

† SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION †
Second Sunday in Lent
February 28, 2021

PRELUDE

The God of Abraham Praise

Walter Pelz

INVOCATION and CONFESSION (*Congregation rising*)

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

C Amen.

P Let us confess our sins to God, our merciful Father.

C Almighty God, we admit and confess our sinfulness. We have turned away from each other in our thinking, speaking, and doing. We have done the evil You forbid and have not done the good You demand. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, have mercy on us. Forgive us all that is past, and with the power of the Holy Spirit, move us to serve You faithfully. Amen.

P God has promised forgiveness of sins to those who repent and turn to Him. In the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I therefore forgive you all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

OPENING VERSICLES

P The word is near you, on your lips and in your heart.

C If you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved.

P Faith comes from what is heard,

C and what is heard comes through the word of Christ.

P The Lord is near to those who call on Him.

C O come, let us worship Him.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray:

C Almighty God, our heavenly Father, because of Your tender love towards us sinners, You have given us Your Son, that believing in Him we might have everlasting life. Lead us by Your Holy Spirit, that we may remain steadfast in this faith to the end and finally come to life everlasting; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16

¹When 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. ²And I will make my covenant between me and you, and will make you exceedingly numerous." ³Then Abram fell on his face; and God said to him, ⁴"As for me, this is my covenant with you: You shall be the ancestor of a multitude of nations. ⁵No longer shall your name be Abram, but your name shall be Abraham; for I have made you the ancestor of a multitude of nations. ⁶I will make you exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you, and kings shall come from you. ⁷I 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...." ¹⁵God said to Abraham, "As for Sarai your wife, you shall not call her Sarai, but Sarah shall be her name. ¹⁶I 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."

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE

Romans 4:13-25

¹³For 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. ¹⁴If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. ¹⁵For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation. ¹⁶For 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, ¹⁷as 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. ¹⁸Hoping against hope, he believed that he would become "the father of many nations," according to what was said, "So numerous shall your descendants be." ¹⁹He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was already as good as dead (for he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah's womb. ²⁰No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, ²¹being fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. ²²Therefore his faith "was reckoned to him as righteousness." ²³Now the words, "it was reckoned to him," were written not for his sake alone, ²⁴but for ours also. It will be reckoned to us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead, ²⁵who was handed over to death for our trespasses and was raised for our justification.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORY (*Congregation rising*)

P We have an advocate with the Father; Jesus Christ, the Righteous One.

C He was delivered up to death; He was delivered for the sins of the people.

P Jesus said: "If anyone would come after me, deny yourself;

C take up your cross and follow me."

GOSPEL

Mark 8:31-38

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the 8th chapter.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

³¹Then [Jesus] began to teach them 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. ³²He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. ³³But 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." ³⁴He 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. ³⁵For 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. ³⁶For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? ³⁷Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? ³⁸Those 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."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

MUSICAL REFLECTION

My Faith Looks Up to Thee

Karl Osterland

SERMON

Rev. Scott Geminn

THE APOSTLES' CREED (*Congregation rising*)

C 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.**

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

P With faith in our Lord and confidence in His mercy, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need:

P O Lord, You have given Your Church the joy of proclaiming the saving truth that Christ died to free us from sin. Help us to live out our faith each day in word and deed. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Be near to all those who are facing struggles in their faith through doubt, temptation, or persecution. Strengthen and sustain them to set their minds on the divine things You have prepared. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Bless those who serve in leadership positions and all who govern us in Your stead, that they act wisely on our behalf and in accordance with Your will. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Pour Your love into the hearts of all those who suffer in our midst. Grant them health and healing according to Your perfect will, and sustain them in all their trials. We pray especially for those on our prayer line and those we remember before You now... (PAUSE). Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P We remember with thanksgiving the multitude of nations that rejoice in heaven before You with their father Abraham. Keep us in that same covenant of faith, that we may live in Your presence now and always. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P All these things and whatever else You know that we need, grant us, Father, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Savior.

C **Amen.**

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

† HOLY COMMUNION †

PREFACE (*Congregation rising*)

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

C We lift them up to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. We give You thanks for the priceless grace You have bestowed on us through Jesus Christ, who died upon the tree of Calvary and rose again to make us living branches. Send Your Holy Spirit to renew our faith as we receive our crucified and risen Lord, who comes to us in His body and blood. Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

C 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 INSTITUTION and SIGN OF PEACE

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples, and said: "Take, eat; this is my body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of me." In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new covenant in my blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

P Behold, the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.

C Lord, have mercy upon us and grant us Your peace.

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C And also with you.

P The gifts of God for the people of God.

C Thanks be to God.

DISTRIBUTION

P Take and eat, the body of Christ given for you...
(*We eat the bread*)

P Take and drink, the blood of Christ, shed for you...
(*We drink the cup*)

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

P O God the Father, fountain and source of all goodness, who in loving-kindness sent Your only-begotten Son into the flesh, we thank You that for His sake You have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament; and we ask You not to forsake Your children but always to rule our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit, that we may be enabled constantly to serve You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

BENEDICTION

P The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

C Amen.

P Go in peace to serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

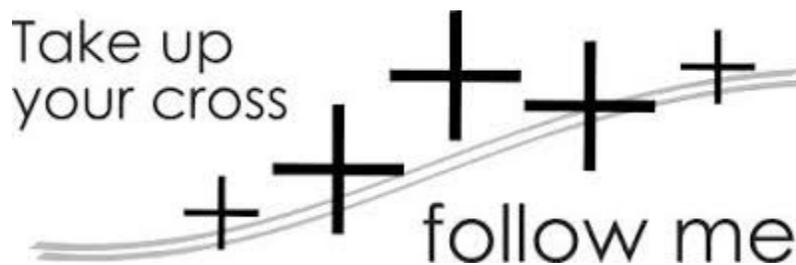
When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

C. S. Lang

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Please wait for the pastor to proceed out of the sanctuary, then exit out of the building. Bulletins and used communion containers may be placed in the receptacles provided.

Please also fill out the Attendance Form and place it in the offering plate by the Jesus Fountain. If you have any prayer requests or other information to share with the Church Office, you can use the back side of the form.



News and Notes:

Pastor Hartwell Away: We keep the Hartwell family in our prayers as they mourn the loss of Pastor Hartwell's father, Robert K. ("Bob") Hartwell, on February 19, one day shy of his 87th birthday. The funeral was held on Friday in Indiana and Pastor Hartwell expects to be back in the office on Thursday, March 4.

Flowers in the chancel are given to the glory of God and in celebration of the 102nd birthday of Helen Britz and the 9th anniversary of Herb Kollmann's entrance into heaven, from Marcia Kollmann.

In-Person Worship Schedule - This is our final week of the winter schedule. Next week is the beginning of Daylight Savings Time. Please note the updates:

- **Saturday, March 6**, Saturday service resumes at 5:30 p.m.
- Set your clocks **one hour ahead** on Saturday night
- **Sunday, March 7**, services at 9:00 & 10:45 a.m. as we celebrate Lutheran Schools Week

Lenten midweek prayer services are being held remotely on Wednesdays, through March 24, from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. The live service includes a brief Bible Study each week on the theme *God's Love is Shown*. There are three ways to access the service:

- ❖ Zoom Video (for computer or smart device) - Log on to Zoom.us using the ID 99439797879
- ❖ Call in via Zoom by phone - Dial (1) 929-205-6099 and then enter the Meeting ID 994 3979 7879
- ❖ Facebook Live - Go to [Facebook.com/VillageLutheranBronxville/live](https://www.facebook.com/VillageLutheranBronxville/live)

SOUP KITCHEN MEALS: Volunteers are needed every two weeks. Our March dates will be on **Wednesdays, March 10 and 24**. Please sign up in advance to choose your volunteer date and food item, pick up an aluminum tray (back of church or Reception Area), prepare food at home, and drop off at church between 12:00 and 1:00 p.m. For more information, contact Nelly Palumbo at 347-538-2909 or NPalumbo@thechapelschool.org.

Blessing Basket/Food for ECAP: Here's an idea: When you are out shopping, look for healthy food items on sale and get a few for the food pantry. Drop off items in the Blessing Baskets in the Friendship Room on weekends or leave them with the receptionist during the week. Outdoor drop-off in the Concordia parking lot is available on the third Thursday of the month. The next date is **March 18**.

Easter Baskets: Our annual service project for area children has begun. If you would like to participate in this effort to bring cheer and joy to a child, please pick up an empty basket from the back of the sanctuary and fill it with Easter treats (a list of suggested items is included). Wrap filled baskets in cellophane and return to the church for distribution at the MLK Head Start in New Rochelle. Baskets must be returned **no later than Sunday, March 21**. Thank you!

Youth Lenten Mission Project for Lutheran World Relief: Join our young people in creating a Personal Care Kit, to be delivered to people in need around the world through LWR. Simply pick up a copy of the detailed instructions and purchase the items on the list (towel, soap, toothbrush, comb and nail clippers), wrap them in the towel and leave the package in the marked bin. **We will be collecting the kits through March 25.** If you need more information, please contact Pastor Geminn at SGeminn@VLC-NY.org.

Women's Bible Study/LWML Group has shifted to a remote format, available through Zoom video or telephone. The next meeting will be on **Saturday, March 20, at 9:00 a.m.** Join us to discuss how we experience God with us during times of disappointment, during dark moments in our relationships, and when we are in the midst of the overwhelming. Please read Chapters 15, 16 and 17 of the Stormie Omartian book in preparation for our discussions. For more information, contact Deacon Wendy Krolides (914-391-9356) or Terry Vidal (terry.n.vidal@gmail.com).

1st Communion Instruction for 5th grade and older: We normally offer this program during Lent, but due to the pandemic this year our classes will meet after Easter **beginning Wednesday April 14.** We hope to have all classes and the lock-in in person, but there will also be a Zoom option and the instruction will become remote if conditions require it. If you would like to have your child complete the 1st Holy Communion classes, please call 914-337-0207 (1003) or e-mail VLCMAIL@VLC-NY.ORG to receive a registration form. The Chapel School students and community youth are welcome, too!

Prayer Line: We pray for the sick and those experiencing any kind of difficulty: Glenn Accocella, John Accocella, Andis Akerfelds, Joan Bevers, Brianna Blanco, Bob Capabiancho, Frank Clark, Lillian DiMucci, Annabella Hansen, David & Linda James, Deacon Joe Lamoureux, Frank Lyman, Jayne Marra, Joan Paliotta, Sylvia Puig, Johnathan Richards, Jonathan Roberts, Linda Roth, Douglas Salsbury, Steve Smith, Ben Tashoff, Deb Tashoff, Sandy Tashoff, Rod Tomlinson, Vincent Valentino, Richard White, Milana Zirolnik

Bereavement Prayer Line: We pray for those who are grieving the loss of a loved one.

† **Robert K. Hartwell**, father of our Pastor Rob Hartwell, who passed away on February 19, 2021

Village Lutheran Church and The Chapel School
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