

Morning Worship

Second Sunday in Lent

February 28, 2021 (Online)



Ringling of the Bell

Our Life Together

The Solemn Declaration

Prelude Music

Call to Worship

Leader: How blessed we are that God forgives us and loves us!

All: For all those times when we have fallen short of what God would have us be, we have been forgiven.

Leader: God makes us new in God's Spirit!

All: Now is the time to joyfully accept the newness of life which God offers to us.

Leader: Come, let us worship and be thankful.

All: Let us open our hearts to the forgiveness, peace and joy of God. Amen.

Prayer of Invocation

Mighty God, everything you do reveals your glory and majesty. Open our eyes to see what you are doing in our lives. Let us marvel at your good gifts and your wise provision. Your acts are amazing Lord. We cannot comprehend the number of blessings you pour out on us from day to day. As we gather today around your name to worship, we pray that you will fill our hearts, our minds and our souls for your love and grace. Transform us Lord, and make us more like you. Through Jesus Christ, our Lord, Amen.

Call to Confession

We are quite open about our successes.

We feel free to boast when we have done well,
but we forget to say “Thank you” to God.

When things have gone wrong in our lives,
we forget to come to God for guidance and grace.

When we have done something wrong,
we forget to come to God to ask for forgiveness.

Let us now confess our short comings to our
Living God.

Confession

Forgive us, O Lord, when we falter because of our fear, when we refrain from doing your will. Forgive us when our hearts are not big enough to act with compassion for your people. Forgive us when we are afraid, and when we are hard-hearted. Give us hearts of love, and a stalwart will, that we may walk do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with you.

Hear now the silent confessions of our hearts.

...time of silent prayer...

Assurance

Leader: Have you not been listening? God never tires out, nor is there is an expiration date on God's forgiveness. God is ever with us, healing us with mercy, and strengthening us for service.

All: **If God numbers the stars, surely our names are known by the One who loves us and offers us grace. This is indeed good news for all! Thanks be to God. Amen.**

Words of Assurance

Leader: The good news in Christ is that when we face ourselves and God with the awareness of our need, we are given grace to grow, courage to continue the journey.

All: Friends, believe the good news of the gospel.
In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

Affirmation of Faith

You, O God, are supreme and holy.
 You create our world and give us life.
 Your purpose overarches everything we do.
 You have always been with us.
 You are God.
 You, O God, are infinitely generous,
 good beyond all measure.
 You came to us before you came to you.
 You have revealed and provided
 your love for us in Jesus Christ,
 who lived and died and rose again.
 You are with us now.
 You are God.
 You, O God, are Holy Spirit.
 You empower us to be your gospel in the world.
 You reconcile and heal; you overcome death.

Scripture

Old Testament Psalm 51

New Testament 2 Corinthians 5:14-20

The Gospel

Luke 23: 33-38

Morning Message

Jan

Morning Prayer

Our Lord's Prayer

Symbolic Offering

God's wisdom turns the wisdom of the world upside down. God calls us to unexpected and extravagant opportunities to grow in our gifts and in our faith. Holding things close in fear distracts us from the path of discipleship, but trusting in God and in God's future leads us to great generosity and joy. Let us gather our gifts together and offer them to God in gratitude and praise.

Offertory Music

Dedication

Lord, You provide us with everything that we need. You have blessed us with many opportunities to do what is right and true. You never ask us to wait when we cry out Your name. You provide us counsel in times of sorrow and grief.

You share with us joy in times of celebration. Today, teach us how to dedicate our lives only for Your glory. Teach us to become a blessing to others even to those we do not know. Encourage us to follow the footsteps of Your son Jesus Christ as He was the ultimate example of what a good person is.

Teach us to forgive and ask for forgiveness.

Keep us away from temptation and mend the hearts of those who are hurt. May our gifts multiply and may they be of help to those who are in need. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

Benediction

Leader: Forgiven and Beloved Ones of God, go now in peace, sharing with others the Good News of God's love. Help those in need. Give and receive from each other the joy of peace. Amen.

All: Amen.

***On Eagle's Wings (sung)**

And God will raise you up on eagle's wings, bear you on the breath of dawn, make you to shine like the sun, and hold you in the palm of God's hand.

***Postlude**

If we really want to
love
we must learn
how to
forgive.

~ Mother Theresa