

- ℒ We pray for those whose life on this earth has ended, [especially, *read names from notebook.*] Let light perpetual shine upon them.
- ☩ **Lord Christ, live in us so that we follow the good examples of your saints, who teach us to enjoy worldly goods and comforts in moderation, and to be honest in our daily life and work.**
- ℒ Let your grace restore us, good Lord, and let your Spirit inspire us.
- ☩ **Lord Christ, live in us and accomplish in us the work of your salvation, that we may show forth your glory in the world. Amen.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

[Please kneel or stand.]

- ℒ Let us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God. [*Silence is kept.*]
Most merciful God, . . .
- ℳ **we confess that we have sinned against thee in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved thee with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of thy Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in thy will, and walk in thy ways, to the glory of thy Name. Amen.**
- ℙ Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of his great mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins to all those who with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto him, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
- ☩ **Amen.**

PRAYERS AND BLESSINGS

[If you are celebrating a birthday or anniversary, you may ask for a blessing.]

THE PEACE

[Please stand.]

- ℙ The peace of the Lord be always with you.
- ☩ **And with thy spirit.**

THE HOLY COMMUNION

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

- ℒ Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.
Bring your tithes, gifts and offering with gladness

*[Please be seated. **If this is your first time worshiping with us,** please let your offering be only the completed blue guest card, and let this service be our gift to you.]*

OFFERTORY

PRESENTATION OF THE OFFERINGS

[Please stand when the offerings of bread, wine, and money are presented by the Deacon.]

- ℒ As we receive these gifts, we acknowledge
- ☩ **All things come from thee, O Lord and of thine own have we given thee.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING: Eucharistic Prayer II

P The Lord be with you.

C **And with thy spirit.**

P Lift up your hearts.

C **We lift them up unto the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.

C **It is meet and right so to do.**

P It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God. Creator of the light and source of life, Who dost bid thy faithful people cleanse their hearts, and prepare with joy for the Paschal feast; that, fervent in prayer and in works of mercy, and renewed by thy Word and Sacraments, they may come to the fullness of grace which thou hast prepared for those who love thee. Therefore, with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and saying,

C **Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts: Heaven and earth are full of thy glory. Glory be to thee, O Lord Most High. Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

[Please kneel or stand, as you choose.]

P All glory be to thee, O Lord our God, for that thou didst create heaven and earth, and didst make us in thine own image; and, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to take our nature upon him, and to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption. He made there a full and perfect sacrifice for the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again.

P For in the night in which he was betrayed, he took bread; and when he had given thanks to thee, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat, this is my Body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

P Likewise, after supper, he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink this, all of you; for this is my Blood of the New Covenant, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins. Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me."

P Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, we thy people do celebrate and make, with these thy holy gifts which we now offer unto thee, the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make; having in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; and looking for his coming again with power and great glory. And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us, and, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, to bless and sanctify these gifts of bread and wine, that they may be unto us the Body and Blood of thy dearly-beloved Son Jesus Christ.

☩ And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, whereby we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, our selves, our souls and bodies. Grant, we beseech thee, that all who partake of this Holy Communion may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, and be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction; and also that we and all thy whole Church may be made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord;

☩ By whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end.

☩ AMEN.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

☩ And now, as our Savior Christ hath taught us, we are bold to say,

☩ 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, for ever and ever. Amen.

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

☩ Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

☩ Therefore let us keep the feast.

☩ The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

[You may be seated. All are welcome at the Lord's Table. Please follow the directions of the usher, who will let you know when it's your turn to go to the altar rail. You may stand or kneel. To receive, hold your hands in front of you, one palm over the other. The priest will place a wafer there. You may either consume it immediately, and then sip from the cup of wine when it comes to you, or, you may wait and dip the wafer into the wine. When you are finished, please return to your seat by the side aisle.]

Our Prayer Team will be in the south narthex (at the back of the church) during Holy Communion to pray with you for healing, guidance, thanksgiving, for a loved one, or anything else on your heart.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

[Please kneel or stand, as you choose.]

P Let us pray.

C Almighty and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, of thy everlasting kingdom. And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

THE BLESSING AND DISMISSAL

[Please stand.]

P Our Triune God gives us the signs of life, equipping, empowering, and strengthening us to become disciples of Christ Jesus. God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit, bless you in your Lenten journey, today and throughout this holy season.

C Amen.

D Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE

SERVING US TODAY

Celebrant & Preacher	Becky Robbins-Penniman
Deacon	Cindy Roehl
Priest Associate	Ann Chaplin
Chalicer	Cheryl Sharpe
Lector	Rhiannon Sharpe
Prayers of the People	Cheryl Sharpe
Prayer Team	Butch & Diane Niford
Greeter	John Drega
Usher	John Schmidt
Building & Grounds	Jerry Ozbun