

Sunday February 21

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The First Sunday in Lent

You will find our live stream on our [homepage](#), on [Facebook](#) (where you can interact with others watching with comments), and on [Youtube](#).

Prelude

*The congregation is invited to say the words together **in bold**. Please sing along with us! To prepare for worship, you may want to place a candle or two in the place where you worship, to light during the opening prayer.*

Welcome

The ushers and the rector welcome the congregation. If you are new to us, consider filling out our ["get connected"](#) form, let us get to know you better.

Opening Anthem

Lay Me Low – Music by

Lay me low _____ where the Lord can find me, Lay me
low _____ where the Lord can own me, Lay me low _____ where the
Lord can bless me. Lay me low, _____ oh, lay me low.

Confession and opening sentences

Bless the Lord who forgives all our sins.

God's mercy endures forever.

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

Officiant and People together

**Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will,
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

The Collect of the Day

You are invited to light a candle at home with us.

Let us pray.

Almighty God, whose blessed Son was led by the Spirit to be tempted by Satan: Come quickly to help us who are assaulted by many temptations; and, as you know the weaknesses of each of us, let each one find you mighty to save; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Opening Hymn Precious Lord Take My Hand Lift Every Voice and Sing Hymnal
#106
originally recorded during our March 22, 2020 online worship

1. Pre - cious Lord, take my hand, lead me on, let me
 2. When my way grows drear, pre - cious Lord, lin - ger
 3. When the dark - ness ap - pears and the night draws

stand, I am tired, I am weak, I am worn; _____
 near, when my life is al - most gone; _____
 near, and the day is past and gone; _____

— through the storm, through the night, lead me on to the
 — hear my cry, hear my call, hold my hand, lest I
 — at the riv - er I stand, guide my feet, hold my

light, take my hand, pre - cious Lord, lead me on. _____
 fall, take my hand, pre - cious Lord, lead me on. _____
 hand, take my hand, pre - cious Lord, lead me on. _____

The Lessons

A Reading from the book of Genesis (Genesis 9:8-17)

God said to Noah and to his sons with him, "I am now setting up my covenant with you, with your descendants, and with every living being with you—with the birds, with the large animals, and with all the animals of the earth, leaving the ark with you. I will set up my covenant with you so that never again will all life be cut off by floodwaters. There will never again be a flood to destroy the earth."

God said, "This is the symbol of the covenant that I am drawing up between me and you and every living thing with you, on behalf of every future generation. I have placed my bow in the clouds; it will be the symbol of the covenant between me and the earth. When I bring clouds over the earth and the bow appears in the clouds, I will remember the covenant between me and you and every living being among all the creatures. Floodwaters will never again destroy all creatures. The bow will be in the clouds, and upon seeing it I will remember the enduring covenant between God and every living being of all the earth's creatures." God said to Noah, "This is the symbol of the covenant that I have set up between me and all creatures on earth."

The Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

THE PSALM (PSALM 25:1-9)

To you, O God, I lift up my soul;
my God, I put my trust in you;
let me not be humiliated,
nor let my enemies triumph over me.

Let none who look to you be put to shame;
let the treacherous be disappointed in their schemes.

Show me your ways, O God,
and teach me your paths.

Lead me in your truth and teach me,
for you are the God of my salvation;
in you have I trusted all the day long.

Remember, O God, your compassion and love,
for they are from everlasting.

Remember not the sins of my youth and my transgressions;
remember me according to your love
and for the sake of your goodness, O God.

Gracious and upright are you;
therefore you teach sinners in your way.

You guide the humble in doing right
and teach your way to the lowly.

All your paths are love and faithfulness
to those who keep your covenant and your testimonies.

A Reading from the Gospel according to Mark. (Mark 1:9-15)

About that time, Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee, and John baptized him in the Jordan River. While he was coming up out of the water, Jesus saw heaven splitting open and the Spirit, like a dove, coming down on him. And there was a voice from heaven: "You are my Son, whom I dearly love; in you I find happiness."

At once the Spirit forced Jesus out into the wilderness. He was in the wilderness for forty days, tempted by Satan. He was among the wild animals, and the angels took care of him.

After John was arrested, Jesus came into Galilee announcing God's good news, saying, "Now is the time! Here comes God's kingdom! Change your hearts and lives, and trust this good news!"

The Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God

The Sermon: the Rev. Beth Scriven

Anthem:

"Just a Closer Walk with Thee" arr. T.J. Muller Maggie Linck
TJ Muller, Tuba; Maggie Linck, vocals; Marty Eggers, piano

1. I am weak but thou art strong; _____
 2. Through this world of toil and snares, _____
 3. When my fee - ble life is o'er, _____

Refrain: Just a clos - er walk with thee, _____

1. Je - sus, keep me from all wrong; _____ I'll be sat - is - fied as
 2. If I fal - ter, Lord, who cares? _____ Who with me my bur - den
 3. Time for me will be no more; _____ Guide me gent - ly, safe - ly

Refrain: Grant it, Je - sus, is my plea, _____ Dai - ly walk - ing close to

D.C. for Refrain

1. long _____ As I walk, let me walk close to thee.
 2. shares? _____ None but thee, dear _____ Lord, none but thee.
 3. o'er _____ To Thy king - dom _____ shore, to thy shore.

Refrain: thee, _____ Let it be, dear _____ Lord, let it be.

The Prayers

Let us pray in the way Christ taught us, and in the language of our hearts.

**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,
for ever and ever. Amen.

You may add your prayer requests in the comments at any time. Know that people will pray for you.

Holy God, in whom all things in heaven and earth have their being,
Have mercy on us.

Jesus the Christ, through whom the world is reconciled to the Father,
Have mercy on us.

Holy Spirit, whose glory fills the world and searches the depths of God, **Have mercy on us.**

Blessed Trinity, source of both unity and diversity,
Have mercy on us.

From blind hearts and petty spirits, that refuse to see the need of all humankind for your love,
Savior, deliver us.

From pride, self-sufficiency and the unwillingness to admit our own need of your compassion,
Savior, deliver us.

From discouragement in the face of pain and disappointment, and from lack of persistence and thoroughness,
Savior, deliver us.

From ignorance, apathy, and complacency that prevent us from spreading the Good news and working for justice,
Savior, deliver us.

Touch our eyes, that we may see your glory in all creation and may work to safeguard the ecosystems which sustain your gift of life.
Hear us, O Christ.

Touch our ears, that we may hear from every mouth the hunger for hope and stories of refreshment.

Hear us, O Christ.

Touch our feet, that we may take your Good News into our neighborhoods, communities, and all parts of the world.

Hear us, O Christ.

Touch our hands, that we may care for our neighbor in Christ's name.

Hear us, O Christ.

Touch our voices, that we may lift them in the halls of government. We pray for our president, the members of congress, the Supreme Court, and for all those entrusted with public leadership, that they might heed your call to build justice and equity. Safeguard the rights and dignity of your whole creation.

Hear us, O Christ.

We pray for our Michael, our presiding bishop, Deon our bishop, and for all who minister in the church. Strengthen and encourage all who work in lonely, dangerous and grief-stricken places.

Hear us, O Christ.

We pray for our companions at Cristosal working on behalf of human rights in El Salvador. We pray for the Grace Gathering ministry for people of diverse abilities, being planted in our midst. Inspire our minds with a vision of your kingdom in this time and place, and give us courage.

Hear us, O Christ.

We give you thanks for the love of Christ made manifest in our church community, and especially for those celebrating birthdays this week: Shirley Mensah, Mike Angell, Ron Bullock, Angie Burroughs Kelly, Paul Roesler and Karen Sterbenz.

Hear us, O Christ.

We pray for those who have died, especially Tricia Anderson whose Memorial service was held yesterday, for all who have died of COVID, and for the martyrs and saints who have gone before us. May we, like them, faithfully walk in the way of love. Bring us at last into the glorious company of the saints in light.

Hear us, O Christ.

O God, you have made of one blood all the peoples of the earth, and sent your blessed Son to preach peace to those who are far off and to those who are near: Grant that people everywhere may seek after you and find you, pour out your Spirit upon all flesh, and hasten the coming of your kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Announcements:

Announcements are shared

[See Announcements](#)

Concluding Prayers

In the season of Lent, the presider prays a Solemn Prayer over the people:

Grant, Almighty God, that your people may recognize their weakness and put their whole trust in your strength, so that they may rejoice for ever in the protection of your loving providence; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

**Almighty God, Father of all mercies,
we your unworthy servants give you humble thanks
for all your goodness and loving-kindness
to us and to all whom you have made.
We bless you for our creation, preservation,
and all the blessings of this life;
but above all for your immeasurable love
in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ;
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.
And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies,
that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise,
not only with our lips, but in our lives,
by giving up our selves to your service,
and by walking before you
in holiness and righteousness all our days;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.**

The Peace

The Peace is then exchanged.

The peace of Christ be always with you.

And also with you.

The Peace is then exchanged. Consider sending a text, a message on Facebook, or even writing a letter or email to someone who could use some peace.

Concluding Hymn

A Mighty Fortress is Our God – Hymnal 688

1 A might - y for - tress is our God, a bul - wark nev - er
 2 Did we in our own strength con - fide, our striv - ing would be
 3 And though this world, with dev - ils filled, should threat - en to un -
 4 That word a - bove all earth - ly powers, no thanks to them, a -

fail - ing; our help - er he a - mid the flood
 los - ing; were not the right man on our side,
 do us; we will not fear, for God hath willed
 bid - eth; the Spi - rit and the gifts are ours

of mor - tal ills pre - vail - ing: for still our an - cient foe
 the man of God's own choos - ing: dost ask who that may be?
 his truth to tri - umph through us; the prince of dark - ness grim,
 through him who with us sid - eth: let goods and kin - dred go,

doth seek to work us woe; his craft and power are great,
 Christ Je - sus, it is he; Lord Sa - ba - oth his Name,
 we trem - ble not for him; his rage we can en - dure,
 this mor - tal life al - so; the bo - dy they may kill:

The Deacon dismisses the congregation:

Let us Bless the Lord
Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Postlude

Fantasy on “Dix” – Charles Callahan

Connor Scott – Guest organist

Service Leaders

Preacher: The Rev. Beth Scriven

Officiant: The Rev. Mike Angell

Assisting: The Rev. Marc Smith, The Rev. Chester Hines and Emilee Walker-Cornetta,
Seminarian

Lectors: Cecily Hawksworth, Fran Caradonna

The Lord's Prayer: Kim Hudson

Greeters: Joe Adams, Alisa Williams

Guest Musicians: TJ Muller, Tuba; Maggie Linck, vocals; Marty Eggers, piano

Director of Music: Mary Chapman

Streaming Producer: Tyler Schwartz

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