

The First Sunday in Lent

Sunday, February 18, 2024 – 10:30 a.m.



Welcome!

To our guests and visitors:

We are glad that you are here with us today!

If you have no church home, why don't you consider joining us? Please speak to Pastor Parrish after the service and enjoy a special gift for visiting with us today!

10,000 Reasons

Bless the Lord, O my soul, O my soul; Worship His holy name.
Sing like never before, O my soul; I'll worship Your holy name.

The sun comes up, it's a new day dawning,
it's time to sing Your song again.
Whatever may pass, and whatever lies before me,
let me be singing when the evening comes.

Bless the Lord, O my soul, O my soul; Worship His holy name.
Sing like never before, O my soul; I'll worship Your holy name.

You're rich in love and You're slow to anger.
Your name is great and Your heart is kind.
For all Your goodness, I will keep on singing;
Ten thousand reasons for my heart to find.

Bless the Lord, O my soul, O my soul; Worship His holy name.
Sing like never before, O my soul; I'll worship Your holy name.

And on that day, when my strength is failing,
The end draws near, and my time has come;
Still, my soul will sing Your praise unending.
Ten thousand years, and then forever more!

Bless the Lord, O my soul, O my soul; Worship His holy name.
Sing like never before, O my soul; I'll worship Your holy name.
Bless the Lord, O my soul, O my soul; Worship His holy name.
Sing like never before, O my soul; I'll worship Your holy name.

Worship Your holy name, Lord, I'll worship Your holy name.

"10,000 Reasons" Words and music by Jonas Myrin and Matt Redman. Copyright 2011 Thankyou Music. All rights reserved. CCLI# 2960087

Pastor: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
People: Amen.

Pastor: It was in this triune name of God that we were baptized—
People: the name of Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

Pastor: As we begin our Lenten journey, we remember our Baptism.
People: We remember we were washed and forgiven.

Pastor: We remember we were made members of God's family.
People: We remember we were united with Jesus.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Though we are baptized and united with Jesus, we often act as if we were separated from Jesus. There are times when we fall prey to Satan and his temptations. There are times when sin reigns within us. Still, our heavenly Father is merciful, and He invites us to draw near to Him in repentance, asking for forgiveness.

Pastor: Heavenly Father,
People: we have ignored Your help in resisting Satan and His temptations. We have sinned against You in our thoughts, words, and actions. Yet our entire lives are lives of repentance. Have mercy on us. Forgive our sins, and lead us in righteousness, on account of Jesus. Amen.

Pastor: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son, Jesus Christ, to endure temptation, suffering, and death for us and our salvation. As a called and ordained servant of Christ and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen. We are forgiven. We are baptized into Christ.

Prayer of the Church

Pastor: Let us pray.
Lord Jesus Christ, You endured the temptations of Satan in the wilderness. Be present with us on our Lenten journey toward the cross and empty tomb, always mindful of our identity as those baptized in Your name, for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

A Mighty Fortress

Our God is a consuming fire;
A burning, holy flame with glory and freedom.
Our God is the only righteous judge,
Ruling over us with kindness and wisdom.

And we will keep our eyes on You.
We will keep our eyes on You.

A Mighty Fortress is our God.
A sacred Refuge is Your Name.
Your Kingdom is unshakable.
With You forever we will reign.

Our God is jealous for His own.
None could comprehend His love and His mercy.
Our God is exalted on His throne,
High above the heavens. Forever He is worthy.

And we will keep our eyes on You.
We will keep our eyes on You.

A Mighty Fortress is our God.
A sacred Refuge is Your Name.
Your Kingdom is unshakable.
With You forever we will reign.

We will keep our eyes on You.
We will keep our eyes on You,
So we can set our hearts on You.
Lord, we will set our hearts on You.

A Mighty Fortress is our God.
A sacred Refuge is Your Name.
Your Kingdom is unshakable.
With You forever we will reign. **(Repeat)**

With You forever we will reign.
With You forever we will reign.

Our God is a consuming fire;
A burning, holy flame with glory and freedom.

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Old Testament Reading

Genesis 22:1-18

Some time later God tested Abraham. He said to him, “Abraham!” “Here I am,” he replied. ² Then God said, “Take your son, your only son, whom you love—Isaac—and go to the region of Moriah. Sacrifice him there as a burnt offering on a mountain I will show you.”

³ Early the next morning Abraham got up and loaded his donkey. He took with him two of his servants and his son Isaac. When he had cut enough wood for the burnt offering, he set out for the place God had told him about. ⁴ On the third day Abraham looked up and saw the place in the distance. ⁵ He said to his servants, “Stay here with the donkey while I and the boy go over there. We will worship and then we will come back to you.”

⁶ Abraham took the wood for the burnt offering and placed it on his son Isaac, and he himself carried the fire and the knife. As the two of them went on together, ⁷ Isaac spoke up and said to his father Abraham, “Father?” “Yes, my son?” Abraham replied.

“The fire and wood are here,” Isaac said, “but where is the lamb for the burnt offering?” ⁸ Abraham answered, “God himself will provide the lamb for the burnt offering, my son.” And the two of them went on together.

⁹ When they reached the place God had told him about, Abraham built an altar there and arranged the wood on it. He bound his son Isaac and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood. ¹⁰ Then he reached out his hand and took the knife to slay his son. ¹¹ But the angel of the LORD called out to him from heaven, “Abraham! Abraham!” “Here I am,” he replied.

¹² “Do not lay a hand on the boy,” he said. “Do not do anything to him. Now I know that you fear God, because you have not withheld from me your son, your only son.”

¹³ Abraham looked up and there in a thicket he saw a ram caught by its horns. He went over and took the ram and sacrificed it as a burnt offering instead of his son. ¹⁴ So Abraham called that place The LORD Will Provide. And to this day it is said, “On the mountain of the LORD it will be provided.”

¹⁵ The angel of the LORD called to Abraham from heaven a second time ¹⁶ and said, “I swear by myself, declares the LORD, that because you have done this and have not withheld your son, your only son, ¹⁷ I will surely bless you and make your descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky and as the sand on the seashore. Your descendants will take possession of the cities of their enemies, ¹⁸ and through your offspring all nations on earth will be blessed, because you have obeyed me.”

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

The Epistle Reading

James 1:12-18

Blessed is the one who perseveres under trial because, having stood the test, that person will receive the crown of life that the Lord has promised to those who love him.

¹³ When tempted, no one should say, “God is tempting me.” For God cannot be tempted by evil, nor does he tempt anyone; ¹⁴ but each person is tempted when they are dragged away by their own evil desire and enticed. ¹⁵ Then, after desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, gives birth to death.

¹⁶ Don’t be deceived, my dear brothers and sisters. ¹⁷ Every good and perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of the heavenly lights, who does not change like shifting shadows. ¹⁸ He chose to give us birth through the word of truth, that we might be a kind of firstfruits of all he created.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Holy Gospel

Mark 1:9-15

⁹ At that time Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. ¹⁰ Just as Jesus was coming up out of the water, he saw heaven being torn open and the Spirit descending on him like a dove. ¹¹ And a voice came from heaven: “You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased.”

¹² At once the Spirit sent him out into the wilderness, ¹³ and he was in the wilderness forty days, being tempted by Satan. He was with the wild animals, and angels attended him.

¹⁴ After John was put in prison, Jesus went into Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God. ¹⁵ “The time has come,” he said. “The kingdom of God has come near. Repent and believe the good news!”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Apostles Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell.

The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

King of Kings

In the darkness we were waiting
Without hope without light
Till from Heaven You came running
There was mercy in Your eyes

To fulfil the law and prophets
To a virgin came the Word
From a throne of endless glory
To a cradle in the dirt

Praise the Father
Praise the Son
Praise the Spirit three in one
God of Glory Majesty

Praise forever to the King of Kings
To reveal the kingdom coming
And to reconcile the lost
To redeem the whole creation
You did not despise the cross

For even in Your suffering
You saw to the other side
Knowing this was our salvation
Jesus for our sake You died
Praise the Father
Praise the Son
Praise the Spirit three in one
God of Glory
Majesty

Praise forever to the King of Kings
And the morning that You rose
All of heaven held its breath
Till that stone was moved for good
For the Lamb had conquered death

And the dead rose from their tombs
And the angels stood in awe
For the souls of all who'd come
To the Father are restored
And the Church of Christ was born
Then the Spirit lit the flame

Now this Gospel truth of old
Shall not kneel shall not faint

By His blood and in His Name
In His freedom I am free
For the love of Jesus Christ
Who has resurrected me
Praise the Father
Praise the Son
Praise the Spirit three in one
God of Glory
Majesty
Praise forever to the King of Kings

Sermon

Staring Down the Devil

Mark 1:9-15

The Offering

Prayer of Blessing

P: God of every blessing, we are filled with thanksgiving and joy for all that you provide in daily life. Accept and bless these offerings, that they might sustain your church and meet the deep needs of all your people through the many ministries they support. Teach us how to trust your promises and live as your faithful followers.

C: Amen

Prayer of the Church

Pastor: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs. For a mighty fortress is our God,

People: **a trusty shield and weapon.**

Pastor: Lord God, You are our sword and shield against the attacks of Satan. As we journey through this Lenten season, protect us from the assaults of the devil, remind us of our Baptism, and keep our eyes fixed on Jesus.
For a mighty fortress is our God,

People: a trusty shield and weapon.

Pastor: Lord God, every good and perfect gift comes from You. Thank You for the many blessings You have poured into our lives. Help us to accept what You give and ask for what we need. Protect us from a life of perpetual dissatisfaction and lead us toward a life of gratitude. For a mighty fortress is our God,

People: a trusty shield and weapon.

Pastor: Lord God, You sent Jesus into our world to bear our temptations and share in our sorrows. Bring Your comfort to all those who are suffering in grief, [*especially . . .*]. Point them to the hope of resurrection and eternal life with You. For a mighty fortress is our God,

People: a trusty shield and weapon.

Pastor: Lord God, we pray for all those who are not yet baptized into Christ, that the Spirit would lead them toward the promises of Baptism and the family of the church. For a mighty fortress is our God,

People: a trusty shield and weapon.

Pastor: Lord God, we pray for our nation and its leaders. For President Biden and Vice President Harris and their staffs, for Congress and all lawmakers, for the Supreme Court and all judges. We pray that You, Lord, would make Your ways and paths known to them, that You would lead them in the truth and teach them. For a mighty fortress is our God,

People: a trusty shield and weapon.

Pastor: Lord God, look with favor upon all who are sick, injured, and recovering, [*especially . . .*]. Have mercy upon them and restore them to health according to Your will. For a mighty fortress is our God,

People: a trusty shield and weapon.

Pastor: Lord God, we commend all of these people and situations into Your hands, for You have promised to hear our prayers, through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

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 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 forever and ever. Amen

The Invitation

P: This morning we have another opportunity to encounter God's real, tangible grace for us in this meal; that in, with, and under these simple elements of bread and wine are the true body and blood of Jesus Christ given to us for the forgiveness of sins.

And so, we become what we eat. We are the body of Christ to be sent out into the world. So it's necessary and good that we partake of this meal; that we experience God's love for us in this way, that we share this family meal together. So if this is your confession I would invite you to join me as we confess together our faith.

C: **I understand and admit that I have sinned against God, that I recognize my sin and humbly ask God to forgive me. I believe that Jesus Christ is my Lord and Savior and that He is my only hope against sin, death, and the devil.**

I believe that the risen Christ is really present in the Sacrament, and under the form of the bread and wine I receive this true body and blood for the forgiveness of my sin and the strengthening of my faith and life to the Lord and His Church by faithfully worshipping Him, cheerfully giving my time and resources, and joyfully sharing the Good News of Jesus with others.

Words of Institution

On the night He was betrayed,
He took the bread, gave thanks, and said,
“Take eat, my friends, this broken bread,
this is my body for forgiveness of your sin.
When you eat, my friends, this meal of love,
remember me and my love for you again.”

On the night He was betrayed,
He took the cup, gave thanks, and said,
“Take drink, my friends, this cup of wine,
this is my blood for forgiveness of your sin.
When you drink, my friends, this cup of love,
remember me and my love for you again.”

**Oh, we are here, to thank You Lord,
for the bread and wine outpoured.
For it is Your body and Your blood
that You so lovingly and freely give to us.
So we praise You holy Lamb of God;
We love You our sweet Jesus.
We love You our sweet Jesus.
We love You our sweet Jesus.**

“On the Night” words and music by Mark Zehnder. Used by permission. CCLI#2960087.

Distribution

You Say

I keep fighting voices in my mind
That say I'm not enough
Ev'ry single lie that tells me
I will never measure up

Am I more than just the sum of
Ev'ry high and ev'ry low
Remind me once again just who I am
Because I need to know

You say I am loved when I can't feel a thing
You say I am strong when I think I am weak
You say I am held when I am falling short
And when I don't belong oh You say I am Yours
And I believe oh I believe
What You say of me I believe

The only thing that matters now
Is ev'rything You think of me
In You I find my worth
In You I find my identity

You say I am loved when I can't feel a thing
You say I am strong when I think I am weak
You say I am held when I am falling short
And when I don't belong oh You say I am Yours
And I believe oh I believe
What You say of me I believe

Taking all I have and now I'm laying it at Your feet
You'll have ev'ry failure God
You'll have ev'ry victory

You say I am loved when I can't feel a thing
You say I am strong when I think I am weak
You say I am held when I am falling short
And when I don't belong oh You say I am Yours
And I believe oh I believe
What You say of me I believe

Oh I believe yes I believe
What You say of me I believe

Communion Dismissal

P: Now may this true body and blood, strengthen and preserve you in the one true faith until life everlasting.
Go in His peace.

C: **Amen**

Post-Communion Collect

Pastor: We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this Meal. Help us to resist temptation by daily reminding us of our identity as Your baptized children; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: **Amen.**

Benediction:

Pastor: Go and trust the promises of God in baptism. Go in peace and serve the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

TRADING MY SORROWS

I'm tradin' my sorrows, I'm tradin' my shame,
I'm laying them down for the joy of the Lord.
I'm tradin' my sickness I'm tradin' my pain,
I'm laying them down for the joy of the Lord.

Yes Lord, yes Lord, yes, yes, Lord
Yes Lord, yes Lord, yes, yes, Lord
Yes Lord, yes Lord, yes, yes, Lord, Amen.

Yes Lord, yes Lord, yes, yes, Lord
Yes Lord, yes Lord, yes, yes, Lord
Yes Lord, yes Lord, yes, yes, Lord, Amen.

I am pressed but not crushed
Persecuted not abandoned;
Struck down but not destroyed
I am blessed beyond the curse
For His promise will endure
And His joy's gonna be my strength

Though the sorrow may last for the night,
His joy comes in the mornin',

I'm tradin' my sorrows, I'm tradin' my shame,
I'm laying them down for the joy of the Lord.
I'm tradin' my sickness I'm tradin' my pain,
I'm laying them down for the joy of the Lord.

Yes Lord, yes Lord, yes, yes, Lord
Yes Lord, yes Lord, yes, yes, Lord
Yes Lord, yes Lord, yes, yes, Lord, Amen.

Yes Lord, yes Lord, yes, yes, Lord
Yes Lord, yes Lord, yes, yes, Lord
Yes Lord, yes Lord, yes, yes, Lord, Amen.

I'm tradin' my sorrows, I'm tradin' my shame,
I'm laying them down for the joy of the Lord.
I'm tradin' my sickness, I'm tradin' my pain,
I'm laying them down for the joy of the Lord,
For the joy of the Lord, for the joy of the Lord.

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