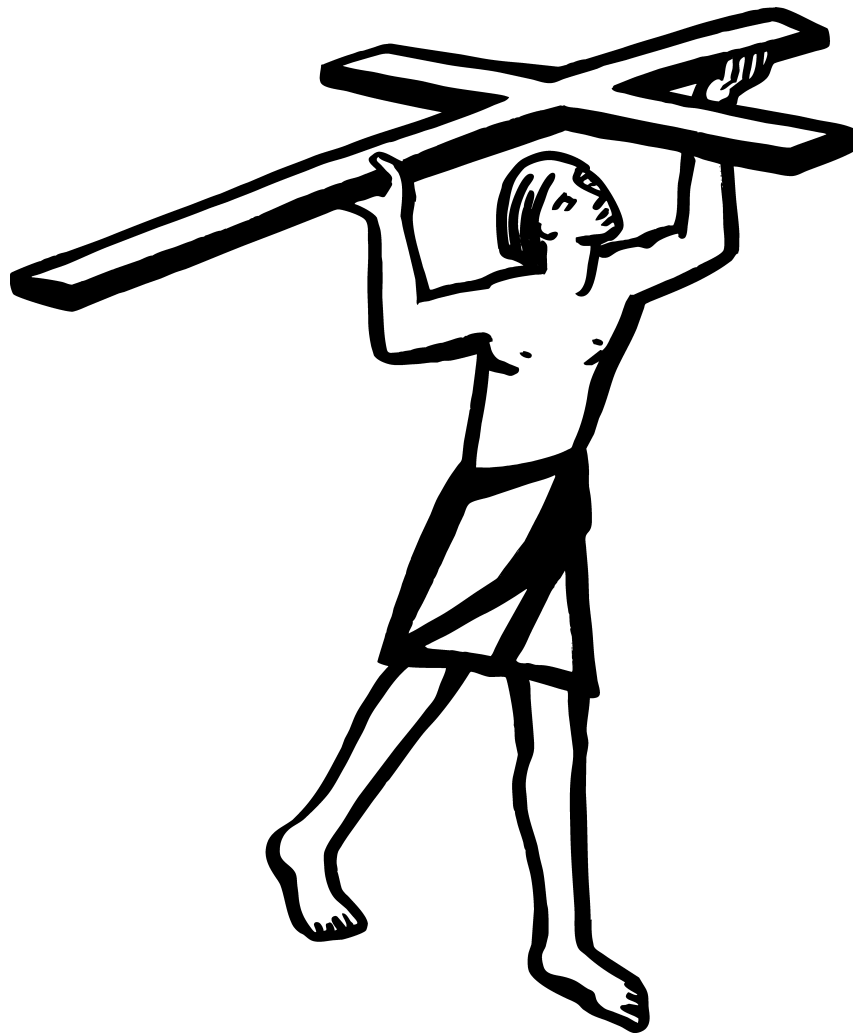


+ Contemporary Worship +
At Redeemer Lutheran Church

9:45 am February 25, 2024

Our mission is to share Christ's love with the greatest number of people.



The second covenant in this year's Lenten readings is the one made with Abraham and Sarah: God's promise to make them the ancestors of many, with whom God will remain in everlasting covenant. Paul says this promise comes to all who share Abraham's faith in the God who brings life into being where there was no life. We receive this baptismal promise of resurrection life in faith. Sarah and Abraham receive new names as a sign of the covenant, and we too get new identities in baptism, as we put on Christ.



PRELUDE

*“Prelude” Op. 28, No.4 by Frederic Chopin
Kai Osifchin (Piano)*

CALL TO WORSHIP

- | | |
|------------|---|
| Seminarian | Come, in this season of Lent let us worship Christ,
our Savior, who suffered death for all. |
| All | We praise you, Lord. |
| Seminarian | Come, let us worship Christ, who ventured into the depths of life;
who finds and heals us when we need it most. |
| All | We praise you, Jesus, image of the compassionate Father. |
| Seminarian | Come, let us worship him who took upon himself our sins;
by accepting death he lifted us out of the darkness. |
| All | We praise you, Lord of the cross. |
| Seminarian | Come, let us pray to him who conquered evil and hatred,
who lives forever at God’s side. |
| All | We draw closer to you, O Lord, throughout these 40 days of Lent! |
| Seminarian | Lord, you share life with us in our glory days, and you visit us in our darker hours;
fill our hearts to overflowing by revealing to us the light of your countenance. |
| All | United with Christ, we pray that our lives will bear much fruit. Amen. |

GATHERING SONG
Please stand and sing.

More Love, More Power

Jude Del Hierro

Gm Ebmaj⁷
More love, — more pow-er,

Dm⁷ Gm Dm⁷(4)
more of You — in my — life. —

Gm Ebmaj⁷
More love, — more pow-er,

Dm⁷ Gm
more of You — in my — life. And I will wor-ship

Cm Gm
You with all of my heart. — And I will wor-ship

Cm Gm
You with all of my mind. — And I will wor-ship

Cm Gm
You with all of my strength, — for You are my Lord, —

Ebmaj⁷ Dm⁷ 1. Gm F/G
You are my Lord. —

2. Gm²
You are my Lord.

CONFESSION

Seminarian Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God,
who writes the law on our hearts,
who draws all people together through Jesus.

All Amen.

Seminarian Held in God's mercy,
let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence and reflection

Seminarian Holy God,
**All we confess that we are caught in snares of sin
and cannot break free.
We hoard resources while our neighbors
are hungry and cold.
We speak in ways that silence others.
We are silent when we should speak up.
We keep score in our hearts.
We let hurts grow into hatred.
For all these things and for sins only you know,
forgive us, Lord.
Amen.**

Seminarian Here is a flood of grace:
Out of love for the whole world,
God draws near to us,
breaks every snare of sin,
washes away our wrongs,
and restores the promise of life through + Jesus Christ .
All Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor Let us pray.
O God, by the passion of your blessed Son you made an instrument of shameful
death to be for us the means of life. Grant us so to glory in the cross of Christ that
we may gladly suffer shame and loss for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, our
Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God,
now and forever.

All Amen.

SONG OF PRAISE

Please stand and sing.

Hide Me in Your Holiness

WORDS and MUSIC: Steve Ragsdale

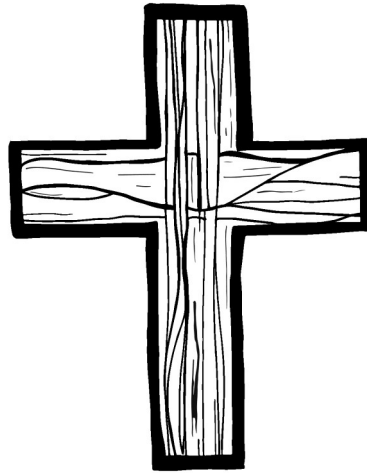
CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Reading: Genesis 17:1–7, 15–16

As with Noah, God makes an everlasting covenant with Abraham and Sarah. God promises this old couple that they will be the ancestors of nations, though they have no child together. God will miraculously bring forth new life from Sarah's old womb. The name changes emphasize the firmness of God's promise.

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."

Reader Word of God, word of life.
All **Thanks be to God.**



Reading: Romans 4:13–25

Paul presents Abraham as the example for how a person comes into a right relationship with God not through works of the law but through faith. Though Abraham and Sarah were far too old for bearing children, Abraham trusted that God would accomplish what God had promised to accomplish.

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 (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.

Reader
All

Word of God, word of life.
Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION
Please stand and sing.

I Will Delight

Words and Music by
Walt Harrah and
John Andrew Schreiner

VERSE

$\text{♩} = 98$ G

The musical score is written for guitar and voice. It begins with a guitar introduction in G major, 4/4 time, with a tempo of 98 beats per minute. The introduction consists of a series of chords and eighth notes. The first system of the verse has the lyrics: "I will de - light in the law of the Lord, I will med - i - tate day and night." The second system starts at measure 5 and has the lyrics: "Then like a tree firm - ly plant - ed I'll be, ground - ed in Your Word." The third system has the lyrics: "Bless - ed is the one who fol - lows the way of the Lord, bless - ed is the". The fourth system starts at measure 15 and has the lyrics: "one." The score includes a guitar part and a vocal part with lyrics.

I will de - light in the law of the Lord, I will med - i - tate day and night.

Then like a tree firm - ly plant - ed I'll be, ground - ed in Your Word.

Bless - ed is the one who fol - lows the way of the Lord, bless - ed is the

one.



Pastor The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark.
All **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Gospel: Mark 8:31–38

After Peter confesses his belief that Jesus is the Messiah, Jesus tells his disciples for the first time what is to come. Peter's response indicates that he does not yet understand the way of the cross that Jesus will travel.

Then he 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. 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."

Pastor The Gospel of the Lord.
All **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON

*Take Up Your Cross
Pastor Sandy Kessinger*

Please stand and sing.

Step by step

D(no3) G G² G D/F# D C/E C/D
O God, you are my God, and I will ev - er praise

G D(no3) G G² D/F# D
you. O God, you are my God, and

C/E C/D G G² G Em C/E Em
I will ev - er praise you. I will seek you in the morn -

Dsus D Am/E Am/C Am
- ing, and I will learn to walk in your ways, and

G G² G D/F# D C/D Am/D D⁷sus
step by step you'll lead me, and I will fol - low you all of my

¹/G D(no3) ²/G G² G Em
days. O days, and I will fol - low you all of my

Dsus D Am⁷ F C D⁷sus
days, and I will fol - low you all of my days, and

G²/D D C/D G
step by step you'll lead me, and I will fol - low you all of my days.

Text: Beaker
Music: Beaker; arr. Nylea Butler-Moore
Text and music © 1991 BMG Songs, Inc. and Kid Brother of St. Frank Publishing

APOSTLES' CREED

Asst. Min. With the whole Church, let us confess our faith.

**All I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

PRAYERS

Prayers are included for the whole Church, the nations, those in need, the parish and special concerns. After each portion of the prayers:

Reader Hear us, O God.

All Your mercy is great.

At the end of the prayer:

Pastor Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray,
trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Savior.

All Amen.

SHARING THE LORD'S PEACE

Pastor The peace of Christ be with you always.

All And also with you.

Please greet one another with words such as "God's peace be with you."

Please sit.

OFFERING

*An offering is gathered for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need.
Please give as you are able. We appreciate those who give in-person and those who give electronically.*

Please sign the red attendance book and pass it down the pew.

OFFERING MUSIC

*"Amazing Grace" arranged by Judy Bond
"Joshua Fit the Battle of Jericho" arranged by L. Williams-Bailey & M. Davidson
Youth Choir*

SONG OF OFFERING
Please stand and sing.

Text and music: Dwight Liles
 Text and music © 1984 Bug and Bear Music, admin: Word Music, Inc.

We are an offering

Chords: G, C², Dm⁷, C²/E, C/E

We lift our voices, we lift our hands, we lift our

Chords: F, C/E, Dm⁷, Dm⁷/G, C

lives up to you: we are an of-fer-ing, we are an of-fer-ing.

OFFERING PRAYER

Pastor Let us pray.

All **Jesus, you are the bread of life**
and the host of this meal.
Bless these gifts that we have gathered
that all people may know your goodness.
Feed us not only with this holy food
but with hunger for justice and peace.
We pray this in your name.
Amen.

MEAL

Pastor The Lord be with you.

All **And also with you.**

Pastor Lift up your hearts.

All **We lift them to the Lord.**

Pastor Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Pastor Blessed are you, God of everlasting covenant, for your promises are steadfast and your provision is sure. Through the 40 years of your people's desert wanderings, you were constant in fire and cloud; with manna and mercy you sustained every step. You made Jesus' temptation of 40 days a theater of truth where your word stood strong. In every age you have shaped your people through times of wilderness and wondering, of temptation and trial, and brought them into the land of promise, and the life of covenant. And so with all who have walked the wilderness way in every time and place and all who walk this day with angels and archangels and all the company of heaven we join their unending hymn.

All **Holy, holy, holy Lord**
God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.



EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Pastor Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

All **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.**

Pastor Come, for all is now ready.

DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

All are welcome to receive Holy Communion.

Anyone not comfortable receiving the bread or the wine are invited to come forward for a blessing. You are an important part of our faith community. For those taking Holy Communion: Pastor will give verbal instructions on how Holy Communion will be distributed.

COMMUNION MUSIC

*“Let There Be Peace on Earth” by Sy Miller & Jill Jackson
Bree Dillaman (Voice)*

*“Sarabande” from D minor Partita by J.S. Bach
Eric Cho (Violin)*

TABLE BLESSING

Please stand.

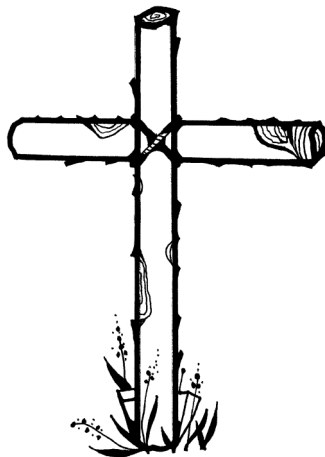
Pastor May the body and blood of Christ strengthen you and sustain you for your Lenten journey ahead.

All Amen.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Asst. Min. Let us pray.
Generous God,
at this table we have tasted your immeasurable grace.
As grains of wheat are gathered into one bread,
now make us one to feed the world;
in the name of Jesus, the Bread of life.

All Amen.



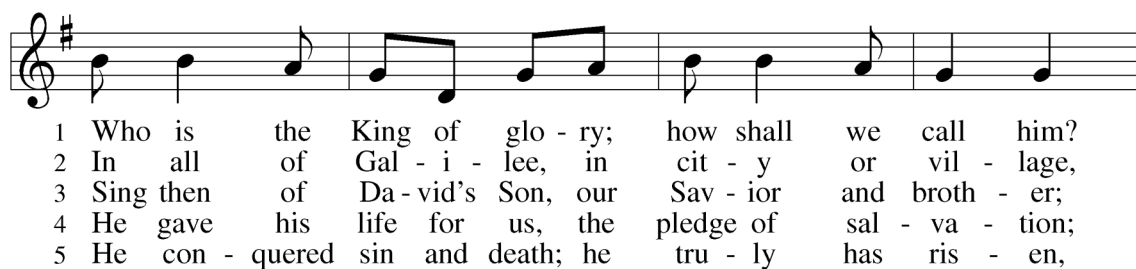
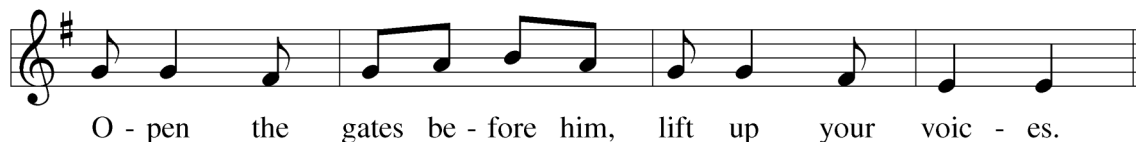
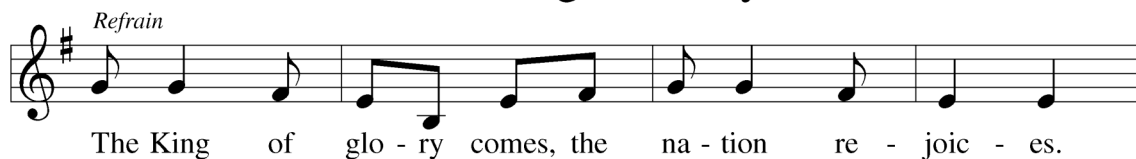
BLESSING

Pastor Beloved,
we are God's own people,
holy, washed, renewed.
May God the Father, Son +, and Holy Spirit
bless you and keep you,
Shower you with mercy,
fill you with courage,
and give you peace.

All Amen.

SENDING SONG
All sing.

The King of Glory



Text: Willard F. Jabusch

Music: THE KING OF GLORY, Israeli traditional

Text © Willard F. Jabusch, admin. OCP Publications. All rights reserved.

DISMISSAL

Asst. Min.

All

Go in peace. Christ is with you .

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

“Swing Low, Sweet Chariot” arranged by Joel K. Boyd
Amy Cho (Voice)

Hope against Hope

Paul tells us that Abraham hoped “against hope” (Romans 4:18). Many of us know this feeling. The injustices in our world, the damage we see in the environment, and the wounds we bear in our own souls can all seem like too much. The promises of redemption poured out in baptism sometimes seem so far away.

Amid this reality, we hear Jesus teach that he “must” suffer, die, and rise again. To Peter this sounded like foolishness. If the Messiah were rejected, how could the salvation they longed for ever come? But Jesus insists that to deny this is to reject “the things of God.” Why must it be so?

Because of God’s great love. Jesus must suffer because he will do everything that needs to be done to rescue God’s world from sin and death. He will endure rejection, torture, and even death. He “must” do this because the world’s brokenness is that deep. We don’t need better teaching or stronger motivation. We need rescue from powers greater than ourselves. He will bear the burden of sin and death in his body to release us from their grasp. Love drives him to this full extent of mercy.

And in the mystery of God’s grace, Jesus will die. But he will be raised again. And his death and resurrection set us free from sin and death’s power. We can hope, even in the most hopeless of circumstances, because Jesus has passed through all the evils that threaten us and emerged triumphant. In Jesus, our sins are forgiven, the world’s injustices will not last forever, and everything broken will be made gloriously new. Until then, he gathers us around the life-giving word and gives himself to us in a holy meal. He leads us on our cross-shaped journeys of dying to sin to discover true life. And he sends us forth to share the good news of God’s mercy with a world longing for hope.

Lutheran Church of the Redeemer

Children are welcome in our worship. There is a children's worship bulletin for them. If you prefer, a nursery and/or childcare is available for children up to age 3 during all worship services.

Hearing help available: We have for your use personal hearing amplification units available in the narthex. Please refer questions or comments to an usher.

Church Phone: 703-356-3346

Email: Church@redeemermclean.org

Next Sunday's Scripture:

Exodus 20:1-17 Psalm 19 1 Corinthians 1:18-25 John 2:13-22

*Wednesdays in Lent, February 21-March 20
Holden Evening Prayer Service*

Dinner 6:30 pm in Fellowship Hall, Service at 7:30 pm

The flowers are given to the glory of God.

*Call to Worship was written by Andreas Wagner,
Great Thanksgiving by Samuel Wells.*

CCLI License# 1850655

Please return this bulletin to the entrance hall for recycling if you choose not to take it home.