



**Communion Service
First Sunday in Lent**

**February 21, 2021
10:00 a.m.**



(Hymn is from *The Celebration Hymnal*)

PRELUDE

“He Leadeth Me”

Kim

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS/ GREETING

OPENING HYMN

Please Stand

“We Have Come to Join in Worship”

#207, vs. 1&3

We have come to join in worship and adore the Lord our God.
Let us come in prayer, expecting God to speak His mighty Word.
All is vain unless the Spirit of the Holy One comes down.
Christians, pray, and holy manna will be showered all around.

Let us love our God supremely; let us love each other, too.
Let us care of all His people till our God makes all things new.
Christ will call us home to heaven; at His banquet we'll sit down;
Christ himself will rise and serve us living manna all around.

INVOCATION

P: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

WE CONFESS OUR SINS

P: “Who may worship in Your sanctuary, Lord?”

C: **“Who may enter Your presence on Your holy Hill?”**

P: “Those who lead blameless lives and do what is right, speaking the truth from sincere hearts.”

C: **Heavenly Father, we confess that we have not led blameless lives. Our sin has blinded us to the truth of Your Word. Forgive us, we pray, and give us sincere hearts devoted to You.**

P: “Those who refuse to slander others or harm their neighbors or speak evil of their friends.”

C: Loving God, we confess all the ugly thoughts and words we have used against our family, our friends, and our brothers and sisters in Christ. Forgive us, we pray, and enable us to love one another as You have loved us.

P: "Those who despise persistent sinners, and honor the faithful followers of the Lord and keep their promises even when it hurts."

C: Holy Lord, we confess our stubborn disobedience and our broken promises. Forgive us, we pray, and empower us to be Your faithful followers.

P: We pause for a moment of personal confession to God our Father.

(a moment of silence is observed)

P: Without Your grace, O God, we would be unable to stand in Your presence. Forgive us for Jesus' sake.

C: Amen.

WE RECEIVE ABSOLUTION

P: We are able to stand in God's presence because of Jesus, our great High Priest: "This High Priest of ours understands our weaknesses, for He faced all the same temptations we do, yet He did not sin. So, let us come boldly to the throne of our gracious God" (*Hebrews 4:15, 16a*). Receive the forgiveness of God: in the stead and by the command of my Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, I, a called and ordained servant of the Word, forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

THE OLD TESTAMENT

Genesis 22:1-18

P: The Old Testament Reading for the First Sunday in Lent is from the 22nd chapter of Genesis.

After these things God tested Abraham and said to him, "Abraham!" And he said, "Here am I." He said, "Take your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah,

and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains of which I shall tell you." So, Abraham rose early in the morning, saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him, and his son Isaac. And he cut the wood for the burnt offering and arose and went to the place of which God had told him. On the third day Abraham lifted up his eyes and saw the place from afar. Then Abraham said to his young men, "Stay here with the donkey; I and the boy will go over there and worship and come again to you." And Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering and laid it on Isaac his son. And he took in his hand the fire and the knife. So, they went both of them together. And Isaac said to his father Abraham, "My father!" And he said, "Here am I, my son." He said, "Behold, the fire and the wood, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?" Abraham said, "God will provide for himself the lamb for a burnt offering, my son." So, they went both of them together. When they came to the place of which God had told him, Abraham built the altar there and laid the wood in order and bound Isaac his son and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood. Then Abraham reached out his hand and took the knife to slaughter his son. But the angel of the LORD called to him from heaven and said, "Abraham, Abraham!" And he said, "Here am I." He said, "Do not lay your hand on the boy or do anything to him, for now I know that you fear God, seeing you have not withheld your son, your only son, from me." And Abraham lifted up his eyes and looked, and behold, behind him was a ram, caught in a thicket by his horns. And Abraham went and took the ram and offered it up as a burnt offering instead of his son. So, Abraham called the name of that place, "The LORD will provide"; as it is said to this day, "On the mount of the LORD it shall be provided." And the angel of the LORD called to Abraham a second time from heaven and said, "By myself I have sworn, declares the LORD, because you have done this and have not withheld your son, your only son, I will surely bless you, and I will surely multiply your offspring as the stars of heaven and as the sand that is on the seashore. And your offspring shall possess the gate of

his enemies, and in your offspring shall all the nations of the earth be blessed, because you have obeyed my voice."

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

THE EPISTLE

James 1:12-18

P: The Epistle Reading is from the first chapter of James.

Blessed is the man who remains steadfast under trial, for when he has stood the test he will receive the crown of life, which God has promised to those who love him. Let no one say when he is tempted, "I am being tempted by God," for God cannot be tempted with evil, and he himself tempts no one. But each person is tempted when he is lured and enticed by his own desire. Then desire when it has conceived gives birth to sin, and sin when it is fully grown brings forth death. Do not be deceived, my beloved brothers. Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. Of his own will he brought us forth by the word of truth, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures.

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

HOLY GOSPEL

Mark 1:9-15

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the first chapter.

C: Glory to You, O Lord.

In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. And when he came up out of the water, immediately he saw the heavens being torn open and the Spirit descending on him like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased." The Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. And he was in the wilderness forty days, being tempted by Satan. And he was with the wild animals, and the angels were ministering to him. Now after John was arrested, Jesus came into Galilee, proclaiming the gospel of

God, and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel."

NICENE CREED

A: I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible. And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of his Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And he will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end. And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

MESSAGE

"Where is the Lamb?"

VOLUNTARY

"When I Survey the Wondrous Cross"

Claudia & Steve Bow, Bob Tanis, Cathy Carson

"They will look on the One they have pierced." John 19:37

PRAYERS

THE LORD'S PRAYER

A: 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.

WORDS OF OUR LORD

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION "Communion Song"

COMMUNION BLESSING

BENEDICTION

CLOSING HYMN "The Great I Am"

Verse 1

I want to be close, close to Your side
So Heaven is real and death is a lie
I want to hear voices, of angels above
Singing as one

Chorus

Hallelujah, holy holy
God Almighty, Great I AM
Who is worthy? None beside Thee
God Almighty, Great I AM

Verse 2

I want to be near, near to Your heart
Loving the world, hating the dark
I want to see dry bones living again
Singing as one

Chorus

Hallelujah, holy holy
God Almighty, the Great I AM
Who is worthy? None beside Thee
God Almighty, the Great I AM

Bridge

The mountains shake before Him
The demons run and flee
At the mention of the name, King of Majesty
There is no power in hell
Or any who can stand
Before the power and the presence of the Great I AM
The Great I AM, the Great I AM
The Great I AM, the Great I AM
The Great I AM

Chorus

Hallelujah, holy holy
God Almighty, the Great I AM
Who is worthy? None beside Thee
God Almighty, the Great I AM
The Great I AM
The Great I AM
The Great I AM

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POSTLUDE