

**WELCOME TO ST. PAUL'S
EPISCOPAL CHURCH
Second Sunday of Lent**

Welcome

Prelude My Faith Looks Up to Thee *Carlos Staszkeski*

The Word of God

OPENING ACCLAMATION

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People ***And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever.
Amen.***

COLLECT FOR PURITY

The Celebrant may say

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known,
and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our
hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may
perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name;
through Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People And also with you.
Celebrant Let us pray.

O God, whose glory it is always to have mercy: Be gracious to
all who have gone astray from your ways, and bring them
again with penitent hearts and steadfast faith to embrace and

hold fast the unchangeable truth of your Word, Jesus Christ
your Son; who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns,
one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

THE LESSONS

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."

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People Thanks be to God.

Psalm 22:22-30

22 Praise the LORD, you that fear him; *
stand in awe of him, O offspring of Israel;

all you of Jacob's line, give glory.

23 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.

24 My praise is of him in the great assembly; *

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

25 The poor shall eat and be satisfied,

and those who seek the LORD shall praise him: *

"May your heart live for ever!"

26 All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD, *

and all the families of the nations shall bow before him.

27 For kingship belongs to the LORD; *

he rules over the nations.

28 To him alone all who sleep in the earth bow down in worship; *

all who go down to the dust fall before him.

29 My soul shall live for him;

my descendants shall serve him; *

they shall be known as the LORD'S for ever.

30 They shall come and make known to a people yet unborn *

the saving deeds that he has done.

The Epistle

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 (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 The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Silence may follow.

Hymn 491 Betty Berghorn, Organist

The Gospel of the Lord

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

People Glory to you, Lord Christ

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."

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

SERMON **The Reverend Trula Hollywood**

NICENE CREED

We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven:
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He has spoken through the Prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE: Second Week of Lent

As those called to take up the cross and follow Christ, let us offer our prayers for all God's people that they may come to know the fullness of God's promises, saying: *Lord, have mercy.*

For the Church in all places, especially Michael, our Presiding Bishop, DeDe, our Bishop, Trula, our Priest, Chris, our District Dean, Dorothy, our District Deacon, Alice, our Lay Preacher & Worship Leader, that in our Lenten journey we may make more room in our lives for God and bring forth a new springtime of faith, let us pray to the Lord. *Lord, have mercy.*

For this parish family, that we who are the heirs of Abraham and Sarah may be signs of God's justice and mercy in our world, let us pray to the Lord. *Lord, have mercy.*

For all those who live with doubt and fear, that the God of Abraham will renew their hope and help them trust in God's never-failing care, let us pray to the Lord. *Lord, have mercy.*

For all whose lives have been touched by the coronavirus, that God will give healing and strength to all who are suffering, open up job opportunities for the unemployed, and bring

peace to those with troubled hearts, let us pray to the Lord.
Lord have mercy.

For those celebrating birthdays, especially Janet Allen, Carrie Newman, Dorette Burnham and Lauren Ann Kotski. *Lord, have mercy.*

For all who serve in the armed forces, especially Shannon Murray Tessmer, Gregory Cello, Jr., Adam Jacquet, Nick Tessmer, Daniel Murray, Emmily Botts, Jean Keathly and Tim Garland. *Lord, have mercy.*

For all teachers, students, and parents, and especially for our college students, Mary Standinger, Larissa Hankey, Kayla Hankey, Laura Robertson, Mikayla Sedlacek and Andrew Clark. *Lord, have mercy.*

For all who are in need of our prayers, remembering especially Pauline Stone, Susan Beattie, Esther Thomas, Julia Zepkowski, Johanna Masters, Mike Medovich, Alice O'Brien-Botts, Diane Conneman, Eli Ames, Jean Radice, Gloria Arnold, Joan Gibbs, Jane Cornett, Joseph Murphy, Dorette Burnham, Noelle, Chris Mann, Grace Ellis, Greg Cello Sr., Louise Woodburn, Gail Yost Moyka, Joan Meddaugh, Johnny Wall, Doug Worthing, Matthew Smithkors, John Wall, Florence Sawyer, Violet Geller, Father Lee Love, Anthony Fusco, Marge Jackson, Maxine Bailey, Joan Babcock, Wylie Duerson, Darlene Allen, Joan Pascuzzo, Laura Engram, Daniel Cornwell and for those who love and care for them, and for those we now name..... (pause) that they may grow strong in faith and hope, let us pray to the Lord. *Lord, have mercy.*

For those who have died, remembering especially that having taken up the cross of Jesus, they may share in the glory of the resurrection, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mercy.**

Lifting our voices with all creation, with Mary, the God-bearer, and all the saints, let us offer ourselves and one another to the living God through Christ. **To you, O Lord our God.**

Celebrant Blessed are you, God of Abraham and Sarah, who made of your people a great nation, receive the prayers we offer this day for all in need, and grant that we may trust in your promises, and share in the glory of Christ's inheritance, through the power of your Holy Spirit. **AMEN.**

THE PEACE

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.
People And also with you.

Please take some time to offer each other Peace.

SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

Spiritual Communion is a Christian practice of desiring union with Jesus Christ in the Holy Eucharist. It is used as a preparation for Holy Mass and by individuals who cannot receive Holy Communion.

Prayer for Spiritual Communion

“My Jesus, I believe you are really here in the Blessed Sacrament. I love you more than anything in the world, and I hunger to receive you. But since I cannot receive Communion at this moment, feed my soul at least spiritually. I unite myself to you now as I do when I actually receive you.”

ACT OF RECEPTION

The Celebrant continues

In union, blessed Jesus, with the faithful gathered at every altar of your Church where your blessed Body and Blood are offered this day remembering particularly St. Paul's and all those worshiping here today, we long to offer you praise and thanksgiving, for creation and all the blessings of this life, for the redemption won for us by your life, death, and resurrection, for the means of grace and the hope of glory. And particularly for the blessings given us (pause) ... We believe that you are truly present in the Holy Sacrament, and, since we cannot at this time receive communion, we pray you to come into our hearts.

We unite ourselves with you and embrace you with all our heart, our soul, and our minds. Let nothing separate us from you; let us serve you in this life until, by your grace, we come to your glorious kingdom and unending peace. *Amen.*

THE LORD'S PRAYER

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

People and Celebrant

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.

BLESSING

The Priest blesses the people, saying

The blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. *Amen.*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Hymn 401

Betty Berghorn, Organist

Thank you to Betty for playing the organ today!

Dismissal

Celebrant Go in Peace to love and serve the Lord.

People Thanks be to God

(Permission to stream the music in this service obtained by One License, License #729104-A)

Donations can be mailed to St. Paul's Church, 117 Main Street, Owego, NY 13827 or electronically at <https://cnyepiscopal.org/give/give-to-my-parish/> and select Owego: St. Paul's Episcopal Church.

