

2nd Sunday in Lent
February 28, 2021

During the season of Lent, we journey with Jesus to the cross as we prepare to retell the sacred story of our Lord's suffering, death, and resurrection. We find that God's response to every darkness we face in the world is to enter into the darkness alongside us. We remember that the cross was a pivotal moment in redemption history, but it is not the end of the story. Christ still journeys with us through the darkness, ever leading us by His light into new life in the Triune God.

PRELUDE

"Wondrous Love"

D. Hurd
Dr. Brenda Clark

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Rachel Vione

*CALL TO WORSHIP (responsive)

We come this day hoping to encounter Christ.

We come with burdens and questions that only God can answer.

May we open our hearts to God

May our lives be healed and strengthened for service.

May we worship the God of all creation!

*HYMN NO. 167

"Forty Days and Forty Nights"

AUS DER TIEFE RUFTE ICH

*Forty days and forty nights you were fasting in the wild;
forty days and forty nights tempted, and yet undefiled.*

*Shall not we your sorrow share and from worldly joys abstain,
fasting with unceasing prayer, strong with you to suffer pain?*

*Then if Satan on us press, flesh or spirit to assail,
victor in the wilderness, grant that we not faint nor fail!*

*So shall we have peace divine: holier gladness ours shall be;
round us, too, shall angels shine, such as served you faithfully.*

*Keep, O keep us, Savior dear, ever constant by your side,
that with you we may appear at the eternal Eastertide.*

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (in unison)

Lord, we are such stubborn people. We want to know all the answers. We find it hard to place our trust even in Your Son. When Jesus proclaims that we can have a new life, we want to know how this is possible. How can we get rid of the old burdens and difficulties and start over again? Wouldn't it be just like climbing back into the womb to make a fresh start? How we have misunderstood what Jesus has said. New life is possible. We can place our trust in God's healing care. Forgive us, and help us, gracious Lord. For we ask this in Jesus' name.

Silent prayers of confession

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

PASSING OF THE PEACE OF CHRIST

* Hymn No. 581

"Glory Be to the Father"

GLORIA PATRI

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen, Amen.*

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Mark 8:27-38

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

"Following the Leader"

Rev. Rachel Vione

OFFERING

ANTHEM

"Hope of the World"
The Chancel Choir

Lloyd Larson
Directed by Dana Warren

*DOXOLOGY

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

REMEMBERING THOSE WHO HAVE DIED THIS PAST YEAR FROM COVID 19

THE 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.*

Hymn No. 846

"Fight the Good Fight"

DUKE STREET

*Fight the good fight with all thy might.
Christ is thy strength and Christ thy right.
Lay hold on life, and it shall be
thy joy and crown eternally.*

*Run the straight race through God's good grace;
lift up thine eyes, and seek Christ's face.
Life with its way before us lies;
Christ is the path, and Christ the prize.*

*Cast care aside; lean on thy guide.
God's boundless mercy will provide.
Trust, and thy trusting soul shall prove
Christ is its life, and Christ its love.*

*Faint not nor fear: God's arms are near.
God changeth not, and thou art dear.
Only believe, and thou shalt see
that Christ is all in all to thee.*

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

"Beneath the Cross of Jesus"

R. Thygerson

Please pray for members and friends of our congregation

For all those who are suffering as a result of the coronavirus, essential employees who go to work so we can be safe and healthy, for those who are working to bring the vaccine, Charlotte Tippi (Leah & Jack Fink's granddaughter), Marci Marcelina (age 2 from Nueva Vida Church), John Bailey (David Dickman's

cousin), Marlena Dentrone, Ryan Chapman, Sarah Tillman (Claire Newman's cousin), Carol & Tom Dwyer (friends of Diana Montusi), Paul Schrader, Todd Dobert (friend of Sue & Eddy Ebert), Richard Huntley, Maddeline Michitsch (family member of Jane Hudson), Christopher Winkler (Joe & Nancy's son), Tom Poletta (friend of Mary Anne Wetzell), Justin Yoskowitz, Lou Schmidt, Aaron Thomas, Brian Brewer (Faustine White's son), Charlene Cosman, **those in Healthcare facilities** - Sunrise Senior Living; Joan DeNigris, Atria: Ann Deery, **for the family of:** Bob White, Bob Shevlin, Anne Schmidt (Lou Schmidt's sister), Donald Pyles (Claire Newman's uncle), Jake Beebe (friend of the Noonan's), Ron Landi (Kathy Landi's brother-in-law), Victor Landi (Kathy's brother-in-law), **our partner congregations:** Nueva Paz, Cuba and Iglesia Evangelica Presbiteriana Nueva Vida, Malverne; the Presbytery of Long Island and its staff; the Synod of the Northeast, the Presbyterian Church (USA), its Louisville staff, its missionaries worldwide.

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