

**St. Mark's Presbyterian Church**  
**Second Sunday in Lent – March 16, 2025**  
**Responsive Call to Worship – Lenten Liturgy**



## Second Sunday in Lent

*Written by the Rev. Dr. Patricia Dutcher-Walls*

One: As we seek your face, O God, on our  
Lenten journey,

**All: may we remember your covenant of grace  
with your people.**

One: Give us eyes to see your compassion and glory  
in Christ Jesus

**All: that we may be astounded by your greatness.**

One: Help our hearts to take courage as we wait  
for you, O God,

**All: so that together we can sing and  
make melody.**



THE DEVELOPMENT AND RELIEF AGENCY OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN CANADA

### Hymn 15 The Lord's my light

**1. The Lord's my light and saving health;  
who shall make me dismayed?**

**God is the stronghold of my life:  
who shall make me afraid?**

**2. Though wars arise and armies camp**

**against me, I'll not fear;  
I will stand firm and confident:  
I know that God is near.**

**3. One thing I asked of God the Lord,  
and will seek to obtain,  
that all days of my life I may  
within God's house remain;**

**4. that I the beauty of the Lord  
may worship and admire,  
that I in God's most holy place  
may reverently enquire.**

### **Prayer of Praise (*minister*)**

### **Hymn 204 Thou didst leave thy throne**

**1. Thou didst leave thy throne and thy kingly crown  
when thou camest to earth for me,  
but in Bethlehem's home was there found no room  
for thy holy nativity:**

**oh come to my heart, Lord Jesus;  
there is room in my heart for thee.**

**2. Even foxes found rest, and the birds had their nest  
in the shade of the forest tree,  
but thy couch was the sod, O thou Son of God,  
in the deserts of Galilee:**

**oh come to my heart, Lord Jesus;  
there is room in my heart for thee.**

**3. When thou camest, O Lord, with the living word,  
'twas to set all thy people free,  
but with mocking scorn and with crown of thorn,  
then we bore thee to Calvary:**

**oh come to my heart, Lord Jesus;  
now thy cross is my only plea.**

**4. Heaven's arches shall ring and its choirs shall sing  
at thy coming to victory;  
let thy voice call me home, saying, 'Yet there is room,  
there is room at my side for thee!'**

**My heart shall rejoice, Lord Jesus,  
when thou comest and callest me.**

## **Prayer of Confession (*congregation*)**

**We are creatures who seek our own comfort. We confess that we prefer our own plans to your purposes. We shrink from costly discipleship and put our own interests first. Forgive our fleeting commitment and the times we have indulged our own complaints.**

**Have mercy on us. Inspire us with the energy to do your will and serve our neighbours in the example of Christ, your Son and our Lord.**

**- silent confession -**

## **The Lord's Prayer (*Debts/Debtors*)**

**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, the power, and the glory. For ever  
and ever. Amen.**

## **Assurance of Pardon (*minister*)**

### **Hymn 331 The God of Abraham praise**

**1. The God of Abraham praise,  
who reigns enthroned above,  
ancient of everlasting days,  
and God of love.**

**Almighty, great I Am!  
by earth and heaven confessed,  
I bow and bless the sacred name  
forever blest.**

**2. The God of Abraham praise,  
at whose supreme command  
from earth I rise and seek the joys  
at God's right hand.**

**I all on earth forsake,  
its wisdom, fame, and power,  
the Lord my only portion make,**

**my shield and tower.**

**3. Though nature's strength decay,  
and earth and hell withstand,  
to Canaan's bounds I urge my way  
at God's command;  
the watery deep I pass  
with Jesus in my view,  
and through the howling wilderness  
my way pursue.**

**4. The goodly land I see,  
with peace and plenty blest,  
a land of sacred liberty  
and endless rest;  
there milk and honey flow,  
and oil and wine abound,  
and trees of life forever grow,  
with mercy crowned.**

**5. There dwells the Lord our King,  
the Lord our Righteousness;  
triumphant o'er the world and sin,  
the Prince of Peace  
on Zion's sacred height  
God's kingdom still maintains,  
and glorious with the saints in light  
forever reigns.**

**6. The whole triumphant host  
give thanks to God on high;  
"hail, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost"  
they ever cry.  
Hail Abraham's God, and mine!  
I join the heavenly lays;  
all might and majesty are thine,  
and endless praise.**

### **Responsive Reading Psalm 27 p. 477 NT & Psalms**

<sup>1</sup>The Lord is my light and my salvation—  
so why should I be afraid?

The Lord is my fortress, protecting me from danger,

so why should I tremble?

**<sup>2</sup>When evil people come to devour me,  
when my enemies and foes attack me,  
they will stumble and fall.**

<sup>3</sup>Though a mighty army surrounds me,  
my heart will not be afraid.

Even if I am attacked,

I will remain confident.

**<sup>4</sup>The one thing I ask of the Lord—  
the thing I seek most—  
is to live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life,  
delighting in the Lord's perfections  
and meditating in his Temple.**

<sup>5</sup>For he will conceal me there when troubles come;  
he will hide me in his sanctuary.

He will place me out of reach on a high rock.

**<sup>6</sup>Then I will hold my head high  
above my enemies who surround me.  
At his sanctuary I will offer sacrifices with shouts of joy,  
singing and praising the Lord with music.**

<sup>7</sup>Hear me as I pray, O Lord.

Be merciful and answer me!

**<sup>8</sup>My heart has heard you say, "Come and talk with me."  
And my heart responds, "Lord, I am coming."**

<sup>9</sup>Do not turn your back on me.

Do not reject your servant in anger.

You have always been my helper.

Don't leave me now; don't abandon me,

O God of my salvation!

**<sup>10</sup>Even if my father and mother abandon me,  
the Lord will hold me close.**

<sup>11</sup>Teach me how to live, O Lord.

Lead me along the right path,

for my enemies are waiting for me.

**<sup>12</sup>Do not let me fall into their hands.  
For they accuse me of things I've never done;  
with every breath they threaten me with violence**

<sup>13</sup>Yet I am confident I will see the Lord's goodness  
while I am here in the land of the living.

**<sup>14</sup>Wait patiently for the Lord.**

**Be brave and courageous.**

**Yes, wait patiently for the Lord.**

New Living Translation (NLT)

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## **Scripture Lessons**

Genesis 15: 1-12, 17-18      p. 11 pew Bible

Philippians 3:17-4:1      p. 344 NT & Psalms

Luke 13:31-35      p. 133 NT & Psalms

Reader: This is the word of the Lord.

***People: Thanks be to God!***

**Sermon    Is being a citizen a big deal?**

**Prayers of the People (*minister*)**

**Hymn 650 He leadeth me**

**1. He leadeth me: oh blessed thought!  
oh words with heavenly comfort fraught!  
Whate'er I do, where'er I be  
still 'tis God's hand that leadeth me.**

**Refrain:**

**He leadeth me! He leadeth me!  
By his own hand he leadeth me!  
A faithful follower I would be,  
for 'tis God's hand that leadeth me.**

**2. Sometimes 'mid scenes of deepest gloom,  
Sometimes where Eden's flowers bloom,  
by waters still, o'er troubled sea,  
still 'tis God's hand that leadeth me!**

**Refrain:**

**He leadeth me! He leadeth me!  
By his own hand he leadeth me!  
A faithful follower I would be,  
for 'tis God's hand that leadeth me.**

**3. Lord, I would clasp thy hand in mine,  
nor ever murmur nor repine,  
content, what ever lot I see,  
since 'tis my God that leadeth me!**

**Refrain:**

**He leadeth me! He leadeth me!  
By his own hand he leadeth me!  
A faithful follower I would be,  
for 'tis God's hand that leadeth me.**

**4. And when my task on earth is done,  
when by thy grace the victory's won,  
e'en death's cold wave I will not flee,  
since God through Jordan leadeth me.**

**Refrain:**

**He leadeth me! He leadeth me!  
By his own hand he leadeth me!  
A faithful follower I would be,  
for 'tis God's hand that leadeth me.**

**Offering & Offertory**

**\*Doxology 830 Praise God from whom all blessings flow**

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
praise him all creatures here below;  
praise him above, ye heavenly host;  
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.**

**Prayer of Dedication (*congregation*)**

**O God, our lives overflow with blessings and goodness, gifts  
which come from you. Out of the bounty of our lives, we  
give these gifts and our offerings to you with thankfulness.  
Amen.**

**Hymn 676 Jesus, lover of my soul**

**1. Jesus, lover of my soul,  
let me to thy bosom fly,  
while the nearer waters roll,  
while the tempest still is high:  
hide me, O my Savior, hide,  
till the storm of life is past;  
safe into the haven guide,  
oh receive my soul at last!**

**2. Other refuge have I none,  
hangs my helpless soul on thee.  
Leave, ah! leave me not alone,**

still support and comfort me.  
All my trust on thee is stayed;  
all my help from thee I bring;  
cover my defenseless head  
with the shadow of thy wing.

3. Thou, O Christ, art all I want;  
more than all in thee I find:  
raise the fallen, cheer the faint,  
heal the sick and lead the blind.  
Just and holy is thy name;  
I am all unrighteousness;  
false and full of sin I am,  
thou art full of truth and grace.

4. Plenteous grace with thee is found,  
grace to cover all my sin;  
let the healing streams abound;  
make and keep me pure within:  
thou of life the fountain art,  
freely let me take of thee;  
spring thou up within my heart,  
rise to all eternity.

### **Choral Blessing**

Go now in peace. Never be afraid.  
God will be with you each hour of every day.  
God will be there, watching from above.  
Go now in peace, in faith, and in love.

### **Benediction**

### **Three-fold Amen**

### **Piano Postlude**