

February 28, 2021

Second Sunday in Lent



Icon of Abraham, Sarah, and Moses, Dmitry Shkolnik, ca. 2000

We are filled with joy at your presence and hope you experience God's Spirit as you worship and meet with those around you. If you would like more information about RPC, please talk with any Session member or the Pastor.

ORDER FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

Bold Letters -- Indicate congregational response

GATHERING

Invocation

Oh God, You Are My God

#743

O God, you are my God,
and I will ever praise you.
O God, you are my God,
and I will ever praise you.
I will seek you in the morning,
and I will learn to walk in your ways.
And step by step you'll lead me,
and I will follow you all of my days.

Welcome

Prayer of Confession and Assurance of Pardon

Create in Me a Clean Heart, O God

#423 (v.1)

¹ Create in me a clean heart, O God;
create in me a clean heart, O God;
create in me a clean heart, O God,
and renew a right spirit within me.

Silence is kept for personal confession

Psalm 51

Have mercy on me, God in your Kindness
In your compassion blot out my offense
O wash me more and more from my guilt
and cleanse me from my sin

My offenses truly I know them
my sin is always before me
against you, you alone, have I sinned
what is evil in your sight I have done

A pure heart create for me, O God,
put a steadfast spirit within me.
Do not cast me away from your presence,
nor deprive me of your holy spirit

Give me again the joy of your help;
with a spirit of fervor sustain me.
O Lord, open my lips
and my mouth shall declare your praise.

Silence is kept for personal confession

Lo I am with You

Lo, I am with you til the end of the world

THE WORD

A Time with the Children

First Reading

Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16

Lay Leader: Rachel Jung

¹When 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. ²And I will make my covenant between me and you, and will make you exceedingly numerous." ³Then Abram fell on his face; and God said to him, ⁴"As for me, this is my covenant with you: You shall be the ancestor of a multitude of nations. ⁵No longer shall your name be Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you the ancestor of a multitude of nations. ⁶I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you. ⁷I 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."

¹⁵God said to Abraham, "As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name. ¹⁶I 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."

Thanks be to God.

Gospel

Mark 8:31-38

³¹Then he 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. ³²He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. ³³But 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."

³⁴He 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. ³⁵For 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. ³⁶For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? ³⁷Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? ³⁸Those 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."

Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Hearing What We Don't Want to Hear

Lenten Response

Stay with Me

#204

**Stay with me; remain here with me;
watch and pray.
Watch and pray.**

RESPONDING

Invitation to Present Our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory

Doxology

Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow

#606

Prayer of Thanksgiving

God of compassion,
we praise you that you look upon our delicate lives
with love and understanding,
and that you desire for us all
new life in Jesus Christ.
We are overwhelmed by your love,
which goes to the cross,
endures the grave,
and leads us to new life.
By your Spirit,
strengthen our souls
to be brave and bold in Christ's service.
Take our offerings,
and use them and us for your purposes,

in the name of Jesus Christ,
our crucified and risen Lord.

Amen.

Prayers of the People

Come, Bring Your Burdens to God

#851

Come, bring your burdens to God;
come, bring your burdens to God;
come, bring your burdens to God,
for Jesus will never say no.

Lord's Prayer

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 sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not
into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, the
power and the glory, forever.
Amen.

SENDING

Opportunities for Service and Fellowship

Sending Hymn

Oh God, You Are My God

#743

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and I will ever praise you.
O God, you are my God,
and I will ever praise you.
I will seek you in the morning,
and I will learn to walk in your ways.
And step by step you'll lead me,
and I will follow you all of my days.

Blessing and Charge

May the Spirit of the triune God
strengthen and sustain you,
all throughout these forty days
and into the life that is to come.

Go in peace,
proclaiming the message of reconciliation
God has entrusted to us.

Thanks be to God, Amen.

Response

Be Still and Know That I Am God

#414

Be still and know that I am God.

Be still and know that I am God.

Postlude