



THE SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT

SUNDAY 5 MARCH 2023

THE HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE I

8:00 A.M.

THE WORD OF GOD

Opening Acclamation

The Book of Common Prayer, p. 323

The Collect for Purity

p. 323

Almighty God, unto 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 thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Kyrie eleison

Lord, have mercy upon us.
Christ, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us.

p. 324

The Collect of the Day

p. 166

O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy: Be gracious to all who have gone astray from thy ways, and bring them again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of thy Word, Jesus Christ thy Son; who with thee and the Holy Spirit liveth and reigneth, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Lesson: Genesis 12:1-4a

The Holy Bible; NRSV, p. 9

Commentary: God called Abram to leave his ancestral land. God's call was pure grace, nothing in the text suggests that God chose Abram because he merited favor. Abram, later renamed Abraham, had only a promise from God, yet Abraham's faith was shown by his obedience to the Lord. At this point God's promise was short on details, but Abraham realized that God's blessing meant that he would be a blessing to others. Many obstacles stood between God's promises and their future fulfillment, but each obstacle presented an opportunity for Abraham's faith to grow stronger, even as his faith was tested. Through the ages, Christians have been called to follow Abraham's example of steadfast faith in God.

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. 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 the one who curses 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.

The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 121 King James Version

Levavi oculos

I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills, from whence cometh my help. My help cometh from the Lord, which made heaven and earth. He will not suffer thy foot to be moved: he that keepeth thee will not slumber. Behold, he that keepeth Israel shall neither slumber nor sleep. The Lord is thy keeper: the Lord is thy shade upon thy right hand. The sun shall not smite thee by day, nor the moon by night. The Lord shall preserve thee from all evil: he shall preserve thy soul. The Lord shall preserve thy going out and thy coming in from this time forth, and even for evermore.

The Holy Gospel: John 3:1-17

NRSV, p. 970

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

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

There was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. He came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God." Jesus answered him, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above." Nicodemus said to him, "How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?" Jesus answered, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. Do not be astonished that I said to you, 'You must be born from above.' The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, 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 a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things? "Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. And just 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, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him."

The Gospel of the Lord.

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

The Sermon

The Reverend Cheryl Brainard

The Nicene Creed

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The Prayers of the People

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Confession of Sin

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The Peace

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Welcome and Announcements

THE HOLY COMMUNION

Eucharistic Prayer I

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Sanctus

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The Lord's Prayer

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The Breaking of the Bread

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Prayer of Humble Access

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The Communion of the People

Gluten-free wafers available upon request

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Prayer of Thanksgiving

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The Blessing

Celebrant Bow down before the Lord.

The people kneel

Keep this your family, Lord, with your never-failing mercy, that relying solely on the help of your heavenly grace, they may be upheld by your divine protection; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Dismissal

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Celebrant & Preacher: The Reverend Cheryl Brainard

*The flowers at the altar are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of
Mr. & Mrs. Harmon Chadbourn Rorison, & Margaret Lippitt "Peg" Rorison.*

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