



Grace Episcopal Church

Second Sunday in Lent

February 28, 2021 | 9:30 am

Ministers | All of Us

Rector | Wren Blessing

Curate | Stephen Crippen

Music | Ann Strickland

Tribe | Alder

Those Who Carry

Those who carry pianos
to the tenth floor wardrobes and coffins
an old man with a bundle of wood limbs beyond the horizon
a woman with a hump of nettles
a madwoman pushing a pram
full of vodka bottles
they will all be lifted
like a gull's feather like a dry leaf
like an eggshell a scrap of newspaper

Blessed are those who carry
for they shall be lifted.

~ Anna Kamienska

Translated from the Polish by David Curzon, From *The Gospels in Our Image; An Anthology of Twentieth-Century Poetry Based on Biblical Texts* (Harcourt, Brace, and Co. 1995)

Announcements

A bell rings. We listen to the longing in our hearts. We remain seated.

Gathering Song | What Wondrous Love is This

Chant by Ann Strickland; offered by Members of the Music Circle

3

What won-drous love is this? What won-drous love is this?

Bbm Fm Gb

What won-drous love is this?— O my soul. O my soul.

The image shows two staves of musical notation in 4/4 time, key of B-flat major. The first staff contains two measures of music with lyrics 'What won-drous love is this?'. The second staff begins with a triplet of eighth notes, followed by lyrics 'What won-drous love is this?— O my soul. O my soul.' Chord markings Bbm, Fm, and Gb are placed above the notes. A fermata is placed over the final note of the first line of the second staff.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

Call to Worship

After the gathering song, the Officiant invites us to stand.

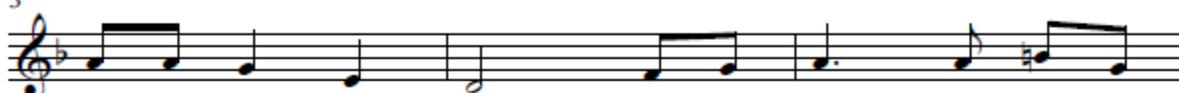
Officiant From the rising of the sun to its setting,
All **your mercy endures forever.**

Opening Song | Tree of Life and Awesome Mystery

Words and Music: Marty Haugen; offered by Members of the Music Circle



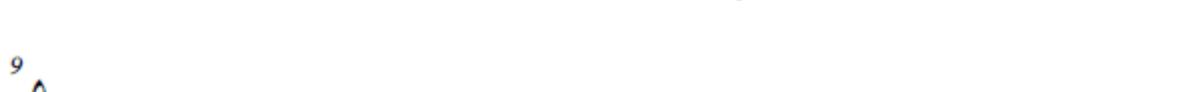
Tree of Life and awe - some mys - t'ry, in Your
 We re - mem - ber truth once spo - ken, love passed
 Christ, you lead and we shall fol - low, stum - bling
 God of all our fear and sor - row, God who



3
 death we are re - born; though you die in all of
 on through act and word; ev - 'ry per - son lost and
 though our steps may be; one with you in joy and
 lives be - yond our death, hold us close through each to -



6
 his - t'ry, still You rise with ev - 'ry morn, still You
 bro - ken wears the bo - dy of our Lord, wears the
 sor - row, we the riv - er, You the sea, we the
 mor - row, love as near as ev - 'ry breath, love as



9
 rise with ev - 'ry morn.
 bo - dy of our Lord.
 riv - er, You the sea.
 near as ev - 'ry breath.

The Collect

Officiant The Lord be with you.

All And also with you.

Officiant Let us pray.

○ God, whose glory it is always to have mercy: Be gracious to us in our struggle to follow you, and bring us again with strong hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and hold fast the unchangeable truth of your Word, Jesus Christ your Son. **Amen.**

WE TELL THE STORY

We are seated for the reading.

The First Reading | Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16

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

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

After the reading, the reader will say

The Word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

We say the psalm together.

Psalm | 22:22-30

Praise the Lord, you that fear him;
stand in awe of him, O offspring of Israel;
all you of Jacob's line, give glory.

**For he does not despise nor abhor the poor in their poverty;
neither does he hide his face from them;
but when they cry to him he hears them.**

(reading continues on the next page)

My praise is of him in the great assembly;

I will perform my vows in the presence of those who worship him.

**The poor shall eat and be satisfied,
and those who seek the Lord shall praise him:
"May your heart live for ever!"**

All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord,
and all the families of the nations shall bow before him.

**For kingship belongs to the Lord;
he rules over the nations.**

To him alone all who sleep in the earth bow down in worship;
all who go down to the dust fall before him.

**My soul shall live for him;
my descendants shall serve him;
they shall be known as the Lord's for ever.**

They shall come and make known to a people yet unborn
the saving deeds that he has done.

We are seated for the second reading.

The Second Reading | Romans 4:13-25

For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation.

For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, as it is written, "I have made you the father of many nations") —in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist. Hoping against hope, he believed that he would become "the father of many nations," according to what was said, "So numerous shall your descendants be." He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was already as good as dead

(reading continues on the next page)

(for he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah’s womb. No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, being fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. Therefore his faith “was reckoned to him as righteousness.” Now the words, “it was reckoned to him,” were written not for his sake alone, but for ours also. It will be reckoned to us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead, who was handed over to death for our trespasses and was raised for our justification.

After the reading, the reader will say

The Word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

We stand together and sing

Gospel Song | Lord Have Mercy

Words and Music: Stefan Waligur; offered by Pearle Paar

5 Lord, have mer - cy, Christ, have mer - cy, Lord, have mer - cy on _____ us.

Lord, have mer - cy, Christ, have mer - cy, Lord, have mer - cy, on _____ us

The image shows two staves of musical notation in treble clef, key of D major (one sharp), and 12/8 time signature. The first staff contains the first line of the song, starting with a measure number '5'. The lyrics are: 'Lord, have mer - cy, Christ, have mer - cy, Lord, have mer - cy on _____ us.' The second staff contains the second line of the song with the lyrics: 'Lord, have mer - cy, Christ, have mer - cy, Lord, have mer - cy, on _____ us'. The music consists of quarter and eighth notes with rests, and a final measure with a double bar line.

The Officiant then introduces the Gospel by saying

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.

All Glory to you Lord Christ.

The Gospel | Mark 8:31-38

Jesus began to teach his disciples 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. He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. But 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.”

He 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. For 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. For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? Those 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.”

After the Gospel, the Officiant will say

The Gospel of the Lord.

All Praise to you, Lord Christ.

OUR RESPONSE TO THE STORY

The Homily and an Introduction to Grace’s Strategic Plan

Affirmation of Faith

We stand and say

**We believe in God above us,
maker and sustainer of all life,
of sun and moon,
of water and earth,
of all humanity.**

**We believe in God beside us,
Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh,
born of a woman's womb, servant of the poor,
he was tortured and nailed to a tree.
Knowing full passion and deep sorrow, he died forsaken.
He descended into the earth to the place of death.
On the third day he rose from the tomb.
He ascended into heaven to be everywhere present,
and his Kingdom will one day be known.**

**We believe in God within us,
the Holy Spirit of Pentecostal fire,
life-giving breath of the Church.
She is the Spirit of healing and forgiveness,
source of resurrection and of life everlasting. Amen**

Confession

Officiant: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

All **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.**

Officiant: 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 Prayers of the People

Leader O God, you are the cloud that guides us by day. Lead us, your people, through the wilderness of fear, doubt, and grief. Bring us in safety to your pleasant land.

We offer additional prayers for all people, silently or aloud.

Leader Hear us, O God.
All **For your mercy is great.**

Leader O God, you are the fire that shines in the night. Enlighten all nations and their leaders, that peace and justice may flourish on the face of this earth.

We offer additional prayers for the nations and their leaders, silently or aloud.

Leader Hear us, O God.
All **For your mercy is great.**

Leader O God, you are the water that gushes from the rock. Quench the thirst of this community for health, fellowship, and mission.

We offer additional prayers for this community, silently or aloud.

Leader Hear us, O God.

All **For your mercy is great.**

Leader O God, you are the ark that carries us to safety. Surround all who are sick and suffering with your protection, your healing presence, and your love. Strengthen all who care for them.

Those on our prayer list are named.

We offer additional prayers for the sick and the suffering, silently or aloud.

Leader Hear us, O God.

All **For your mercy is great.**

Leader O God of the Empty Tomb, you bring life from death, and joy from sorrow. Gather us with all who have died into one communion of saints, and speak comfort to all who mourn.

We offer additional prayers for those who have died, silently or aloud.

Leader Hear us, O God.

All **For your mercy is great.**

Officiant We pray together.

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.

Offertory

While we cannot gather in person, we make our weekly offerings online here: <https://www.gracehere.org/give/>

The Blessing

The Officiant offers a blessing.

May the Creator who resurrects life from death,
the Savior who offers forgiveness from the cross,
and the Spirit who burns in the hearts of us all
bless you and remain with you forever. **Amen.**

Closing Song | The Peace of the Earth/La paz de la tierra

Guatemalan Traditional Melody; offered by Lyra and Elizabeth Cromwell

La paz de la tie-rra es - té con ti - go, la
The peace of the earth be with you, the

paz de los cie-los tam - bién. La paz de los rí - os es -
peace of the heav - ens, too. The peace of the riv - ers

té con ti - go, la paz de los ma-res tam - bién. La
be with you, the peace of the o - ceans, too: †

paz pro - fun - da ca - yen - do so - bre ti. La
deep peace fall - ing o - ver you, †

paz pro - fun - da cre - cien - do en ti.
God's peace grow - ing in you.

Birthdays and Anniversaries

Using the Zoom chat window, please share a milestone that we can recognize together.

We will sing, "God Grant Them Many Years."

Dismissal

Officiant

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All

Thanks be to God.

Annual Meeting

Annual Meeting immediately follows worship today. Please stay online and plan to participate.

Suburban Prayer

Grant us for grace
oppositions, stymies
sand in our pet gears
a bubble in the cozy blood

Crowd our real estate
with the rag tag real, the world.
Marry us off, lonely girls
to Harlem and Asia. This Lent
celebrate in the haunted house, the world.

~ Daniel Berrigan, from *And the Risen Bread, Selected Poems, 1957-1997*
(Fordham U. Press, 1998)

News from Grace Church, Bainbridge Island

February 28, 2021

..... inclusion service discovery gratitude

Upcoming Events & Programs

February 28 | Grace Annual Meeting | 10:30 – 11:45 am

Immediately following the 9:30 am service; use the same Zoom link, found at gracehere.org/join-us-for-onlineworship-at-grace/

February 28, March 7, 14, 21 | Youth Gatherings in Lent | 4:00 – 5:30 pm

Youth in grades 6-12 will gather at Grace and on Zoom in sessions led by Stephen and Wren to learn more about Lent. Please RSVP with Faith Dougherty at youthgroup@gracehere.org.

March 1 | Men's Group Gathering | 7:30 – 8:30 pm

Zoom meeting. Email Eric Matthews at eric@ericmatthews.com for more information.

March 2, 9 | Talking with Your Kids About Sex and Relationships | 7:00 – 8:30 pm

Zoom discussion continues with experienced teacher and facilitator Kathie McCarthy. Contact Kim Cockroft to save your spot: kim@gracehere.org

March 3 | Wednesday Prayer & Bible Study During Lent | 10:30 am

Wednesdays, through March 24 on Zoom. Please find links to the Zoom login and worship bulletin on our website: gracehere.org/join-us-for-onlineworship-at-grace/

March 4, April 1, May 6, June 3 | Mom's Morning Retreat | 9:00 – 10:00 am

First Thursdays on Zoom. To receive the link, email: morningretreat@gmail.com

March 4, 11, 18, 25 | Thursday Evening Lent Series | 7:00 – 8:30 pm

Led by Stephen and Wren on Zoom. Please find links to the Zoom login on our website: <https://www.gracehere.org/lent/>

March 5 | Open Mic for Caregivers | 4:00 – 5:00 pm

All are welcome to participate in a discussion led by Patty Molloy on "When Aging In Place Isn't Working." For more information, or to get the Zoom link, email Florrie: fmunat@aol.com

March 7 | Poetry as Prayer Practice | Directly after the 9:30 service

Every 1st and 3rd Sunday the group will gather in a separate Zoom session after the 9:30 service. Contact Jon Quitslund: jonquitslund@att.net. Zoom meeting link: <https://zoom.us/j/96243490290?pwd=eGJua2YyNm1vT1k2QlpZeVFUnFmQT09>
Meeting ID: 962 4349 0290; Passcode: 395554